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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, 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, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday when I turned 70 years of age, I read in the North Carolina paper, known as the News and Observer, the article that I would like to quote:

> More than 100 family members, friends and uniformed servicemembers marched slowly and quietly Friday down a hill at Arlington National Cemetery following Army Sergeant Aaron X. Wittman's coffin, draped with an American flag and carried on a horse-drawn caisson.

Mr. Speaker, there are probably not many Members of Congress or Americans who know that Sergeant Wittman became the first American to lose his life in Afghanistan in 2013.

I do not know how many more Americans will have to die between now and the end of 2014. One American life is already one too many. We have done enough in Afghanistan. It will never change, as history has proven time and time again.

Obviously, there is nothing more important than an American life. But there is a second part of this sad situation, and that is the $28 million a day we are spending to rebuild Afghanistan. We could use that $28 million a day to fix our own roads and our own schools right here in America.

Yesterday on C–SPAN, I heard the Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction, John Sopko, speak about how much money we are spending in Afghanistan and the fact that it is impossible to give the American taxpayers an account of where the money is going. I think Mr. Sopko and his team are doing the best they can; but taxpayers are still being shortchanged, especially with the looming issue of sequestration and a pending continuing resolution.

I hope that my colleagues in the House can join in the effort to bring our troops home by the end of 2013 and to put an end to the wasteful spending in Afghanistan. Most importantly, above all else, put an end to the loss of American lives. I will quote from my friend, former commandant of the United States Marine Corps:

> What do you say to the mother, father, wife of the last soldier or marine killed in Afghanistan?

My question is, Was it worth it? My answer is, No, not one life is worth it to be lost in Afghanistan. It is time to bring our troops home.

Mr. Speaker, this poster beside me shows a casket on top of a caisson getting ready to walk to the grave at Arlington National Cemetery.

May God continue to bless our troops, our men and women in uniform. May God continue to bless America. And please, God, touch the hearts of those in the House and let's bring our troops home in 2013.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, one of the few areas where Washington agrees with the general public is that our current path is not sustainable. It is not merely a case of spending too much or taxing too little, although we need to control spending and we must and will be raising revenue to meet the needs of an aging and growing population.

The key is to do business differently, to extract more value out of our programs. We need to have the courage to pivot, to do things better, to not follow the reflex of the usual economic and political groups fighting to continue to protect the status quo and the continuing trend lines.

In a world already impacted by climate change and global weather instability, these forces are going to intensify. One of the best examples of why we must change is how we deal with reengineering nature as a response to natural disasters.

I salute Governor Cuomo for the use of some of the Hurricane Sandy money from the Federal Government to move people out of harm's way, not just throw good money after bad by relocating and rebuilding in exactly the same way, in exactly the same place, where nature repeatedly shows that people are not wanted.

I was before the Rules Committee arguing for greater reform in the Federal spending, but the Governor is pointing in the right direction.

This week we are watching another chapter in the same drama play out in the lower Mississippi, where there is an argument to continue the self-defeating effort to fortify the Mississippi River, closing a gap in the levee, spending hundreds of millions of dollars to prevent an area in the flood plain from flooding every now and then.

The Federal Government has already made periodic flooding in that area as part of its relief valve, to take the excess water and avoid more flooding

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elsewhere. Failing to allow nature to take its course invites a bigger disaster as more and more water is forced into the narrow fortified walls of the Mississippi.

Think about how we have shortened and narrowed that river. We haven't reduced the amount of water; we've just reduced the areas where it can go. It makes the inevitable flooding worse. Building a levee is simply going to move it a little further downstream.

The solution is to allow the river to go where nature wants it, not encourage farmers to cultivate even more land that will be vulnerable to crop loss, more disaster relief, more crop insurance loss, and to take away increasingly scarce wildlife habitat for the millions of Americans who would like to hunt and fish. Done right, this can be a virtuous cycle. It saves tax dollars, improves the environment, reduces the damage from flooding and all the attendant costs.

It is a classic example of where the Federal Government should learn from 200 years' experience of trying to engineer the Mississippi River and instead allow, in some cases, nature to take its course and avoid more expensive and worse damage.

This is what we need to do across the Federal Government. We don't have to spend twice as much money on health care as most of the developed countries for outcomes that are mediocre at best. We don't have to spend more money on defense than 12 or 13 of the remaining largest defense budgets and on weapons that in many cases, like our nuclear arsenal where we have far more than we need and can ever use and can afford, we can pare down, save tens of billions of dollars and still be the most powerful Nation in the world; or the outrageous crop insurance that encourages reckless and expensive behavior by paying farmers to plant crops on land that never should have been cultivated in the first place.

□ 1210

While we will control spending and increase revenues, the most important thing we can do is to change the way we do business, using common sense, proven technology, stretching our tax dollars, and making our communities more livable. We can start by not pressuring the Corps of Engineers to complete the levees, spending millions of dollars we don't have on a solution that will make the problem worse. Let's work, instead, to understand the impacts of global warming and extreme weather and then do something about it.

FEDERAL DEBT

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, tonight, in this House Chamber, President Obama will give his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress.

Article ll, Section 3 of the Constitution requires that the President, whoever it may be, shall, from time to time, give to Congress information on the State of the Union. George Washington, the first President, addressed the joint session of Congress, but Thomas Jefferson and each succeeding President up until 1913 presented a written statement of the State of the Union to the House and Senate. So from 1801 until 1913, Presidents submitted a written State of the Union, and on April 8, 1913, Woodrow Wilson, like George Washington, addressed a joint session of Congress, and that has been the manner of our State of the Union by every President since, with the exception of Herbert Hoover.

Today, I am asking for another little change in the State of the Union. I think that we should consider a requirement that the President, on a day that coincides with the State of the Union, also have the Federal Government make a formal declaration of national debt.

My purpose in calling for the declaration is twofold: First, while information about the debt can be found, it is spread throughout a vast array of budget submissions, trustee reports, and other documents that are nearly impossible to navigate or to understand when trying to determine the total national debt and unfunded liabilities our Nation must pay now and in the future. And then the second reason, of course, is to elevate the issue to remind the American public the significant dangers of large government debt.

As of today, our Nation's Federal debt exceeds our Nation's gross domestic product. What does that mean? Gross domestic product is used to determine the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced in America annually, and it includes all of the private and public consumption, all of the government outlays, all the investments and all the exports, less the imports.

Our debt is increasing so quickly that it really is difficult to give an exact figure of our national debt. Suffice it to say that it will, in the very near future, exceed $17 trillion. When I looked at the so-called ''clock'' on my way over here, it was approaching $16.6 trillion. Now, if you stacked $16 trillion one-dollar bills one on top of the other, it would extend more than 1 million miles, which would reach to the Moon and back twice.

Now, former Speaker PELOSI said a few days ago that we do not have a spending problem. Now, I do not believe that most Americans would agree with that statement. Families throughout America must live within their means or suffer the consequences, and our government must live within its means or suffer the consequences. Many people say there are no real consequences, but all of us have seen the loss of jobs, the violence, the lack of economic growth in countries like Greece and Spain and other parts of the European Union.

President Obama took office on January 20, 2009, and the Nation's total debt on that day was $10.6 trillion. Today, it is over $16.5 trillion. The President has drastically increased this country's debt in a mere 4-year span; in fact, it has increased by over 45 percent. However, it should be pointed out that he and he alone is not responsible for all this dramatic increase in debt. Every person that has served in the U.S. Congress in the recent past or today, House Members and Senate Members, are also responsible for the spending that we have approved. Also, those people who serve in the executive branch of government are also responsible.

Just to give you a few examples, 9 or 10 months ago, the Department of Energy built about 12 new buildings over here on The Mall, across from the Jefferson Memorial, for a solar exhibit. It stayed there for about 10 months, and then it was torn down. No one really knows how much the debt cost.

EPA, each year, gives grants to other countries, including China, to help them with their environmental problems at a time when we have to borrow money from China to meet our obligations. And then, as Mr. JONES mentioned earlier, in Afghanistan, we're spending $28 million a day.

So I think it would be beneficial to the American people to prepare an annual declaration of the national debt to be made available to the Congress and the public. This would show the American people how much we owed last year, how much we owe this year, and what the projected debt is for the future.

THE BLAME GAME

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, tonight, the President will once again walk into this Chamber and lay out a vision for how to strengthen America in the years ahead. Properly, part of that vision will include the need to solve our deficit challenge and address the looming sequester. That dangerous set of automatic and indiscriminate spending cuts is due to take effect in just under 3 weeks. But instead of working with Democrats to avert the sequester through a big and balanced solution—or, frankly, even a short-term balanced proposal—a growing number of House Republicans are, instead, engaged in a dangerous blame game.

Majority Leader CANTOR joined in that this weekend, claiming that the President is the one who proposed the sequester in the first place. What he didn't say was, of course, the Republicans offered a piece of legislation called. The sequester was an integral part of their policy proposal. In fact, the sequester was part of a bipartisan

agreement instigated by Republicans, which we supported. Let us not forget, Mr. Speaker, that it was Republican hostage taking of the debt limit in 2011 that brought about the Budget Control Act, which created the sequester.

Speaker BOEHNER himself, after the deal creating the sequester was struck, said about the Budget Control Act, which included the sequester which faces us at the end of this month:

> When you look at this final agreement that we came to with the White House, I got 98 percent of what I wanted.

Now, let me again stress that many of us voted for this. For the past 2 years, however, the Republican majority in this House has had our country lurching from one fiscal crisis to another. Repeatedly, they have threatened to default on our obligations, shut down government operations, and to slash spending in an irrational, meat-ax way.

They have shaken the confidence of our people and of all those throughout the world who look to America for security and stability. They have undermined, in my view, the growth of economy and jobs—and that's the view of CBO as well—and have put in question our commitment to investing in our defense and in job creation.

In short, the Republican majority, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, in this House has given us the most chaotic and confidence-destroying leadership I have seen in my 32 years of service in this House. And now, many of them suggest the sequester that is scheduled to occur on March 1 is an acceptable way forward. Mr. Speaker, I will not take the time to quote the number of Republicans who have said that, but I believe all of them are profoundly wrong.

Sequestration will have a devastating impact on both domestic programs and on our national security. If the sequestration were to take effect, it would mean 70,000 children dropped from the Head Start program; loan guarantees to small businesses would be cut by as much as $540 million; and just as we are engaged in a national discussion about how to address mental health, up to 373,000 people suffering from mental illness could go untreated.

□ 1220

That is not the President's vision for America, nor is it the vision of Democrats in this House. Now, here we are at the 11th hour once again.

First, House Republicans walked way from the Simpson-Bowles recommendation to adopt a balanced way forward; then they refused to compromise on a balanced alternative to the sequester, starting the clock of sequestration. Then we came down to the wire on the fiscal cliff and delayed sequestration for 2 months, and here we are, once again, with Republicans continuing to cast blame on others.

Mr. Speaker, the blame game must end by us and by our Republican colleagues. The issue is not who is at fault. As the previous speaker indicated, we're all at fault; we're all responsible; we all serve in this House. Many of us voted for policies that spend money. Some of us voted for policies to pay for what we bought. Others voted against policies for paying for what we bought. Here we are, once again, on the brink of a fiscal meltdown.

It's a game that has no winners, only losers, like the 14,000 teachers, teacher assistants, and other education staff who would lose their jobs; or the 125,000 families who would be at risk of losing their homes when our rental assistance program is cut; or the thousands of civilian defense personnel, in my district alone, and throughout this country who would be furloughed for up to 22 days during the year; and the hundreds of thousands around the country across every service branch, not to mention the tens of thousands of defense contractors critical to our national security, who would be at risk of losing their jobs.

Instead, Mr. Speaker, we need to get serious and work together to avert a sequester that could stop our recovery in its tracks and defeat our common goal of helping America's economy grow and its businesses create jobs.

Reducing spending in a rational way is important for us to do, let there be no mistake. Considering additional revenues will be essential—every bipartisan group has said that—if we are to get on a sustainable financial footing. The sequester, however, Mr. Speaker, is dangerous and unacceptable. We must stop simply fiddling while the sequester's flames threaten to burn our economy, our national security, and our people.

Mr. Speaker, we have no time to waste. I would urge the majority leader to bring a bill to the floor today that would comply with what Mr. LANKFORD, who chairs the Republican Study Committee, said that we ought to pass things that we think the Senate can pass, not just messages, not just political spin, but we ought to pass things that can actually be passed through the United States Senate and signed by the President.

Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM has said:

> We have our fingerprints as Republicans on this proposal, on this sequestration idea. It was the President's idea, according to Bob Woodward's book. But we as the Republican Party agreed to it.

Let's make law and make policy so that America has the confidence that its Congress can work. It must work. America needs it to work.

AVIATION

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

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, when I go around in Kansas and talk to folks and talk to them about a business that supports 1.2 million American jobs and over $150 billion of wealth creation across the U.S. economy and ask, ''What do you think a President would do if they knew about an industry like that?'' they'd all say the same thing folks all across the country would say. They'd say that the President ought to encourage that, ought to thank the people that work in that industry, and ought to promote that industry all across the world, a great American-manufactured product doing great things in America.

Yet, that industry, the general aviation industry, is used by our President as a rhetorical punching bag. Everywhere he goes, he talks about corporate fat-cat jet owners and those rich, wealthy people flying around in corporate airplanes.

Well, I know what this industry does. I came from this industry. I know precisely who these people are. When you use language like that and you talk about an American manufacturing industry in that way, you're talking about welders, you're talking about union mechanics, and you're talking about all the support people that work at fixed-base operations all across the country. You're talking about good, hardworking Americans, not corporate fat-cat jet owners.

Yet this President continues in the same way that he has. I had hoped that I wouldn't have to come back and talk about it again, but I anticipate that tonight, from this very Chamber, we'll hear about those same corporate fat-cat jet owners yet again.

The general aviation industry doesn't ask for a handout, and it doesn't need what Detroit received. It only asks that a President acknowledge and recognize the importance of this industry. It creates aircraft that are used by small businessowners all across the Nation to get to places they need to be. Every week, I fly on commercial aircraft from here back to Wichita, Kansas. It's no easy task. If you want to get to two or three of your suppliers or four or five of your customers in a day located all throughout the heartland, the most efficient tool to use to do that is a general aviation airplane.

And, of course, we know the President understands that, Mr. Speaker. He flies around in the nicest personal aircraft in the history of the world, actually built in Wichita, Kansas. And government employees use general aviation aircraft to travel all around the country. They do so because it is an efficient means of conducting their business.

Now, when the President talks about these corporate fat-cat jet owners, he's doing so because he says he wants to close a loophole, he wants to generate more money coming to Washington, D.C., and he talks about this subsidy. We looked long and hard to find out what subsidy it was he was referring to. Frankly, we think it is a depreciation schedule—a depreciation schedule—something that every asset in America is subject to. Yet, somehow,

he has picked on this particular depreciation schedule as offensive and antithetical to the American way of life.

Mr. President, the revenue that is generated in 1 year if we eliminated the provision about which we think you're speaking, Mr. Speaker, would generate enough revenue to run the government for a single day—1 day. Yet, Mr. Speaker, the President continues to use this language of class warfare against an industry that has created so many tens of thousands of jobs all across our country. It is unexplainable why anyone would be critical of this industry.

The President has also proposed a new tax, a general aviation fee, of $100 per flight segment, which would require an entire new bureaucracy to implement and to execute. It is incomprehensible to me why anyone would think that was the right approach.

Mr. Speaker, I have invited the President of the United States to come to Wichita, Kansas, to see Beechcraft, to see Cessna, and to see Learjet and to see all the suppliers and all of the people who work so hard to make these airplanes. He has not taken me up on that yet, Mr. Speaker. I urge that he do so. But, sadly, if he continues to decline and continues to talk about this industry in the way that he does, he will not suffer, but tens of thousands of Americans who work on these airplanes all across the country will.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the President will change his direction, change his course of action, and recognize the value of this important industry.

THE CRISIS OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. I rise to speak about yet another phony, created crisis, and that would be the crisis of the United States Postal Service, which we have heard is hemorrhaging—hemorrhaging—money.

Well, it's kind of interesting. If you look back since in 2006, Congress forced the United States Postal Service to prepay health care retirement benefits for people who have not yet been born who might some day go to work for the Postal Service. Now, if you had trouble following that, I'd understand it. No one else in America, no other business, no other agency of government, as far as I know, no entity in the world is prepaying the anticipated health care costs of people who haven't yet been born, let alone if they're a specific entity, people who haven't yet been born and might go to work for them some day and might retire and might then need health care, but we're making the Postal Service do that.

Now, I'm not, but the Congress assembled deemed that, snuck it into one of those midnight special bills in a lame-duck session of Congress. So, now the hemorrhaging.

Well, they're hemorrhaging money, hemorrhaging money. Oh, my God, we must do away with them. That's basically the Republican line here. They, so far, have done nothing to either unshackle the post office so it can deal with some of these problems, and, in fact, have encouraged the most destructive instincts of the idiot who is running the Postal Service, who should be fired by the President, to go to 5-day delivery and to close all the sorting centers.

□ 1230

Under the plan of the Postmaster General, it will take longer for a first-class letter to go from my town of Springfield across the river to the city of Eugene than it took Thomas Jefferson to mail a letter from Monticello to the Continental Congress. Yes, really, that's what he's planning. Now, that's not going to cause a bunch of people to abandon the Postal Service—of course not, that will help their revenue. No, it won't.

With this benign neglect, the indifference, the refusal to act over here in the House, we're watching the Postal Service spiral down the drain, both the good and the bad of the Postal Service.

If you didn't make them prepay health care retirement benefits for people who haven't yet been born, who haven't yet gone to work for them, over the last 6 years, instead of saying they lost $41,200,000,000, actually, it would come down to about $9 billion. They prepaid $32 billion of health care retirement benefits, $32 billion. That is by far the large majority of their red ink. Just about 80 percent of their red ink is due to them being forced to do something that no other entity on Earth is being forced to do.

If you want to look for a phony, manufactured crisis, this is it. Yes, they still have a small problem. That would be about a billion and a half dollars a year. If we unshackled them a bit, let them get into some new lines of business—which the Republicans are refusing to do—if we allowed them to set rates rationally—they've got a couple of lines of business as they call them that make money, and they have others that lose money. But they're allowed only to increase rates—even if it is losing money to deliver junk mail—by a cost-of-living increase, which it would obviously be less than a penny on junk mail delivery costs. The same on first-class.

If we allowed them to set their rates reasonably, if we took away this mandate of prefunding retirement health care costs for people who haven't yet been born, who haven't yet gone to work for them, and if we settled up on the old dispute over their overpayment for the civil service retirees who got rolled into the FERS system with the Postal Service, actually we could have a viable entity and one that would continue to serve America into the next century.

The post office pioneered optical scanning. They used to have some visionary leadership over there. They need new leadership. They need to be unshackled by Congress. They need to have unfair burdens lifted. But they don't need to be destroyed. That's where we're headed, towards the destruction of the Postal Service at this point in time. Some say young people don't use it, no one needs it, who needs it. They're delivering packages for FedEx and UPS to places where FedEx and UPS doesn't want to go. They've partnered with FedEx and UPS. They deliver packages for small businesses and with their one-price package that FedEx and UPS can't afford, which are vital to thousands of small businesses in my State and millions nationwide. They deliver prescriptions. Yes, they deliver prescriptions on Saturdays for veterans and others.

We need to fix the Postal Service, not destroy it.

LET'S RECTIFY THE FISCAL SITUATION

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

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address that issue which will have a significant fiscal impact on the economic well-being of this country in just 16 days. That is the issue of sequestration.

I have to agree with the minority whip from Maryland, who earlier spoke today that it's time to stop the blame game. There is no need to blame any more about this terrible fiscal policy which we are about to sustain.

You see, across-the-board cuts that the looming sequester will implement in a couple of weeks are bad policy and a result of bad politics. I believe that we must cut spending, and I rise here in support of careful, targeted cuts.

It is a shame that 850 jobs will be lost in Florida schools while we build a $750,000 soccer field in Guantanamo Bay for terrorists. It's a shame that more than 26,000 special education students will see cuts to their education in Florida while government agencies are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on conferences in Las Vegas, Nevada. And it is a shame that more than 35,000 health care workers in Florida are projected to lose their jobs while more than $115 billion was lost in improper payments from this government in just one year.

We must ask ourselves, for every $1 that we are going to spend, is it worth mortgaging and borrowing our children's and our grandchildren's future for 41 cents for every one of those dollars. I submit to you that it is not.

Let's rectify this situation. I urge the Senate to take up the House-passed legislation, which would make targeted cuts to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse so that important essential government programs will not lose their funding.

The American people not only demand and deserve transparency in

their appropriation process, but they also demand and deserve that we be prudent and fiscally responsible in making sure we operate and appropriate within our means.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Loving God, thank You for giving us another day.

The people's House prepares to welcome the governmental and military leadership of our Nation. The world watches as the great experiment of civilian self-government is in high relief.

May all who populate these hallways this day be possessed of goodwill and a shared commitment to guarantee the freedoms and responsibilities inspired by the soaring rhetoric and subsequent actions of our American ancestors.

May all that is said and done in this Chamber today redound to the benefit of our Nation and the glory of Your holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois 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.

NO MORE BLAME, MR. PRESIDENT

(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, tonight the President will address the American people in his annual State of the Union Address. With the last quarter revealing unemployment has risen .1 percent and the economy contracting .1 percent, the President should change course. He should follow the example of President John F. Kennedy and President Ronald Reagan to lower taxes during economic hardship to promote job creation.

Last Congress, House Republicans passed over 30 job-creating bills. Most sadly died in the Senate graveyard. Additionally, the House has voted twice on a balanced approach to prevent sequestration with commonsense reforms. We should avoid these devastating cuts to occur, which will threaten our national security and destroy over 2 million jobs. House Republicans are actually passing legislation to encourage job growth through small business success.

Now is the time for positive leadership. I urge the President to begin working with House Republicans to find real solutions that will create jobs and put our country back on the path to prosperity.

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

DARWIN DAY

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the birth of Charles Darwin. Only rarely in human history has someone shown a fundamentally new way of thinking about the world, an insight so revolutionary that it has made possible further creative and explanatory thinking.

In my previous field of physics, we have Galileo and Newton and Einstein. In biology, at the top of any list would be Charles Darwin. Without his insights—without his recognition that natural selection enables ever-increasing complexity and functionality and enables the development of ever-more wonderful forms of life—our modern understandings of biology, ecology, genetics, and medicine would be impossible, and our comprehension of the world around us would be vastly poorer.

I've introduced a resolution to honor February 12 as a ceremonial Darwin Day, to recognize the importance of scientific thinking in our lives and to honor one of humankind's greatest thinkers.

HONORING JOSEPH N. COOK, SR.

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

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American hero, somebody born in Channahon, Illinois, in my district, and passed away very recently.

His name is Joe Cook, Sr. Joe was a community leader, a great father, a great family member, but I would like to point out today a great veteran of the United States. He was a proud American, a decorated Korean war veteran, a member of the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division. He was listed as missing in action for over 121 days behind enemy lines. By the grace of God, he was one of the very few to return home from Task Force Crombez, a recipient of the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts.

These are the kinds of Americans that we need to honor and cherish today. And I tip my hat off to Mr. Cook, and I say thank you, sir, for your service to your country.

MEDICARE

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday the Congressional Budget Office came out with their new budget projections and analysis of last year. What it showed was that the Medicare program grew at the slowest rate since 1965 when the program was created.

As this chart shows, the cost growth for Medicare is coming down. As a result of that, there are $200 billion in new savings that we didn't know about the day before.

This is the smart way to balance our budget, by providing incentives for preventive care for more efficiency in the system, not butchering Medicare by turning it into a private health insurance program or raising the age of eligibility.

We can build on its success. We can stop sequestration by having a smart, focused health care policy which saves money for the American taxpayer, but protects America's seniors and people on disability.

SEQUESTRATION

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, tonight the American people see if President Obama will keep his word regarding sequestration. At the third Presidential debate, President Obama said:

> First of all, the sequester is not something that I proposed. It's something that Congress has proposed. It will not happen.

As you can see, the truth is that sequestration was a concept that came from President Obama's White House, and sequestration is happening unless Congress acts. President Obama must keep his promise to find the necessary cuts to get our fiscal house in order. We cannot fix this problem by taxing the American people more.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to keep his promise to fix the current sequestration and maintain the needed cuts in spending.

GOVERNMENT SUES STANDARD & POOR'S

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the U.S. Department of Justice for finally taking some substantive action against one of the credit rating agencies, Standard & Poor's, for its role in causing the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.

When Wall Street's housing bubble burst in 2008, it sent shock waves through our economy. That shock wave may not have been so destructive if credit rating agencies like Standard & Poor's did not create fraud.

Rather than assessing real risk and due diligence on the securities, Standard & Poor's invented a system of defrauding investors by providing the highest rating as long as the clients paid Standard & Poor's enough money. If Standard & Poor's actually rated the mortgage securities for what they were truly worth, our entire banking system and economy may not have collapsed.

While the Department of Justice should be praised for taking some action against Standard & Poor's, other rating agencies were left out of the case. And the fact is Justice's case is only a civil one, not a criminal one. That tells you who really holds political power in our country.

Thanks to Wall Street, America lost over 8 million jobs. American households lost over $19 trillion in wealth. Yet no major Wall Street executive has ever faced the threat of jail time. Real cases could yield real dollars back to our Treasury and help America pay the bills that resulted from the Great Recession beginning in 2008.

□ 1410

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHESTER REITEN

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

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, a North Dakota legend died recently, and I was honored to be able to attend the celebration of his life, a sendoff worthy of a king.

Chester Reiten was like royalty, especially to the people of his hometown of Minot, where he served as their mayor for 14 years. Public service came naturally to Chet. During World War II, he enlisted in the United States Navy, serving as an ensign and commanding officer of a landing craft infantry ship.

In addition to military and local service, Chet served 16 years in the North Dakota Senate where he was also president pro tem.

Chester really made a name for himself and Minot when he combined his loves of Norwegian culture and America by founding the annual Norsk Hostfest, the largest Scandinavian festival in North America. The Hostfest brings thousands of people to Minot every year to celebrate all things Scandinavian. Chester received the St. Olav Medal from the King of Norway as a result of his work with Norsk Hostfest and his promotion of Norwegian and Scandinavian heritage. He received the Theodore Roosevelt Roughrider Award in 2002 and was inducted into the Scandinavian American Hall of Fame in 2011.

May God bless Chester's memory; his wife, Joy; and their beautiful family. He will be missed.

JACK'S OYSTER HOUSE CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, with pride I rise today to congratulate Jack's Oyster House of Albany, New York, on the celebration of its 100th anniversary recently held on January 24. Founded by Jack Rosenstein, the restaurant is currently owned by his grandson, Brad. As a sampling of its entree depth, Jack's has served liver and onions since the first day it opened. One menu, dating back to 1939, lists the price of this signature dish as 75 cents.

Sadly, however, many restaurants do not make it past their first few years of operation; but Jack's has endured because it remembers and honors its past, including well-dressed wait staff and boutique tables and place settings, while striving to serve its current customers in a top-notch manner with quality, classic fare.

The only day, interestingly, Jack's ever closed in the past 100 years was in 1986 for Jack Rosenstein's funeral. May he rest in peace. And may Jack's Oyster House continue to thrive for centuries to come. We wish all involved a happy 100th birthday.

FORT HOOD'S TERRORIST ATTACK

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, a report will air tonight on ''ABC News'' about the Obama administration's negligence of the Fort Hood survivors and their families. This was clearly a terrorist attack. And while the Obama administration has designated that attack that killed all those people a ''workplace violence,'' the survivors cannot get assistance. Major Hasan was influenced by Awlaki. The administration knew Awlaki was bad, and they killed him by a drone missile. And now the people that are involved are not getting the necessary help.

Secretary of Defense Panetta, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Dempsey, Attorney General Holder, and the President of the United States have failed the people and continue to fail the people who were wounded and killed at Fort Hood, as well as their families.

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT LINCOLN

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today is the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. Unfortunately, not many Americans probably know that; but February 12 used to be a date that people remembered. Now it's just Presidents Day, a weak invocation.

An award-winning movie is presently showing about President Lincoln, a great President who saved the Union and got the 13th Amendment passed—slavery abolished. But the movie also showed that President Lincoln could make compromise and make the two sides of the bodies work together for the betterment of this Nation.

As President Obama from the Land of Lincoln speaks tonight in the State of the Union, we should remember what Lincoln taught us: that you need to work for the union of this government, the unity of our people, for rights for everybody and diversity, and for the two parties to work together for the betterment of the United States of America.

Thank you, President Lincoln.

RESPONSIBLE SPENDING CONTROLS

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, Uncle Sam's free-spending ways have cost each American $27,000 over the last 4 years. As a Nation, we are adding $50,000 in debt each second. But listening to this President talk about sequestration, you would think that we can't spend one penny less, even though discretionary spending has risen over his tenure, even though we spend millions on such necessities as robotic squirrels, Martian menus, hot-air balloons, and other so-called priorities.

The House has voted twice to replace the President's sequester with commonsense spending reforms. It is time to get serious about replacing these indiscriminate cuts with other more targeted spending reductions, but not by raising taxes again.

Mr. Speaker, I am willing to work with this President to replace his sequester with responsible spending controls. I am not willing to ask our constituents to give Washington more of their hard-earned money so it can be squandered and added to the hefty tab Uncle Sam is piling up on their behalf.

CURBING GUN VIOLENCE

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, a little over a week ago, I met with community leaders, law enforcement, mental health professionals, gun owners, and those who have been touched by gun violence to discuss what we can do together to curb gun violence. They shared their thoughts and different perspectives; but, together, they called on me to take action.

So today, I rise to urge my colleagues to join me in support of sensible new gun laws. We must pass legislation that will lead to universal background checks, that makes gun trafficking a Federal crime, and limits access to high-capacity magazines and military-style assault weapons.

This is the moment. Right now, this is the time. Together, we have the opportunity to save lives. It's up to us to seize the moment. Let's get to work.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HYDROPOWER REGULATORY EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2013

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 267) to improve hydropower, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 267

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Promoting small hydroelectric power projects.
Sec. 4. Promoting conduit hydropower projects.
Sec. 5. FERC authority to extend preliminary permit periods.
Sec. 6. Promoting hydropower development at nonpowered dams and closed loop pumped storage projects.
Sec. 7. DOE study of pumped storage and potential hydropower from conduits.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the hydropower industry currently employs approximately 300,000 workers across the United States;

(2) hydropower is the largest source of clean, renewable electricity in the United States;

(3) as of the date of enactment of this Act, hydropower resources, including pumped storage facilities, provide—

(A) nearly 7 percent of the electricity generated in the United States; and

(B) approximately 100,000 megawatts of electric capacity in the United States;

(4) only 3 percent of the 80,000 dams in the United States generate electricity, so there is substantial potential for adding hydropower generation to nonpowered dams; and

(5) according to one study, by utilizing currently untapped resources, the United States could add approximately 60,000 megawatts of new hydropower capacity by 2025, which could create 700,000 new jobs over the next 13 years.

SEC. 3. PROMOTING SMALL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS.

Subsection (d) of section 405 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2705) is amended by striking ''5,000'' and inserting ''10,000''.

SEC. 4. PROMOTING CONDUIT HYDROPOWER PROJECTS.

(a) APPLICABILITY OF, AND EXEMPTION FROM, LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 30 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 823a) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a)(1) A qualifying conduit hydropower facility shall not be required to be licensed under this part.

''(2)(A) Any person, State, or municipality proposing to construct a qualifying conduit hydropower facility shall file with the Commission a notice of intent to construct such facility. The notice shall include sufficient information to demonstrate that the facility meets the qualifying criteria.

''(B) Not later than 15 days after receipt of a notice of intent filed under subparagraph (A), the Commission shall—

''(i) make an initial determination as to whether the facility meets the qualifying criteria; and

''(ii) if the Commission makes an initial determination, pursuant to clause (i), that the facility meets the qualifying criteria, publish public notice of the notice of intent filed under subparagraph (A).

''(C) If, not later than 45 days after the date of publication of the public notice described in subparagraph (B)(ii)—

''(i) an entity contests whether the facility meets the qualifying criteria, the Commission shall promptly issue a written determination as to whether the facility meets such criteria; or

''(ii) no entity contests whether the facility meets the qualifying criteria, the facility shall be deemed to meet such criteria.

''(3) For purposes of this section:

''(A) The term 'conduit' means any tunnel, canal, pipeline, aqueduct, flume, ditch, or similar manmade water conveyance that is operated for the distribution of water for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption and not primarily for the generation of electricity.

''(B) The term 'qualifying conduit hydropower facility' means a facility (not including any dam or other impoundment) that is determined or deemed under paragraph (2)(C) to meet the qualifying criteria.

''(C) The term 'qualifying criteria' means, with respect to a facility—

''(i) the facility is constructed, operated, or maintained for the generation of electric power and uses for such generation only the hydroelectric potential of a non-federally owned conduit;

''(ii) the facility has an installed capacity that does not exceed 5 megawatts; and

''(iii) on or before the date of enactment of the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013, the facility is not licensed under, or exempted from the license requirements contained in, this part.

''(b) Subject to subsection (c), the Commission may grant an exemption in whole or in part from the requirements of this part, including any license requirements contained in this part, to any facility (not including any dam or other impoundment) constructed, operated, or maintained for the generation of electric power which the Commission determines, by rule or order—

''(1) utilizes for such generation only the hydroelectric potential of a conduit; and

''(2) has an installed capacity that does not exceed 40 megawatts.'';

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''subsection (a)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(3) in subsection (d), by striking ''subsection (a)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (d) of section 405 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2705), as amended, is further amended by striking ''subsection (a) of such section 30'' and inserting ''subsection (b) of such section 30''.

SEC. 5. FERC AUTHORITY TO EXTEND PRELIMINARY PERMIT PERIODS.

Section 5 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 798) is amended—

(1) by designating the first, second, and third sentences as subsections (a), (c), and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) (as so designated) the following:

''(b) The Commission may extend the period of a preliminary permit once for not more than 2 additional years beyond the 3 years permitted by subsection (a) if the Commission finds that the permittee has carried out activities under such permit in good faith and with reasonable diligence.''.

SEC. 6. PROMOTING HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT AT NONPOWERED DAMS AND CLOSED LOOP PUMPED STORAGE PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To improve the regulatory process and reduce delays and costs for hydropower development at nonpowered dams and closed loop pumped storage projects, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') shall investigate the feasibility of the issuance of a license for hydropower development at nonpowered dams and closed loop pumped storage projects in a 2-year period (referred to in this section as a ''2-year process''). Such a 2-year process shall include any prefiling licensing process of the Commission.

(b) WORKSHOPS AND PILOTS.—The Commission shall—

(1) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, hold an initial workshop to solicit public comment and recommendations on how to implement a 2-year process;

(2) develop criteria for identifying projects featuring hydropower development at nonpowered dams and closed loop pumped storage projects that may be appropriate for licensing within a 2-year process;

(3) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, develop and implement pilot projects to test a 2-year process, if practicable; and

(4) not later than 3 years after the date of implementation of the final pilot project testing a 2-year process, hold a final workshop to solicit public comment on the effectiveness of each tested 2-year process.

(c) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Commission shall, to the extent practicable, enter into a memorandum of understanding with any applicable Federal or State agency to implement a pilot project described in subsection (b).

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) PILOT PROJECTS NOT IMPLEMENTED.—If the Commission determines that no pilot project described in subsection (b) is practicable because no 2-year process is practicable, not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that—

(A) describes the public comments received as part of the initial workshop held under subsection (b)(1); and

(B) identifies the process, legal, environmental, economic, and other issues that justify the determination of the Commission that no 2-year process is practicable, with recommendations on how Congress may address or remedy the identified issues.

(2) PILOT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED.—If the Commission develops and implements pilot projects involving a 2-year process, not later than 60 days after the date of completion of the final workshop held under subsection (b)(4), the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that—

(A) describes the outcomes of the pilot projects;

(B) describes the public comments from the final workshop on the effectiveness of each tested 2-year process; and

(C)(i) outlines how the Commission will adopt policies under existing law (including regulations) that result in a 2-year process for appropriate projects;

(ii) outlines how the Commission will issue new regulations to adopt a 2-year process for appropriate projects; or

(iii) identifies the process, legal, environmental, economic, and other issues that justify a determination of the Commission that no 2-year process is practicable, with recommendations on how Congress may address or remedy the identified issues.

SEC. 7. DOE STUDY OF PUMPED STORAGE AND POTENTIAL HYDROPOWER FROM CONDUITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall conduct a study—

(1)(A) of the technical flexibility that existing pumped storage facilities can provide to support intermittent renewable electric energy generation, including the potential for such existing facilities to be upgraded or retrofitted with advanced commercially available technology; and

(B) of the technical potential of existing pumped storage facilities and new advanced pumped storage facilities, to provide grid reliability benefits; and

(2)(A) to identify the range of opportunities for hydropower that may be obtained from conduits (as defined by the Secretary) in the United States; and

(B) through case studies, to assess amounts of potential energy generation from such conduit hydropower projects.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including any recommendations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 267.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 267 is the result of the bipartisan effort of Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and Congresswoman DIANA DEGETTE, both members of the Energy and Commerce Committee. They've worked long and hard on this legislation. It has great promise for increased hydropower development across the Nation, and we're delighted to bring it to the floor today.

At this time, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS).

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 267, the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013, which I introduced with my good friend from Colorado, Representative DIANA DEGETTE.

□ 1420

As we continue to advance an all-of-the-above energy strategy, we must remember to include our Nation's largest, cleanest, most affordable, reliable, and renewable energy source—hydropower.

Sustainable hydropower is a part of a strong economy, and to see the potential and the benefits of hydropower, all you have to do is look at my home State of Washington State. Over 75 percent of our electricity comes from hydropower. It's clean and it's renewable.

The Columbia and Snake River dams in eastern and central Washington transformed our economy. What was once a dry, barren desert with sagebrush is one of the most productive agriculture regions in the world. And because of low-cost hydropower, we've attracted high-tech companies like Google and Yahoo to relocate their servers in eastern Washington. We've also brought manufacturing facilities like the BMW plant, which is in Moses Lake.

However, the regulatory process for hydropower, particularly for these smaller, controversial projects, is broken. Too often the cost of complying exceeds the cost of the equipment itself. We need to make this process easier and less costly, and that's what this legislation will do. Think of it as the 1040–EZ for hydro permitting. H.R. 267 streamlines the hydropower permitting process, reducing the burdens impeding development and getting low-cost power to communities faster.

Mr. Speaker, most agree with the goal of energy independence and continuing the energy revolution. As part of an all-of-the-above strategy, we need to domestically produce more oil, coal, natural gas, and renewable energies like hydropower.

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 3 minutes.

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. There was a recent study by the National Hydropower Association that showed we could double hydropower production in this country without building a new dam, simply by investing in new technologies, new turbines. Actually, only 3 percent of the dams in the country produce electricity.

We could also, in this process, create 700,000 jobs. Unleashing American ingenuity to increase hydropower production will lower energy costs and help create thousands of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support American energy and support H.R. 267.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 267 is a bipartisan bill that will facilitate the development of new, environmentally responsible hydropower projects. The bill was introduced by Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS and Ms. DIANA DEGETTE. It was developed through a cooperative process that included extensive discussions with interested stakeholders and agencies.

This process was produced in a balanced, bipartisan way, and it is bipartisan legislation. The legislation is supported by both hydropower developers and environmentalists. It was unanimously reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and last Congress, the House passed an identical bill by a vote of 382–0.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I'd ask if the majority has any additional speakers.

Mr. WHITFIELD. We have no additional speakers.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I just want to say, in conclusion, how much we enjoyed working with both sides of the aisle on this issue. I want to thank CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and DIANA DEGETTE.

The Nation will benefit from this legislation because, as has already been said, hydropower is a clean, efficient, abundant, and affordable source of energy. And I urge people to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 267.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COLLINSVILLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROMOTION ACT

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 316) to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 316

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 ''Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act''.

SEC. 2. REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSES AND EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECTS.

Subject to section 4 of this Act and notwithstanding the time period under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission projects numbered 10822 and 10823, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this Act as the ''Commission'') may—

(1) reinstate the license for either or each of those projects; and

(2) extend for 2 years after the date on which either or each project is reinstated under paragraph (1) the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of such projects.

Prior to reaching any final decision under this section, the Commission shall provide an opportunity for submission of comments by interested persons, municipalities, and States and shall consider any such comment that is timely submitted.

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LICENSES TO THE TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT.

Notwithstanding section 8 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 801) or any other provision thereof, if the Commission reinstates the license for, and extends the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of, a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project under section 2, the Commission shall transfer such license to the town of Canton, Connecticut.

SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

(a) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ''environmental assessment'' shall have the same meaning as is given such term in regulations prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall complete an environmental assessment for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission projects numbered 10822 and 10823, updating, to the extent necessary, the environmental analysis performed during the process of licensing such projects.

(c) COMMENT PERIOD.—Upon issuance of the environmental assessment required under subsection (b), the Commission shall—

(1) initiate a 30-day public comment period; and

(2) before taking any action under section 2 or 3—

(A) consider any comments received during such 30-day period; and

(B) incorporate in the license for the projects involved, such terms and conditions as the Commission determines to be necessary, based on the environmental assessment performed and comments received under this section.

SEC. 5. DEADLINE.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall—

(1) make a final decision pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 2; and

(2) if the Commission decides to reinstate one or both of the licenses under such paragraph and extend the corresponding deadline for commencement of construction under paragraph (2) of such section, complete the action required under section 3.

SEC. 6. PROTECTION OF EXISTING RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act shall affect any valid license issued by the Commission under section 4 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 797) on or before the date of enactment of this Act or diminish or extinguish any existing rights under any such license.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 316 would provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with limited authority to reinstate two terminated hydroelectric licenses and transfer them to a new owner, the Town of Canton, Connecticut. The licenses are associated with the Upper and Lower Collinsville dams on the Farmington River in Connecticut. Both projects are under 1 megawatt each. This is important legislation that will certainly benefit the people in that area.

I want to thank Mr. LUJÁN and others for working with us on this important piece of legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman WHITFIELD and all of the members of the majority as well for working with the minority on this important piece of legislation.

I encourage my colleagues to support the Collinsville hydropower legislation introduced by Congresswoman ESTY of Connecticut. The bill would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reinstate licenses for two hydroelectric power plants on the Farmington River and to transfer these licenses to the Town of Canton, Connecticut. This noncontroversial legislation has passed the House by voice vote in both the 111th and 112th Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. ESTY. Thank you, Congressman LUJÁN. And I'd like to thank Chairman WHITFIELD for his leadership on this important issue and for bringing this bill to the floor so quickly this year.

I rise as the proud sponsor of the Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act. This bill, as the chairman so aptly described, would provide FERC limited authority to license the Town of Canton, in my district, to operate two small and dormant dams for hydroelectric power.

The Upper and Lower Collinsville dams on the Farmington River were first built in the 18th and 19th centuries to power an ax manufacturer. While this business closed in the 1960s, the dams have remained and are a lasting symbol of the Farmington Valley's very proud manufacturing history.

And just as our communities have been reinvented over the years, we now have the opportunity to reinvent a dormant dam into a dam producing local, clean energy. If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, under the authority of this bill, permits both dams to generate hydropower, the dams could produce nearly 2 megawatts of power, enough to power more than 1,500 homes, which I'll note, parenthetically, with 3 feet of snow in the last week, were much in demand, that additional power. Licenses for this purpose had previously been issued, and this bill would allow the reinstatement of the inactive FERC licenses.

Now, as with any dam on any river, there are legitimate concerns about the river and the ecosystem's health. The Upper and Lower Collinsville dams already exist, and our legislation addresses many concerns to fully protect the river's health by requiring FERC to complete an updated analysis of the environmental impact of the projects and seek additional public comment before taking action.

Now, this project started long before I was elected to Congress, and I'm proud to continue the work on this bill. Just a few months ago, this body passed the exact same language offered by then-Congressman CHRIS MURPHY, Connecticut's new Senator. He's been a longtime champion on this issue, and I'm grateful for his and First Selectman of Canton Richard Barlow's work spearheading these efforts back home.

□ 1430

I would also like to mention another longtime supporter of this project, Art Fournier. Sadly, Art passed away this past July. But during one of the occasions I had the opportunity to discuss issues with him and gain from his lifetime of experiences, he brought up this

bill to enforce upon me how important it was. He was committed to public service and to ensuring that the world was a better place for the next generation. His commitment to public service was evident from his service on many boards and commissions in the town of Canton, including on the Hydro Power Advisory Commission.

Another strong advocate for this project also, sadly, died this summer, Mark Quattro. Mark, too, made us aware of the importance of this project for the little town of Canton, and he was deeply committed to the community and served on many town organizations, including the chamber of commerce. It would be a fitting tribute to honor these two fine citizens of Canton, Art Fournier and Mark Quattro, by passing this bill today.

I'd like to thank, again, Chairman WHITFIELD, as well as Chairman UPTON and Ranking Members WAXMAN and RUSH and their staffs for bringing the Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act to the floor today for a vote. This project has a long history of bipartisan support at the local level, and I'm proud to be working with my colleagues across the aisle to empower local communities to utilize existing resources to create locally produced clean, renewable power. I respectfully urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I would just urge my colleagues to adopt this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I want to thank Mr. LUJÁN, members of the committee, and certainly Ms. ESTY for her involvement in this legislation and would urge all the Members to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 316.

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.

VETERAN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN SUPPORT ACT OF 2013

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 235) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 235

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 ''Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. ASSISTING VETERANS WITH MILITARY EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING TO MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING CIVILIAN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 243 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 314 the following:

''SEC. 315. ASSISTING VETERANS WITH MILITARY EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING TO MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING CIVILIAN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS.

''(a) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program consisting of awarding demonstration grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures in order to assist veterans who completed military emergency medical technician training while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States to meet certification, licensure, and other requirements applicable to becoming an emergency medical technician in the State.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received as a demonstration grant under this section shall be used to prepare and implement a plan to streamline State requirements and procedures as described in subsection (a), including by—

''(1) determining the extent to which the requirements for the education, training, and skill level of emergency medical technicians in the State are equivalent to requirements for the education, training, and skill level of military emergency medical technicians; and

''(2) identifying methods, such as waivers, for military emergency medical technicians to forego or meet any such equivalent State requirements.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a State shall demonstrate that the State has a shortage of emergency medical technicians.

''(d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Congress an annual report on the program under this section.

''(e) FUNDING.—Of the amount authorized by section 751(j)(1) to be appropriated to carry out section 751 for fiscal year 2014, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 751(j)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294a(j)(1)) is amended by striking ''There is authorized to be appropriated'' and inserting ''Subject to section 315(e), there is authorized to be appropriated''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in strong support and urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 235, the Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2013.

At this time I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, who wrote this important legislation.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your hard work in bringing this forward. I just want to thank all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for supporting this bill.

Unemployment rates continue to be far too high among our veterans who are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. These returning men and women deserve a smooth transition from the military into the civilian workforce. As a Nation, we must recognize the experience and education that our military-trained EMTs receive. It's inefficient to force these well-trained veterans to start over with basic training in the civilian workforce after aiding wounded men and women who were severely injured in combat. We must recognize military-trained EMT skills and education and streamline the process so these honorable men and women can quickly return to work here at home.

I'm a pilot in the Air National Guard. One of the things that really brought this to my mind is, as a pilot, I went through my pilot training and was able to take an equivalency test in which I was granted, basically, the civilian equivalent of what I learned in the military. And you realize those are very obviously transferable skills. And to be able to bring that into the civilian workforce has done great for airlines and commercial piloting and everything, frankly, related to aviation in the civilian world.

This bill is a commonsense way to help our veterans as they transition back to civilian life. By supporting States to make the process more efficient, veterans with military EMT training will more quickly become certified civilian EMTs. In doing so, returning veterans will not have to start over at square one in their training and can enter the civilian workforce much sooner.

One other point to make in this is that in rural areas—and I represent a lot of rural areas in Illinois—there is a shortage of emergency medical technicians in small towns. But there's not a shortage of folks coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan—veterans in these small communities. To be able to do this small step in ensuring that the rural areas, the rural municipalities and our veterans are matched with jobs where there is need is, I think, a very positive step in the right direction.

I would urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this great piece of legislation.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 235, the Veteran Emergency Medical

Technician Support Act of 2013. This bill authorizes a demonstration grant program for States that are experiencing emergency medical technician shortages so that States, in turn, can better assist returning veterans and their transition to civilian employment. States receiving grant funding under this program would develop and implement plans to streamline training and educational requirements for returning vets. Specifically, States would determine the extent to which civilian education and training requirements are equivalent to those for previous military EMT work. And States would identify ways for qualified military EMTs to forego duplicative requirements.

H.R. 235 was reported by the Energy and Commerce Committee with broad bipartisan support. And, Mr. Speaker, I think it's also worth noting that H.R. 235 is essentially the same as legislation that passed the House on a voice vote in the last Congress. I commend the sponsors of the bill, Congressman KINZINGER and Congresswoman CAPPS, for their leadership on this important issue. H.R. 235 is a commonsense bipartisan measure. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and the majority for working with us on this bill, would urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I want to thank once again Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois and Mrs. CAPPS of California for this commonsense legislation. When you think about young men and women serving in the military and Iraq and Afghanistan and responding to a wide array of emergencies that they respond to and having visited the training programs that they have, we know that they are well trained. And yet some State licensing laws for EMTs vary. Many States do not recognize combat medics and other veterans' qualifications as applicable to the licensing requirement of the civilian health care system. Some States make exceptions for former military medics and allow them reciprocity and a chance to sit for the licensing exam without going through the usual training. But, as I said, many States do not.

This legislation simply helps streamline State requirements and make allowances for returning veterans to enter the EMT workforce without unnecessary duplication of their training. And we all know the great demand for emergency technicians in our society today.

□ 1440

This bill also provides for an annual report to Congress. It complies with CutGo because funding of the $1 million for the program is offset with funds from area health education centers of the Public Health Service Act.

So, I am pleased to support this legislation and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 235. Once again, I thank the gentleman from Illinois and all of those on the committee who brought this legislation to the floor.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 235, the Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2013. Congresswoman CAPPS and Congressman KINZINGER have introduced this commonsense legislation to advance our shared goals of getting our veterans back to work and addressing areas of shortage in health professions.

H.R. 235 is essentially the same as legislation the House passed on a voice vote in the 112th Congress. I know we are all hopeful that this time around the Senate will act quickly to consider and pass this bill.

Each of us is deeply indebted to the members of our military for their patriotism and for all they do to protect our country and its national interests.

We know that our returning vets have unique skills and experiences that make them highly qualified for jobs in the health care and other sectors. However, the unfortunate reality is that our veterans experience unemployment rates well above the national average.

H.R. 235 authorizes a demonstration grant program for states to support planning efforts to streamline their certification and licensure requirements for returning vets with emergency medical training. While states would take the lead in carrying out this program, I believe there would be an important role for partnerships between public and private organizations within the states—such as area health education centers—in its implementation.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 235, and I commend the sponsors of this bill for their work on this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 235.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. After consultation among the Speaker and the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet tonight in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of purporting to reserve seats prior to the joint session by placement of placards or personal items will not be allowed. Chamber Security may remove these items from the seats. Members may reserve their seats only by physical presence following the security sweep of the Chamber.

Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2040

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS PURSUANT TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 11 TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mrs. Kerri Hanley, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The joint session will come to order.

The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY);

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS);

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN);

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD);

The gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS);

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL); and

The gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET);

The Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW);

The Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE);

The Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO); and

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Roble Olhaye, the Ambassador of the Republic of Djibouti.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 9 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable Paul D. Irving, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, fellow Americans:

Fifty-one years ago, John F. Kennedy declared to this Chamber that ''the Constitution makes us not rivals for power but partners for progress . . . It is my task,'' he said, ''to report the State of the Union—to improve it is the task of us all.''

Tonight, thanks to the grit and determination of the American people, there is much progress to report. After a decade of grinding war, our brave men and women in uniform are coming home. After years of grueling recession, our businesses have created over 6 million new jobs. We buy more Americans cars than we have in 5 years, and less foreign oil than we have in 20. Our housing market is healing, our stock market is rebounding, and consumers, patients, and homeowners enjoy stronger protections than ever before.

So together, we have cleared away the rubble of crisis, and we can say with renewed confidence that the state of our Union is stronger.

But we gather here knowing that there are millions of Americans whose hard work and dedication have not yet been rewarded. Our economy is adding jobs—but too many people still can't find full-time employment. Corporate profits have skyrocketed to all-time highs—but for more than a decade, wages and incomes have barely budged. It is our generation's task, then, to reignite the true engine of America's economic growth—a rising, thriving middle class.

It is our unfinished task to restore the basic bargain that built this country—the idea that if you work hard and meet your responsibilities, you can get ahead, no matter where you come from, no matter what you look like, or whom you love.

It is our unfinished task to make sure that this government works on behalf of the many, and not just the few; that it encourages free enterprise, rewards individual initiative, and opens the doors of opportunity to every child across this great Nation.

The American people don't expect government to solve every problem. They don't expect those of us in this Chamber to agree on every issue. But they do expect us to put the Nation's interests before party. They do expect us to forge reasonable compromise where we can, for they know that America moves forward only when we do so together, and that the responsibility of improving this union remains the task of us all.

Now, our work must begin by making some basic decisions about our budget, decisions that will have a huge impact on the strength of our recovery.

Over the last few years, both parties have worked together to reduce the deficit by more than $2.5 trillion, mostly through spending cuts but also by raising tax rates on the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. As a result, we are more than halfway towards the goal of $4 trillion in deficit reduction that economists say we need to stabilize our finances.

Now we need to finish the job. And the question is, how?

In 2011, Congress passed a law saying that if both parties couldn't agree on a plan to reach our deficit goal, about a trillion dollars' worth of budget cuts would automatically go into effect this year. These sudden, harsh, arbitrary cuts would jeopardize our military readiness. They'd devastate priorities like education and energy and medical research. They would certainly slow our recovery and cost us hundreds of thousands of jobs. And that's why Democrats, Republicans, business leaders and economists have already said that these cuts, known here in Washington as ''the sequester,'' are a really bad idea.

Now, some in Congress have proposed preventing only the defense cuts by making even bigger cuts to things like education and job training, Medicare and Social Security benefits.

That idea is even worse. Yes, the biggest driver of our long-term debt is the rising cost of health care for an aging population. And those of us who care deeply about programs like Medicare must embrace the need for modest reforms, otherwise our retirement programs will crowd out the investments we need for our children and jeopardize the promise of a secure retirement for future generations.

But we can't ask senior citizens and working families to shoulder the entire burden of deficit reduction while asking nothing more from the wealthiest and the most powerful. We won't grow the middle class simply by shifting the cost of health care or college onto families that are already struggling, or by forcing communities to lay off more teachers and more cops and more firefighters.

Most Americans—Democrats, Republicans and Independents—understand that we can't just cut our way to prosperity. They know that broad-based economic growth requires a balanced approach to deficit reduction, with spending cuts and revenue, and with everybody doing their fair share. And that's the approach I offer tonight.

On Medicare, I'm prepared to enact reforms that will achieve the same amount of health care savings by the beginning of the next decade as the reforms proposed by the bipartisan Simpson-Bowles commission. Already, the Affordable Care Act is helping to slow the growth of health care costs. And the reforms I'm proposing go even further.

We'll reduce taxpayer subsidies to prescription drug companies and ask more from the wealthiest seniors. We'll bring down costs by changing the way our government pays for Medicare, because our medical bills shouldn't be based on the number of tests ordered or days spent in the hospital; they should be based on the quality of care that our seniors receive.

And I am open to additional reforms from both parties, so long as they don't violate the guarantee of a secure retirement. Our government shouldn't make promises we cannot keep, but we must keep the promises we've already made.

To hit the rest of our deficit reduction target, we should do what leaders in both parties have already suggested and save hundreds of billions of dollars by getting rid of tax loopholes and deductions for the well-off and the well-

connected. After all, why would we choose to make deeper cuts to education and Medicare just to protect special interest tax breaks? How's that fair?

Why is it that deficit reduction is a big emergency, justifying making cuts in Social Security benefits but not closing some loopholes? How does that promote growth?

Now is our best chance for bipartisan, comprehensive tax reform that encourages job creation and helps bring down the deficit. We can get this done.

The American people deserve a tax code that helps small businesses spend less time filling out complicated forms and more time expanding and hiring; a tax code that ensures billionaires with high-powered accountants can't work the system and pay a lower rate than their hardworking secretaries; a tax code that lowers incentives to move jobs overseas and lowers tax rates for businesses and manufacturers that are creating jobs right here in the United States of America. That's what tax reform can deliver. That's what we can do together.

I realize that tax reform and entitlement reform will not be easy. The politics will be hard for both sides. None of us will get 100 percent of what we want. But the alternative will cost us jobs, hurt our economy, visit hardship on millions of hardworking Americans. So let's set party interests aside and work to pass a budget that replaces reckless cuts with smart savings and wise investments in our future. And let's do it without the brinksmanship that stresses consumers and scares off investors.

The greatest Nation on Earth cannot keep conducting its business by drifting from one manufactured crisis to the next. We can't do it. Let's agree right here, right now, to keep the people's government open and pay our bills on time, and always uphold the full faith and credit of the United States of America. The American people have worked too hard for too long rebuilding from one crisis to see their elected officials cause another.

Now, most of us agree that a plan to reduce the deficit must be part of our agenda. But let's be clear: Deficit reduction alone is not an economic plan. A growing economy that creates good middle-class jobs—that must be the North Star that guides our efforts. Every day, we should ask ourselves three questions as a Nation: How do we attract more jobs to our shores? How do we equip our people with the skills they need to get those jobs? And how do we make sure that hard work leads to a decent living?

A year and a half ago, I put forward an American Jobs Act that independent economists said would create more than 1 million new jobs, and I thank the last Congress for passing some of that agenda. I urge this Congress to pass the rest. Tonight, I'll lay out additional proposals that are fully paid for and fully consistent with the budget framework both parties agreed to just 18 months ago. Let me repeat: Nothing I'm proposing tonight should increase our deficit by a single dime. It's not a bigger government we need but a smarter government that sets priorities and invests in broad-based growth. That's what we should be looking for.

Our first priority is making America a magnet for new jobs and manufacturing. After shedding jobs for more than 10 years, our manufacturers have added about 500,000 jobs over the past three. Caterpillar is bringing jobs back from Japan. Ford is bringing jobs back from Mexico. And this year, Apple will start making Macs in America again. There are things we can do right now to accelerate this trend. Last year, we created our first manufacturing innovation institute in Youngstown, Ohio. A once-shuttered warehouse is now a state-of-the-art lab where new workers are mastering the 3–D printing that has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything. There's no reason this can't happen in other towns.

So, tonight, I'm announcing the launch of three more of these manufacturing hubs where businesses will partner with the Departments of Defense and Energy to turn regions left behind by globalization into global centers of high-tech jobs. And I ask this Congress to help create a network of 15 of these hubs and guarantee that the next revolution in manufacturing is made right here in America. We can get that done.

Now, if we want to make the best products, we also have to invest in the best ideas. Every dollar we invested to map the human genome returned $140 to our economy—every dollar. Today, our scientists are mapping the human brain to unlock the answers to Alzheimer's. They're developing drugs to regenerate damaged organs. Devising new materials to make batteries 10 times more powerful. Now is not the time to gut these job-creating investments in science and innovation. Now is the time to reach a level of research and development not seen since the height of the space race. We need to make those investments. Today, no area holds more promise than our investments in American energy.

After years of talking about it, we are finally poised to control our own energy future. We produce more oil at home than we have in 15 years. We have doubled the distance our cars will go on a gallon of gas and the amount of renewable energy we generate from sources like wind and solar—with tens of thousands of good American jobs to show for it. We produce more natural gas than ever before, and nearly everyone's energy bill is lower because of it. And over the last 4 years, our emissions of the dangerous carbon pollution that threatens our planet have actually fallen. But for the sake of our children and our future, we must do more to combat climate change.

Now, it's true that no single event makes a trend, but the fact is the 12 hottest years on record have all come in the last 15. Heat waves, droughts, wildfires, floods—all are now more frequent and more intense. We can choose to believe that Superstorm Sandy and the most severe drought in decades and the worst wildfires some States have ever seen were all just a freak coincidence or we can choose to believe in the overwhelming judgment of science—and act before it's too late.

The good news is we can make meaningful progress on this issue while driving strong economic growth. I urge this Congress to get together and pursue a bipartisan, market-based solution to climate change like the one JOHN MCCAIN and Joe Lieberman worked on together a few years ago. But if Congress won't act soon to protect future generations, I will. I will direct my Cabinet to come up with executive actions we can take now and in the future to reduce pollution, prepare our communities for the consequences of climate change, and speed the transition to more sustainable sources of energy.

Four years ago, other countries dominated the clean energy market and the jobs that came with it. We've begun to change that. Last year, wind energy added nearly half of all new power capacity in America, so let's generate even more. Solar energy gets cheaper by the year. Let's drive down costs even further. As long as countries like China keep going all-in on clean energy, so must we.

In the meantime, the natural gas boom has led to cleaner power and greater energy independence. We need to encourage that, and that's why my administration will keep cutting red tape and speeding up new oil and gas permits. That has got to be part of an all-of-the-above plan. But I also want to work with this Congress to encourage the research and technology that helps natural gas burn even cleaner and protects our air and our water.

In fact, much of our newfound energy is drawn from lands and waters that we, the public, own together. So, tonight, I propose we use some of our oil and gas revenues to fund an energy security trust that will drive new research and technology to shift our cars and trucks off oil for good. If a nonpartisan coalition of CEOs and retired generals and admirals can get behind this idea, then so can we. Let's take their advice and free our families and businesses from the painful spikes in gas prices we've put up with for far too long.

I'm also issuing a new goal for America: Let's cut in half the energy wasted by our homes and businesses over the next 20 years. We'll work with the States to do it. Those States with the best ideas to create jobs and lower energy bills by constructing more efficient buildings will receive Federal support to help make that happen.

America's energy sector is just one part of an aging infrastructure badly in need of repair. Ask any CEO where

they'd rather locate and hire: a country with deteriorating roads and bridges or one with high-speed rail and Internet, high-tech schools, self-healing power grids? The CEO of Siemens America, a company that brought hundreds of new jobs to North Carolina, said that if we upgrade our infrastructure they'll bring even more jobs, and that's the attitude of a lot of companies all around the world. And I know you want these job-creating projects in your districts. I've seen all those ribbon-cuttings.

So, tonight, I propose a ''fix it first'' program to put people to work as soon as possible on our most urgent repairs, like the nearly 70,000 structurally deficient bridges across the country. And to make sure taxpayers don't shoulder the whole burden, I'm also proposing a Partnership to Rebuild America that attracts private capital to upgrade what our businesses need most: modern ports to move our goods; modern pipelines to withstand a storm; modern schools worthy of our children. Let's prove there's no better place to do business than here in the United States of America, and let's start right away. We can get this done.

Part of our rebuilding effort must also involve our housing sector. The good news is our housing market is finally healing from the collapse of 2007. Home prices are rising at the fastest pace in 6 years. Home purchases are up nearly 50 percent, and construction is expanding again. But even with mortgage rates near a 50-year low, too many families with solid credit who want to buy a home are being rejected. Too many families who never missed a payment and want to refinance are being told no. That's holding our entire economy back, and we need to fix it.

Right now, there is a bill in this Congress that would give every responsible homeowner in America the chance to save $3,000 a year by refinancing at today's rates. Democrats and Republicans have supported it before. So what are we waiting for? Take a vote, and send me that bill. Why would we be against that? Why would that be a partisan issue, having folks refinance? Right now, overlapping regulations keep responsible young families from buying their first home. What's holding us back? Let's streamline the process and help our economy grow.

These initiatives in manufacturing, energy, infrastructure, and housing, all these things will help entrepreneurs and small business owners expand and create new jobs, but none of it will matter unless we also equip our citizens with the skills and training to fill those jobs. And that has to start at the earliest possible age.

Study after study shows that the sooner a child begins learning, the better he or she does down the road. But today, fewer than three in ten 4-year-olds are enrolled in a high-quality preschool program. Most middle class parents can't afford a few hundred bucks a week for a private preschool. And for poor kids who need help the most, this lack of access to preschool education can shatter them for the rest of their lives.

Tonight, I propose working with States to make high-quality preschool available to every single child in America. That's something we should be able to do. Every dollar we invest in high-quality early childhood education can save more than $7 later on by boosting graduation rates, reducing teen pregnancies, even reducing violent crime.

In States that make it a priority to educate our youngest children, like Georgia or Oklahoma, studies show students grow up more likely to read and do math at grade level, graduate high school, hold a job, and form more stable families of their own. We know this works. So let's do what works and make sure none of our children start the race of life already behind. Let's give our kids that chance.

Let's also make sure that a high school diploma puts our kids on a path to a good job. Right now, countries like Germany focus on graduating their high school students with the equivalent of a technical degree from one of our community colleges. So those German kids, they're ready for a job when they graduate high school; they've been trained for the jobs that are there. Now, at schools like P-Tech in Brooklyn, a collaboration between New York Public Schools and City University of New York and IBM, students will graduate with a high school diploma and associate's degree in computers or engineering. We need to give every American student opportunities like this.

Four years ago, we started Race to the Top—a competition that convinced almost every State to develop smarter curricula and higher standards, all for about 1 percent of what we spend on education each year. Tonight, I'm announcing a new challenge to redesign America's high schools so they better equip graduates for the demands of a high-tech economy. We'll reward schools that develop new partnerships with colleges and employers and create classes that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math—the skills today's employers are looking for to fill jobs that are there right now and will be there in the future.

Now, even with better high schools, most young people will need some higher education. It's a simple fact: The more education you have, the more likely you are to have a good job and work your way into the middle class. But today, skyrocketing costs price too many young people out of a higher education or saddle them with unsustainable debt.

Through tax credits, grants, and better loans, we have made college more affordable for millions of students and families over the last few years. But taxpayers can't keep on subsidizing higher and higher and higher costs for higher education. Colleges must do their part to keep costs down, and it's our job to make sure that they do.

So tonight, I ask Congress to change the Higher Education Act so that affordability and value are included in determining which colleges receive certain types of Federal aid. And tomorrow, my administration will release a new ''College Scorecard'' that parents and students can use to compare schools based on a simple criteria: where you can get the most bang for your educational buck.

Now, to grow our middle class, our citizens have to have access to the education and training that today's jobs require. But we also have to make sure that America remains a place where everyone who's willing to work hard has the chance to get ahead.

Our economy is stronger when we harness the talents and ingenuity of striving, hopeful immigrants; and right now, leaders from the business, labor, law enforcement, and faith communities all agree that the time has come to pass comprehensive immigration reform. Now is the time to do it. Now is the time to get it done. Now is the time to get it done.

Real reform means stronger border security. And we can build on the progress my administration has already made—putting more boots on the southern border than at any time in our history and reducing illegal crossings to their lowest levels in 40 years.

Real reform means establishing a responsible pathway to earned citizenship—a path that includes passing a background check, paying taxes and a meaningful penalty, learning English, and going to the back of the line behind the folks trying to come here legally. And real reform means fixing the legal immigration system to cut waiting periods and attract the highly skilled entrepreneurs and engineers that will help create jobs and grow our economy.

In other words, we know what needs to be done. As we speak, bipartisan groups in both Chambers are working diligently to draft a bill, and I applaud their efforts. Now let's get this done. Send me a comprehensive immigration reform bill in the next few months and I will sign it right away, and America will be better for it. Let's get it done. Let's get it done.

But we can't stop there. We know our economy is stronger when our wives, our mothers, and our daughters can live their lives free from discrimination in the workplace and free from the fear of domestic violence. Today, the Senate passed the Violence Against Women Act that JOE BIDEN originally wrote almost 20 years ago, and I now urge the House to do the same. And I ask this Congress to declare that women should earn a living equal to their efforts and finally pass the Paycheck Fairness Act this year.

We know our economy is stronger when we reward an honest day's work with honest wages. But today, a full-time worker making the minimum

wage earns $14,500 a year. Even with the tax relief we've put in place, a family with two kids that earns the minimum wage still lives below the poverty line. That's wrong. That's why, since the last time this Congress raised the minimum wage, 19 States have chosen to bump theirs even higher.

Tonight, let's declare that in the wealthiest Nation on Earth, no one who works full-time should have to live in poverty, and raise the Federal minimum wage to $9 an hour. We should be able to get that done. This single step would raise the incomes of millions of working families. It could mean the difference between groceries or the food bank, rent or eviction, scraping by or finally getting ahead. For businesses across the country, it would mean customers with more money in their pockets. And a whole lot of folks out there would probably need less help from government. In fact, working folks shouldn't have to wait year after year for the minimum wage to go up while CEO pay has never been higher. So here's an idea that Governor Romney and I actually agreed on last year: Let's tie the minimum wage to the cost of living so that it finally becomes a wage you can live on.

Tonight, let's also recognize that there are communities in this country where, no matter how hard you work, it's virtually impossible to get ahead: factory towns decimated from years of plants packing up; inescapable pockets of poverty, urban and rural, where young adults are still fighting for their first job. America is not a place where chance of birth or circumstance should decide our destiny, and that's why we need to build new ladders of opportunity into the middle class for all who are willing to climb them.

Let's offer incentives to companies that hire Americans who've got what it takes to fill that job opening but who have been out of work for so long that no one will give them a chance anymore. Let's put people back to work rebuilding vacant homes in run-down neighborhoods. And this year, my administration will begin to partner with 20 of the hardest-hit towns in America to get these communities back on their feet. Now, we'll work with local leaders to target resources at public safety, education, and housing. We'll give new tax credits to businesses that hire and invest, and we'll work to strengthen families by removing the financial deterrents to marriage for low-income couples, and doing more to encourage fatherhood—because what makes you a man isn't the ability to conceive a child, but having the courage to raise one. And we want to encourage that. We want to help that.

Stronger families. Stronger communities. A stronger America. It is this kind of prosperity—broad, shared, and built on a thriving middle class—that has always been the source of our progress at home. It's also the foundation of our power and influence throughout the world.

Tonight, we stand united in saluting the troops and civilians who sacrifice every day to protect us. Because of them, we can say with confidence that America will complete its mission in Afghanistan and achieve our objective of defeating the core of al Qaeda. Already, we've brought home 33,000 of our brave servicemen and -women. This spring, our forces will move into a support role, while Afghan security forces take the lead. Tonight, I can announce that over the next year, another 34,000 American troops will come home from Afghanistan. This drawdown will continue, and by the end of next year, our war in Afghanistan will be over.

Beyond 2014, America's commitment to a unified and sovereign Afghanistan will endure, but the nature of our commitment will change. We're negotiating an agreement with the Afghan Government that focuses on two missions: training and equipping Afghan forces so that the country does not again slip into chaos, and counterterrorism efforts that allow us to pursue the remnants of al Qaeda and their affiliates.

Today, the organization that attacked us on 9/11 is a shadow of its former self. It's true that different al Qaeda affiliates and extremist groups have emerged—from the Arabian Peninsula to Africa. The threats these groups pose is evolving. But to meet this threat, we don't need to send tens of thousands of our sons and daughters abroad or occupy other nations. Instead, we'll need to help countries like Yemen, Libya, and Somalia provide for their own security, and help allies who take the fight to terrorists, as we have in Mali. And, where necessary, through a range of capabilities, we will continue to take direct action against those terrorists who pose the gravest threat to Americans.

As we do, we must enlist our values in the fight. That's why my administration has worked tirelessly to forge a durable legal and policy framework to guide our counterterrorism operations. Throughout, we have kept Congress fully informed of our efforts. I recognize that in our democracy, no one should just take my word for it that we're doing things the right way. So, in the months ahead, I will continue to engage Congress to ensure not only that our targeting, detention, and prosecution of terrorists remains consistent with our laws and system of checks and balances, but that our efforts are even more transparent to the American people and to the world.

Of course, our challenges don't end with al Qaeda. America will continue to lead the effort to prevent the spread of the world's most dangerous weapons. The regime in North Korea must know they will only achieve security and prosperity by meeting their international obligations. Provocations of the sort we saw last night will only further isolate them, as we stand by our allies, strengthen our own missile defense, and lead the world in taking firm action in response to these threats.

Likewise, the leaders of Iran must recognize that now is the time for a diplomatic solution, because a coalition stands united in demanding that they meet their obligations, and we will do what is necessary to prevent them from getting a nuclear weapon. At the same time, we'll engage Russia to seek further reductions in our nuclear arsenals, and continue leading the global effort to secure nuclear materials that could fall into the wrong hands—because our ability to influence others depends on our willingness to lead and meet our obligations.

America must also face the rapidly growing threat from cyberattacks. Now, we know hackers steal people's identities and infiltrate private emails. We know foreign countries and companies swipe our corporate secrets. Now our enemies are also seeking the ability to sabotage our power grid, our financial institutions, our air traffic control systems. We cannot look back years from now and wonder why we did nothing in the face of real threats to our security and our economy.

That's why earlier today I signed a new executive order that will strengthen our cyberdefenses by increasing information-sharing and developing standards to protect our national security, our jobs, and our privacy. Now, Congress must act as well, by passing legislation to give our government a greater capacity to secure our networks and deter attacks. This is something we should be able to get done on a bipartisan basis.

Even as we protect our people, we should remember that today's world presents not just dangers, not just threats, but it presents opportunities. To boost American exports, support American jobs, and level the playing field in the growing markets of Asia, we intend to complete negotiations on a transpacific partnership. Tonight, I'm announcing that we will launch talks on a comprehensive transatlantic trade and investment partnership with the European Union because trade that is fair and free across the Atlantic supports millions of good-paying American jobs.

We also know that progress in the most impoverished parts of our world enriches us all. Not only because it creates new markets, more stable order in certain regions of the world, but also because it's the right thing to do. In many places, people live on little more than a dollar a day. So the United States will join with our allies to eradicate such extreme poverty in the next two decades by connecting more people through the global economy; by empowering women; by giving our young and brightest minds new opportunities to serve and helping communities to feed and power and educate themselves; by saving the world's children from preventible deaths; and by realizing the promise of an AIDS-free generation, which is within our reach.

You see, America must remain a beacon to all who seek freedom during this period of historic change. I saw the power of hope last year in Rangoon, in Burma, when Aung San Suu Kyi welcomed an American President into the home where she had been imprisoned for years; when thousands of Burmese lined the streets waving American flags, including a man who said, ''There is justice and law in the United States. I want our country to be like that.''

In defense of freedom, we'll remain the anchor of strong alliances from the Americas to Africa, from Europe to Asia. In the Middle East, we will stand with citizens as they demand their universal rights and support stable transitions to democracy. We know the process will be messy, and we cannot presume to dictate the course of change in countries like Egypt. But we can and will insist on respect for the fundamental rights of all people. We'll keep the pressure on a Syrian regime that has murdered its own people and support opposition leaders that respect the rights of every Syrian. And we will stand steadfast with Israel in pursuit of security and a lasting peace. These are the messages I'll deliver when I travel to the Middle East next month.

All this work depends on the courage and sacrifice of those who serve in dangerous places at great personal risk: our diplomats, our intelligence officers, and the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. As long as I'm Commander in Chief, we will do whatever we must to protect those who serve their country abroad, and we will maintain the best military the world has ever known. We'll invest in new capabilities, even as we reduce waste and wartime spending. We will ensure equal treatment for all servicemembers and equal benefits for their families, gay and straight. We will draw upon the courage and skills of our sisters, daughters, and moms, because women have proven under fire that they are ready for combat. We will keep faith with our veterans, investing in world-class care, including mental health care, for our wounded warriors; supporting our military families; and giving our veterans the benefits, education, and job opportunities that they have earned. And I want to thank my wife Michelle and Dr. Jill Biden for their continued dedication to serving our military families as well as they have served us. Thank you, honey. Thank you, Jill.

Defending our freedom, though, is not just the job of our military alone. We must all do our part to make sure our God-given rights are protected here at home. That includes one of the most fundamental rights of a democracy: the right to vote. When any Americans—no matter where they live or what their party—are denied that right because they can't afford to wait for 5, 6, or 7 hours just to cast their ballot, we are betraying our ideals. So tonight I'm announcing a nonpartisan commission to improve the voting experience in America, and it definitely needs improvement. I'm asking two longtime experts in the field, who by the way recently served as the top attorneys for my campaign and for Governor Romney's campaign, to lead it. We can fix this, and we will. The American people demand it, and so does our democracy.

Of course, what I've said tonight matters little if we don't come together to protect our most precious resource, our children.

It has been 2 months since Newtown. I know this is not the first time this country has debated how to reduce gun violence. But this time is different. Overwhelming majorities of Americans, Americans who believe in the Second Amendment, have come together around commonsense reform, like background checks, that will make it harder for criminals to get their hands on a gun. Senators of both parties are working together on tough new laws to prevent anyone from buying guns for resale to criminals. Police chiefs are asking for our help to get weapons of war and massive ammunition magazines off our streets because these police chiefs, they're tired of seeing their guys and gals being outgunned.

Each of these proposals deserves a vote in Congress. If you want to vote ''no,'' that's your choice. But these proposals deserve a vote. Because in the 2 months since Newtown, more than 1,000 birthdays, graduations, and anniversaries have been stolen from our lives by a bullet from a gun. More than 1,000.

One of those we lost was a young girl named Hadiya Pendleton. She was 15 years old. She loved Fig Newtons and lip gloss. She was a majorette. She was so good to her friends, they all thought they were her best friend. Just 3 weeks ago, she was here, in Washington, with her classmates, performing for her country at my inauguration—and, a week later, she was shot and killed in a Chicago park after school, just a mile away from my house.

Hadiya's parents, Nate and Cleo, are in this Chamber tonight along with more than two dozen Americans whose lives have been torn apart by gun violence. They deserve a vote.

Gabby Giffords deserves a vote.

The families of Newtown deserve a vote.

The families of Aurora deserve a vote.

The families of Oak Creek and Tucson and Blacksburg and the countless other communities ripped open by gun violence—they deserve a simple vote.

They deserve a simple vote.

Our actions will not prevent every senseless act of violence in this country. In fact, no laws, no initiatives, no administrative acts will perfectly solve all of the challenges I've outlined tonight. But we were never sent here to be perfect. We were sent here to make what difference we can—to secure this Nation, expand opportunity, uphold our ideals through the hard, often frustrating, but absolutely necessary work of self-government.

We were sent here to look out for our fellow Americans the same way they look out for one another every single day, usually without fanfare, all across this country. We should follow their example.

We should follow the example of a New York City nurse named Menchu Sanchez. When Hurricane Sandy plunged her hospital into darkness, she wasn't thinking about how her own home was faring. Her mind was on the 20 precious newborns in her care and the rescue plan she devised that kept them all safe.

We should follow the example of a north Miami woman named Desiline Victor. When Desiline arrived at her polling place, she was told the wait to vote might be 6 hours. As time ticked by, her concern was not with her tired body or aching feet, but whether folks like her would get to have their say. Hour after hour, a throng of people stayed in line to support her—because Desiline is 102 years old—and they erupted in cheers when she finally put on a sticker that read, ''I voted.''

We should follow the example of a police officer named Brian Murphy. When a gunman opened fire on a Sikh temple in Wisconsin and Brian was the first to arrive, he did not consider his own safety. He fought back until help arrived, and ordered his fellow officers to protect the safety of the fellow Americans worshipping inside—even as he lay bleeding from 12 bullet wounds.

And when asked how he did that, Brian said, ''That's just the way we're made.''

That's just the way we're made.

We may do different jobs and wear different uniforms and hold different views than the person beside us, but as Americans, we all share the same proud title: We are citizens.

It's a word that doesn't just describe our nationality or our legal status. It describes the way we're made. It describes what we believe. It captures the enduring idea that this country only works when we accept certain obligations to one another and to future generations; that our rights are wrapped up in the rights of others; and that well into our third century as a Nation, it remains the task of us all, as citizens of these United States, to be the authors of the next great chapter of our American story.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet; the Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of

the Supreme Court; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

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, February 12, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 12, 2013 at 4:27 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 47.

Appointments:

Commission on Long-Term Care.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for the U.S. House of Rerpresentatives for the 113th Congress:

RULE 1. REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

(a) Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m., while the House is in session. The Committee shall meet for the consideration of a bill or resolution pending before the Committee or the transaction of other committee business on regular meeting days fixed by the Committee if notice is given in accordance with paragraph (g)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) The Chair may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business.

(c) If at least three members of the Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chair, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chair for that special meeting. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the staff director of the Committee shall notify the Chair of the filing of the request. If, within three calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chair does not call the requested special meeting to be held within seven calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the measure or matter to be considered at that special meeting. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the staff director of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered. Such notice shall also be made publicly available in electronic form and shall satisfy the notice requirements in clause (g)(3)(A)(ii) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

(d) Legislative meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be open to the public, including radio, television, and still photography coverage, unless such meetings are closed pursuant to the requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives. No business meeting of the Committee, other than regularly scheduled meetings, may be held without each member being given reasonable notice.

(e) The Chair of the Committee or of a subcommittee, as appropriate, shall preside at meetings or hearings. In the absence of the Chair of the Committee or of a subcommittee, members shall preside as provided in clause 2(d) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. No person other than a Member of Congress or Congressional staff may walk in, stand in, or be seated at the rostrum area during a meeting or hearing of the Committee or subcommittee unless authorized by the Chair.

RULE 2. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES AND JURISDICTION

(a) There shall be four standing subcommittees. In addition to conducting oversight in the area of their respective jurisdictions as required in clause 2 of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, each subcommittee shall have the following jurisdiction:

Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.—Education from early learning through the high school level including, but not limited to, elementary and secondary education, special education, homeless education, and migrant education; overseas dependent schools; career and technical education; school safety and alcohol and drug abuse prevention; school lunch and child nutrition programs; educational research and improvement including the Institute of Education Sciences; environmental education; pre-service and in-service teacher professional development including Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Title II of the Higher Education Act; early care and education programs including the Head Start Act and the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act; adolescent development and training programs including, but not limited to, those providing for the care and treatment of certain at-risk youth including the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act; and all matters dealing with child abuse and domestic violence including the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and child adoption.

Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.—Education and training beyond the high school level including, but not limited to, higher education generally, postsecondary student assistance and employment services, and the Higher Education Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; all domestic volunteer programs; all programs related to the arts and humanities, museum and library services, and arts and artifacts indemnity; postsecondary career and technical education, apprenticeship programs, and job training including the Workforce Investment Act, vocational rehabilitation, and training programs from immigration funding; science and technology programs; adult basic education (family literacy); all welfare reform programs including work incentive programs and welfare-to-work requirements; poverty programs including the Community Services Block Grant Act and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); the Native American Programs Act; the Institute of Peace; and all matters dealing with programs and services for the elderly including nutrition programs and the Older Americans Act.

Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.—Wages and hours of workers including, but not limited to, the Davis-Bacon Act, the Walsh-Healey Act, the Service Contract Act, and the Fair Labor Standards Act; workers' compensation including the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, and the Black Lung Benefits Act; the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act; the Family and Medical Leave Act; the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act; the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988; trade and immigration issues as they impact employers and workers; workers' safety and health including, but not limited to, occupational safety and health, mine safety and health, and migrant and agricultural worker safety and health; and all matters related to equal employment opportunity and civil rights in employment.

Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.—All matters dealing with relationships between employers and employees including, but not limited to, the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor-Management Relations Act, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act; the Bureau of Labor Statistics; and employment-related health and retirement security including pension, health, and other employee benefits and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

(b) The majority party members of the Committee may provide for such temporary, ad hoc subcommittees as determined to be appropriate.

RULE 3. EX OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP

The Chair of the Committee and the ranking minority party member shall be ex officio members, but not voting members, of each subcommittee to which such Chair or ranking minority party member has not been assigned.

RULE 4. SUBCOMMITTEE SCHEDULING

(a) Subcommittee chair shall set meeting or hearing dates after consultation with the Chair and other subcommittee chair with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings, wherever possible. No such meetings or hearings, however, shall be held outside of Washington, D.C., or during a recess or adjournment of the House of Representatives without the prior authorization of the Committee Chair. Where practicable, 14 days' notice will be given of such meeting or hearing.

(b) Available dates for subcommittee meetings during the session shall be assigned by

the Chair to the subcommittees as nearly as practicable in rotation and in accordance with their workloads. As far as practicable, the Chair shall not schedule simultaneous subcommittee markups, a subcommittee markup during a full Committee markup, or any hearing during a markup.

RULE 5. SUBCOMMITTEE RULES

The rules of the Committee shall be the rules of its subcommittees.

RULE 6. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT OF MEMBERS

To facilitate the oversight and other legislative and investigative activities of the Committee, the Chair of the Committee may, at the request of a subcommittee chair, make a temporary assignment of any member of the Committee to such subcommittee for the purpose of constituting a quorum and of enabling such member to participate in any public hearing, investigation, or study by such subcommittee to be held outside of Washington, D.C. Any member of the Committee may attend public hearings of any subcommittee and any member of the Committee may question witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chair for that purpose.

RULE 7. HEARING PROCEDURE

(a) The Chair, in the case of hearings to be conducted by the Committee, and the appropriate subcommittee chair, in the case of hearings to be conducted by a subcommittee, shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing unless the Chair of the Committee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date or the Committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the Committee for the transaction of business. In the latter event, the Chair or the subcommittee chair, as the case may be, shall have such an announcement promptly published in the Daily Digest and made publicly available in electronic form. To the extent practicable, the Chair or the subcommittee chair shall make public announcement of the final list of witnesses scheduled to testify at least 48 hours before the commencement of the hearing. The staff director of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record as soon as practicable after such public announcement is made.

(b) Subcommittees are authorized to hold hearings, receive exhibits, hear witnesses, and report to the Committee for final action, together with such recommendations as may be agreed upon by the subcommittee.

(c) All opening statements at hearings conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee will be made part of the permanent written record. Opening statements by members may not be presented orally, unless the Chair of the Committee or any subcommittee determines that one statement from the Chair or a designee will be presented, in which case the ranking minority party member or a designee may also make a statement. If a witness scheduled to testify at any hearing of the Committee or any subcommittee is a constituent of a member of the Committee or subcommittee, such member shall be entitled to briefly introduce such witness at the hearing.

(d) To the extent practicable, witnesses who are to appear before the Committee or a subcommittee shall file with the staff director of the Committee, at least 48 hours in advance of their appearance, a written statement of their proposed testimony, together with a brief summary thereof, and shall limit their oral presentation to a summary thereof. The staff director of the Committee shall promptly furnish to the staff director of the minority a copy of such testimony submitted to the Committee pursuant to this rule.

(e) When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chair by a majority of those minority party members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon. The minority party may waive this right by calling at least one witness during a Committee hearing or subcommittee hearing.

(f) In the conduct of hearings of subcommittees sitting jointly, the rules otherwise applicable to all subcommittees shall likewise apply to joint subcommittee hearings for purposes of such shared consideration.

RULE 8. QUESTIONING OF HEARING WITNESSES

(a) Subject to clauses (b), (c), and (d), a Committee member may question hearing witnesses only when the member has been recognized by the Chair for that purpose, and only for a 5–minute period until all members present have had an opportunity to question a witness. The questioning of witnesses in both Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be initiated by the Chair, followed by the ranking minority party member and all other members alternating between the majority and minority party. The Chair shall exercise discretion in determining the order in which members will be recognized. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chair shall take into consideration the ratio of the majority to minority party members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to place the members of the majority party in a disadvantageous position.

(b) The Chair may permit a specified number of members to question a witness for longer than five minutes. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this clause shall be equal for the majority party and the minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(c) The Chair may permit Committee staff for the majority and the minority party members to question a witness for equal specified periods. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this clause shall be equal for the majority party and the minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(d) In an investigative hearing or in an executive session, the Chair's authority to extend questioning under subsection (b) and (c) of this rule shall be equal for the majority and the minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate, and shall only be conducted by counsel for the majority and the minority party when authorized under subsection (c) of this rule.

RULE 9. SUBPOENA AUTHORITY

The power to authorize and issue subpoenas is delegated to the Chair of the full Committee, as provided for under clause 2(m)(3)(A)(i) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member prior to issuing any subpoena under such authority. To the extent practicable, the Chair shall consult with the ranking minority member at least 24 hours in advance of a subpoena being issued under such authority, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays. As soon as practicable after issuing any subpoena under such authority, the Chair shall notify in writing all members of the Committee of the issuance of the subpoena.

RULE 10. DEPOSITION PROCEDURE

(a) In accordance with the Committee receiving authorization by the House of Representatives for the taking of depositions in furtherance of a Committee investigation, the Chair, upon consultation with the ranking minority member, may order the taking of depositions pursuant to notice or subpoena as contemplated by this rule.

(b) The Chair or majority staff shall consult with the ranking minority member or minority staff no less than three business days before any notice or subpoena for a deposition is issued. After such consultation, all members shall receive written notice that a notice or subpoena for a deposition will be issued.

(c) A notice or subpoena issued under this rule shall specify the date, time, and place of the deposition and the method or methods by which the deposition will be recorded. Prior to testifying, a deponent shall be provided with a copy of the Committee's rules, the House Resolution authorizing the taking of the deposition, and Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(d)(1) A deposition shall be conducted by one or more members or Committee counsel as designated by the Chair or ranking minority member.

(2) A deposition shall be taken under oath or affirmation administered by a member or a person otherwise authorized to administer oaths and affirmations.

(3) A deposition shall be, unless waived by the deponent, attended by a member of the Committee.

(e) A deponent may be accompanied at a deposition by counsel to advise the deponent of the deponent's rights. Only members and Committee counsel, however, may examine the deponent. No one may be present at a deposition other than members, Committee staff designated by the Chair or ranking minority member, such individuals as may be required to administer the oath or affirmation and transcribe or record the proceedings, the deponent, and the deponent's counsel (including personal counsel and counsel for the entity employing the deponent if the scope of the deposition is expected to cover actions taken as part of the deponent's employment). Observers or counsel for other persons or entities may not attend.

(f)(1) Unless the majority, minority, and deponent agree otherwise, questions in a deposition shall be propounded in rounds, alternating between the majority and minority. A single round shall not exceed 60 minutes per side, unless the members or counsel conducting the deposition agree to a different length of questioning. In each round, a member or Committee counsel designated by the Chair shall ask questions first, and the member or Committee counsel designated by the ranking minority member shall ask questions second.

(2) Any objection made during a deposition must be stated concisely and in a non-argumentative and non-suggestive manner. Deponent may refuse to answer a question only to preserve a privilege. When the deponent has objected and refused to answer a question to preserve a privilege, the Chair may rule on any such objection after the deposition has adjourned. If the Chair overrules any such objection and thereby orders a deponent to answer any question to which a privilege objection was lodged, such ruling shall be filed with the clerk of the Committee and shall be provided to members and the deponent no less than three days before the ruling is enforced at a reconvened deposition. If a member of the Committee appeals in writing the

ruling of the Chair, the appeal shall be preserved for Committee consideration. A deponent who refuses to answer a question after being directed to answer by the Chair in writing may be subject to sanction, except that no sanctions may be imposed if the ruling of the Chair is reversed on appeal. In all cases, when deposition testimony for which an objection has been made is offered for admission in evidence before the Committee, all properly lodged objections then made shall be timely and shall be considered by the Committee prior to admission in evidence before the Committee.

(g) Deposition testimony shall be transcribed by stenographic means and may also be video recorded. The clerk of the Committee shall receive the transcript and any video recording and promptly forward such to minority staff at the same time the clerk distributes such to other majority staff.

(h) The individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the deponent was duly sworn. The transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true, verbatim record of the testimony, and the transcript and any exhibits shall be filed, as shall any video recording, with the clerk of the Committee. In no case shall any video recording be considered the official transcript of a deposition or otherwise supersede the certified written transcript.

(i) After receiving the transcript, majority staff shall make available the transcript for review by the deponent or deponent's counsel. No later than ten business days thereafter, the deponent may submit suggested changes to the Chair. Committee majority staff may direct the clerk of the Committee to note any typographical errors, including any requested by the deponent or minority staff, via an errata sheet appended to the transcript. Any proposed substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments to the deposition testimony must be submitted by the deponent as an affidavit that includes the deponent's reasons therefor. Any substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments shall be included as an appendix to the transcript, a copy of which shall be promptly forwarded to minority staff.

(j) The Chair and ranking minority member shall consult regarding the release of deposition transcript or electronic recordings. If either objects in writing to a proposed release of a deposition transcript or electronic recording or a portion thereof, the matter shall be promptly referred to the Committee for resolution.

RULE 11. QUORUMS

One-third of the members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action other than amending Committee rules, closing a meeting from the public, reporting a measure or recommendation, or in the case of the Committee or a subcommittee authorizing a subpoena. For the enumerated actions, a majority of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum. Any two members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

RULE 12. REFERRAL OF BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, AND OTHER MATTERS

(a) The Chair shall consult with subcommittee chair regarding referral to the appropriate subcommittees of such bills, resolutions, and other matters that have been referred to the Committee. Once copies of a bill, resolution, or other matter are available to the Committee, the Chair shall, within three weeks of such availability, provide notice of referral, if any, to the appropriate subcommittee.

(b) Referral to a subcommittee shall not be made until three days have elapsed after written notification of such proposed referral to all subcommittee chairs, at which time such proposed referral shall be made unless one or more subcommittee chair shall have given written notice to the Chair of the full Committee and to the chair of each subcommittee that he or she intends to question such proposed referral at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee, or at a special meeting of the Committee called for that purpose, at which time referral shall be made by the majority members of the Committee. All bills shall be referred under this rule to the subcommittee of proper jurisdiction without regard to whether the author is or is not a member of the subcommittee. Upon a majority vote of the Committee, a bill, resolution, or other matter referred to a subcommittee in accordance with this rule may be recalled at any time for the Committee's direct consideration or for reference to another subcommittee.

(c) The Chair shall announce the date, place, and subject matter of a Committee meeting, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which members have notice thereof; but this requirement may be waived if the Chair of the Committee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause or the Committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the Committee for the transaction of such business.

(d) When a bill or resolution is being considered by the Committee or a subcommittee, members shall provide the clerk in a timely manner a sufficient number of written copies of any amendment offered, so as to enable each member present to receive a copy thereof prior to taking action. A point of order may be made against any amendment not reduced to writing. A copy of each such amendment shall be maintained in the public records of the Committee or subcommittee, as the case may be.

(e) In determining the order in which amendments to a matter pending before the Committee or a subcommittee will be considered, the Chair may give priority to:

(1) The Chair's mark, and

(2) Amendments, otherwise in order, that have been filed with the Committee at least 24 hours prior to the Committee or subcommittee business meeting on said measure or matter.

RULE 13. VOTES

(a) With respect to each roll call vote on a motion to report any bill, resolution, or matter of a public character, and on any amendment offered thereto, the total number of votes cast for and against, and the names of those members voting for and against, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(b) In accordance with clause 2(h) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chair of the Committee or a subcommittee is authorized to postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter or on adopting an amendment. Such Chair may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time after reasonable notice. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

RULE 14. RECORDS AND ROLLCALLS

(a) Written records shall be kept of the proceedings of the Committee and of each subcommittee, including a record of the votes on any question on which a roll call is demanded. The result of each such roll call vote shall be made available by the Committee or subcommittee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee or subcommittee and shall be made available on the Committee's website within 48 hours of such record vote. Information so available for public inspection and on the Committee's website shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition; the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition; and the names of those members present but not voting. The text of an amendment offered to a measure or matter considered in Committee shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than 24 hours after its final disposition in Committee. A record vote may be demanded by one-fifth of the members present or, in the apparent absence of a quorum, by any one member.

(b) In accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, any official permanent record of the Committee (including any record of a legislative, oversight, or other activity of the Committee or any subcommittee) shall be made available for public use if such record has been in existence for 30 years, except that——

(1) any record that the Committee (or a subcommittee) makes available for public use before such record is delivered to the Archivist under clause 2 of Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be made available immediately, including any record described in subsection (a) of this Rule;

(2) any investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living individual (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), any administrative record with respect to personnel, and any record with respect to a hearing closed pursuant to clause 2(g)(2) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be available if such record has been in existence for 50 years; or

(3) except as otherwise provided by order of the House of Representatives, any record of the Committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the Committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the Committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the Committee.

(c) The official permanent records of the Committee include noncurrent records of the Committee (including subcommittees) delivered by the Clerk of the House of Representatives to the Archivist of the United States for preservation at the National Archives and Records Administration, which are the property of and remain subject to the rules and orders of the House of Representatives.

(d)(1) Any order of the Committee with respect to any matter described in paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be adopted only if the notice requirements of Committee Rule 12(c) have been met, a quorum consisting of a majority of the members of the Committee is present at the time of the vote, and a majority of those present and voting approve the adoption of the order, which shall be submitted to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, together with any accompanying report.

(2) This subsection applies to any order of the Committee which——

(A) provides for the non-availability of any record subject to subsection (b) of this rule for a period longer than the period otherwise applicable; or

(B) is subsequent to, and constitutes a later order under clause 4(b) of Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, regarding a determination of the Clerk of the House of Representatives with respect to authorizing the Archivist of the United States

to make available for public use the records delivered to the Archivist under clause 2 of Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives; or

(C) specifies a time, schedule, or condition for availability pursuant to subsection (b)(3) of this Rule.

RULE 15. REPORTS

(a) Reports of the Committee. All Committee reports on bills or resolutions shall comply with the provisions of clause 2 of Rule XI and clauses 2, 3, and 4 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(1) No such report shall be filed until copies of the proposed report have been available to all members at least 36 hours prior to such filing in the House of Representatives. No material change shall be made in the report distributed to members unless agreed to by the ranking minority member; but any member or members of the Committee may file, as part of the printed report, individual, minority, or dissenting views, without regard to the preceding provisions of this rule.

(2) Such 36-hour period shall not conclude earlier than the end of the period provided under clause 4 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives after the Committee approves a measure or matter if a member, at the time of such approval, gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion as part of the printed report.

(3) To the extent practicable, any report prepared pursuant to a Committee or subcommittee study or investigation shall be available to members no later than 48 hours prior to consideration of any such report by the Committee or subcommittee, as the case may be.

(b) Disclaimers.

(1) A report on activities of the Committee required under clause 1 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall include the following disclaimer in the document transmitting the report to the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

This report has not been officially adopted by the Committee on Education and the Workforce or any subcommittee thereof and therefore may not necessarily reflect the views of its members.

Such disclaimer need not be included if the report was circulated to all members of the Committee at least 7 days prior to its submission to the House of Representatives and provision is made for the filing by any member, as part of the printed report, of individual, minority, or dissenting views.

(2) All Committee or subcommittee reports printed pursuant to legislative study or investigation and not approved by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of such report:

This report has not been officially adopted by the Committee on Education and the Workforce (or pertinent subcommittee thereof) and therefore may not necessarily reflect the views of its members.

The minority party members of the Committee or subcommittee shall have three calendar days, excluding weekends and holidays, to file, as part of the printed report, supplemental, minority, or additional views.

(c) Reports of Subcommittees. Whenever a subcommittee has ordered a bill, resolution, or other matter to be reported to the Committee, the chair of the subcommittee reporting the bill, resolution, or matter to the Committee, or any member authorized by the subcommittee to do so, may report such bill, resolution, or matter to the Committee. It shall be the duty of the chair of the subcommittee to report or cause to be reported promptly such bill, resolution, or matter, and to take or cause to be taken the necessary steps to bring such bill, resolution, or matter to a vote.

(1) In any event, the report, described in the proviso in subsection (c)(2) of this rule, of any subcommittee on a measure which has been approved by the subcommittee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the staff director of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the members of the subcommittee, for the reporting of that measure. Upon the filing of any such request, the staff director of the Committee shall transmit immediately to the chair of the subcommittee a notice of the filing of that request.

(2) Bills, resolutions, or other matters favorably reported by a subcommittee shall automatically be placed upon the agenda of the Committee as of the time they are reported. No bill or resolution or other matter reported by a subcommittee shall be considered by the full Committee unless it has been delivered or electronically sent to all members and notice of its prior transmission has been in the hands of all members at least 48 hours prior to such consideration. A member of the Committee shall receive, upon his or her request, a paper copy of such bill, resolution, or other matter reported. When a bill is reported from a subcommittee, such measure shall be accompanied by a section-by-section analysis; and, if the Chair of the Committee so requires (in response to a request from the ranking minority member of the Committee or for other reasons), a comparison showing proposed changes in existing law.

RULE 16. APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES, NOTICE OF CONFERENCE MEETINGS, AND CONFERENCE MOTION

(a) Whenever in the legislative process it becomes necessary to appoint conferees, the Chair shall recommend to the Speaker as conferees the names of those members of the subcommittee which handled the legislation in the order of their seniority upon such subcommittee and such other Committee members as the Chair may designate with the approval of the majority party members. Recommendations of the Chair to the Speaker shall provide a ratio of majority party members to minority party members no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio of majority members to minority party members on the full Committee. In making assignments of minority party members as conferees, the Chair shall consult with the ranking minority party member of the Committee.

(b) After the appointment of conferees pursuant to clause 11 of Rule I of the Rules of the House of Representatives for matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee, the Chair shall notify all members appointed to the conference of meetings at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting. If such notice is not possible, then notice shall be given as soon as possible.

(c) The Chair is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of Rule XXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives whenever the Chair considers it appropriate.

RULE 17. MEASURES TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION

A member of the Committee may not seek to suspend the Rules of the House of Representatives on any bill, resolution, or other matter which has been modified after such measure is ordered reported, unless notice of such action has been given to the Chair and ranking minority member of the full Committee.

RULE 18. BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Television, Radio and Still Photography.——

(1) Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography subject to the requirements of clause 4 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives and of the Committee. The coverage of any hearing or meeting of the Committee or any subcommittee thereof by television, radio, or still photography shall be under the direct supervision of the Chair of the Committee, the subcommittee chair, or other member of the Committee presiding at such hearing or meeting and may be terminated by such member in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) Personnel providing coverage by the television and radio media shall be then currently accredited to the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

(3) Personnel providing coverage by still photography shall be then accredited to the Press Photographers' Gallery.

(b) Audio and Video Coverage of Committee Hearings and Meetings.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Committee shall provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public. Such coverage shall be fair and nonpartisan in accordance with clause 4(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and other applicable rules of the House of Representatives and of the Committee. Personnel providing such coverage shall be employees of the House of Representatives or currently accredited to the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

RULE 19. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) The employees of the Committee shall be appointed by the Chair in consultation with subcommittee chair and other majority party members of the Committee within the budget approved for such purposes by the Committee.

(b) The staff appointed by the minority shall have their remuneration determined in such manner as the minority party members of the Committee shall determine within the budget approved for such purposes by the Committee.

RULE 20. SUPERVISION AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE STAFF

The staff of the Committee shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chair, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate authority as he or she determines appropriate. The staff appointed by the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the minority party members of the Committee, who may delegate such authority as they determine appropriate. All Committee staff shall be assigned to Committee business and no other duties may be assigned to them.

RULE 21. AUTHORIZATION FOR TRAVEL

(a) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolutions as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern travel of Committee members and staff. Travel to be paid from funds set aside for the full Committee for any member or any staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chair. Travel may be authorized by the Chair for any member and any staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee or

any subcommittee thereof and meetings, conferences, and investigations that involve activities or subject matter under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. The Chair shall review travel requests to assure the validity to Committee business. Before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(1) The purpose of the travel;

(2) The dates during which the travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the travel is being made;

(3) The location of the event for which the travel is to be made; and

(4) The names of members and staff seeking authorization. (b)(1) In the case of travel outside the United States of members and staff of the Committee for the purpose of conducting hearings, investigations, studies, or attending meetings and conferences involving activities or subject matter under the legislative assignment of the Committee or pertinent subcommittees, prior authorization must be obtained from the Chair, or, in the case of a subcommittee, from the subcommittee chair and the Chair. Before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the Chair, in writing, a request for such authorization. Each request, which shall be filed in a manner that allows for a reasonable period of time for review before such travel is scheduled to begin, shall include the following:

(A) The purpose of travel;

(B) The dates during which the travel will occur;

(C) The names of the countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each;

(D) an agenda of anticipated activities for each country for which travel is authorized together with a description of the purpose to be served and the areas of Committee jurisdiction involved; and

(E) The names of members and staff for whom authorization is sought.

(2) Requests for travel outside the United States may be initiated by the Chair or the chair of a subcommittee (except that individuals may submit a request to the Chair for the purpose of attending a conference or meeting) and shall be limited to members and permanent employees of the Committee.

(3) The Chair shall not approve a request involving travel outside the United States while the House is in session (except in the case of attendance at meetings and conferences or where circumstances warrant an exception).

(4) At the conclusion of any hearing, investigation, study, meeting, or conference for which travel outside the United States has been authorized pursuant to this rule, each subcommittee (or members and staff attending meetings or conferences) shall submit a written report to the Chair covering the activities of the subcommittee and containing the results of these activities and other pertinent observations or information gained as a result of such travel.

(c) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, or regulations of the House of Representatives and of the Committee on House Administration pertaining to such travel, including rules, procedures, and limitations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration with respect to domestic and foreign expense allowances.

(d) Prior to the Chair's authorization for any travel, the ranking minority party member shall be given a copy of the written request therefor.

RULE 22. BUDGET AND EXPENSES

(a) The Chair, in consultation with the majority party members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary budget. Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel, for necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee; and, after consultation with the minority party membership, the Chair shall include amounts budgeted to the minority party members for staff personnel to be under the direction and supervision of the minority party, travel expenses of minority party members and staff, and minority party office expenses. All travel expenses of minority party members and staff shall be paid for out of the amounts so set aside and budgeted. The Chair shall take whatever action is necessary to have the budget as finally approved by the Committee duly authorized by the House of Representatives. After such budget shall have been adopted, no change shall be made in such budget unless approved by the Committee. The Chair or the chair of any standing subcommittee may initiate necessary travel requests as provided in Committee Rule 21 within the limits of their portion of the consolidated budget as approved by the House, and the Chair may execute necessary vouchers therefor.

(b) Subject to the Rules of the House of Representatives and procedures prescribed by the Committee on House Administration, and with the prior authorization of the Chair of the Committee in each case, there may be expended in any one session of Congress for necessary travel expenses of witnesses attending hearings in Washington, D.C.:

(1) Out of funds budgeted and set aside for each subcommittee, not to exceed $5,000 for expenses of witnesses attending hearings of each such subcommittee;

(2) Out of funds budgeted for the full Committee majority, not to exceed $5,000 for expenses of witnesses attending full Committee hearings; and

(3) Out of funds set aside to the minority party members, (A) Not to exceed, for each of the subcommittees, $5,000 for expenses of witnesses attending subcommittee hearings, and (B) Not to exceed $5,000 for expenses of witnesses attending full Committee hearings.

(c) A full and detailed monthly report accounting for all expenditures of Committee funds shall be maintained in the Committee office, where it shall be available to each member of the Committee. Such report shall show the amount and purpose of each expenditure, and the budget to which such expenditure is attributed.

RULE 23. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE RULES

The Committee shall not consider a proposed change in these rules unless the text of such change has been delivered or electronically sent to all members and notice of its prior transmission has been in the hands of all members at least 48 hours prior to such consideration; a member of the Committee shall receive, upon his or her request, a paper copy of the proposed change.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

247. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the annual report on the operations of the Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF) for Fiscal Year 2012, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 5302(c)(2); to the Committee on Financial Services.

248. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Cargolux Airlines International S.A. of Findel, Luxemburg pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

249. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Turk Hava Yollari, A.O. of Istanbul, Turkey pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

250. A letter from the Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting a report entitled, ''Comprehensive Study on the Impact of the Failure of Insured Depository Institutions''; to the Committee on Financial Services.

251. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans (RIN: 2590-AA58) received January 28, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

252. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Current Good Manufacturing Practice Requirements for Combination Products [Docket No.: FDA-2009-N-0435] received January 29, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

253. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Hebbronville, Texas) [MB Docket No.: 11-38] (RM-11621) received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

254. A letter from the Chief, Broadband Division, Wireless Communications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz Bands; Fixed and Mobile Services in the Mobile Satellite Service Bands at 1525-1559 MHz and 1626.5-1660.5 MHz, 1610-1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz and 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz; Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 1915-1920, MHz, 1995-2000 MHz, 2020-2025 MHz and 2175-2180 MHz Bands [WT Docket No.: 12-70] [ET Docket No.: 10-142] [WT Docket No.: 04-356] received January 28, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

255. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Special Access for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers; AT&T Corporation Petition for Rulemaking to Reform Regulation of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier Rates for Interstate Special Access Services [WC Docket No.: 05-25] (RM-10593) received January 28, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

256. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Rural Health Care Support Mechanism [WC Docket No.: 02-60] received January 28, 2013, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

257. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Rules Concerning Commercial Radio Operators [WT Docket No.: 10-177] received January 28, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

258. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Dispositioning Boiling Water Reactor Licensee Noncompliance with Technical Specification Containment Requirements During Operations with a Potential for Draining the Reactor Vessel [EGM 11-003, Revision 1] received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

259. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Dispositioning Violations of Nuclear Regulatory Commission Requirements Implementing the Decommissioning Planning Rule [EGM-12-002] received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

260. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Interim Staff Guidance Japan Lessons-Learned Project Directorate Guidance for Performing a Tsunami, Surge, or Seiche Hazard Assessment [JLD-ISG-2012-06] received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

261. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Agency's reports containing the September 30, 2012, status of loans and guarantees issued under Section 25(a)(11) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

262. A letter from the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, transmitting the eighteenth quarterly report on the Afghanistan Reconstruction; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

263. A letter from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

264. A letter from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

265. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

266. A letter from the Secretary of the Board of Governors, Postal Service, transmitting the Service's report, as required by Section 3686(c) of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

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. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. POLIS, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 609. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal fossil fuel subsidies for large oil companies; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GIBSON, and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 610. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GIBSON, and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 611. A bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. WALZ, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 612. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to vehicle weight limitations applicable to the Interstate System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. CAMPBELL:

H.R. 613. A bill to establish a market-based trigger to determine the capital adequacy of bank holding companies and decrease systemic risk, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 614. A bill to establish the Commission on American Discoveries and American Jobs to study and recommend improvements to the Federal funding of research; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 615. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide market-based manufacturing incentives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself and Mr. CARNEY):

H.R. 616. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for qualified manufacturing facility construction costs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. RAHALL, and Mrs. CAPITO):

H.R. 617. A bill to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 1125 Chapline Street in Wheeling, West Virginia, as the ''Frederick P. Stamp, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. BORDALLO, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine):

H.R. 618. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to enter into voluntary, flexible agreements with certain guaranty agencies to provide delinquency prevention and default aversion services for borrowers and potential borrowers of Federal Direct Loans under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 619. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to place limitations on the possession, sale, and other disposition of a firearm by persons convicted of misdemeanor sex offenses against children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 620. A bill to designate the Rachel Carson Nature Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. LATTA, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, and Mrs. BLACK):

H.R. 621. A bill to prohibit funding for the Environmental Protection Agency to be used to implement or enforce a cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 622. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to develop, maintain, and administer an annex in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as an extension of the American Memorial Park located in Saipan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 623. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property located in Anchorage, Alaska, from the United States to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. BARR (for himself and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.J. Res. 26. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of consecutive terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. EDWARDS, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WATT, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H. Con. Res. 12. Concurrent resolution honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 104th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H. Res. 62. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that

the Secretary of State should seek to amend Article 22 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice to move the seat of the Court from the Netherlands; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H. Res. 63. A resolution expressing support for designation of the first Saturday in October as ''National Animal Rescue Day/Winslow's Day'' to create awareness, educate humans of the importance of adoption, and create a humane environment for any pet, including the importance of spaying and neutering of animals, and the encouragement of animal adoptions throughout the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

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. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 609.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitution of the United States provides clear authority for Congress to pass legislation regarding income taxes. Article I of the Constitution, in detailing Congressional authority, provides that ''Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes . . .'' (Section 8, Clause 1). Further clarifying Congressional power to enact an income tax, voters amended the Constitution by popular vote to provide that ''Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived. . . .'' (Sixteenth Amendment).

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 610.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill is based is Congress's power under Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 611.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill is based is Congress's power under Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 612.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

H.R. 613.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 614.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 615.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 616.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 617.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 of the Constitution.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 618.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 619.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clauses 3 and 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 620.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 2 of section 3 of article IV of the Constitution.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 621.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 7, of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

Clause 7, Section 9, of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 622.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, section 8, clause 3 and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 623.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. BARR:

H.J. Res. 26.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority for this bill is stated in Article V of the U.S. Constitution, which establishes the method for enacting amendments to the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 11: Mr. WALZ, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 22: Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 25: Mr. YOHO.

H.R. 61: Mr. GOWDY and Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 69: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 71: Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 111: Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 129: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 134: Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 147: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.

H.R. 163: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 164: Mr. LONG, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 182: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JONES, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 183: Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LANCE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HANNA, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. HIMES, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

H.R. 191: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 194: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 207: Mr. ROSS and Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 233: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 239: Mr. CHAFFETZ.

H.R. 241: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 262: Mr. BACHUS and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 273: Mr. POSEY, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BENISHEK, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. WOMACK.

H.R. 282: Ms. FOXX and Mr. WALDEN.

H.R. 283: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. ROKITA.

H.R. 288: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona and Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 300: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Mr. GOHMERT.

H.R. 301: Mr. PITTENGER.

H.R. 317: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 321: Ms. BASS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 322: Mr. HALL and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 324: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 334: Mrs. BLACK, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 335: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 341: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 348: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H.R. 351: Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.

H.R. 360: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BASS, Mr. VELA, and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 367: Mr. RIGELL, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 376: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. HOLT, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 463: Mr. JONES and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 482: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 485: Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 492: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.

H.R. 494: Mr. LEWIS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 496: Mrs. BLACK, Mr. TIBERI, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 497: Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 503: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 507: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona and Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 520: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 523: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. REED, Mr. HALL, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 543: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. OWENS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. JONES.

H.R. 544: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 555: Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 557: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 563: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 567: Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. HARPER, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 571: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 572: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 574: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 578: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 580: Mr. DAINES, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 582: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 584: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MORAN, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 588: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. SABLAN, and Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 592: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 595: Mr. COBLE, Ms. FUDGE, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 607: Mr. JONES, Mr. HALL, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.J. Res. 25: Mr. MORAN, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. FARR, and Mr. KEATING.

H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. NUNNELEE.

H. Res. 10: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H. Res. 24: Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. COSTA, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. COTTON.

H. Res. 36: Mr. FORBES, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. CULBERSON, and Mr. BRIDENSTINE.

H. Res. 41: Mr. HIMES.

H. Res. 60: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

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:

OFFERED BY MR. ISSA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in H.R. 273 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 No. 22

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, every day Your hand of grace is upon us. Not a moment goes by that is not touched by Your providence. Give our Senators today tongues to speak Your truth and the hearts to do Your will. Lord, give them such a transcendent spirit that they will unleash redemptive forces to transform lives. Give them also the light of truth to show them where they ought to go. Make them faithful stewards of their time, talents, and testimony as they seek to live for Your glory.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable PATRICK J. LEAHY led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 47, the Violence Against Women Act. Time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

At 11 a.m. there will be up to six rollcall votes in order to complete action on this legislation. Following disposition of VAWA, the Violence Against Women Act, we will recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The State of the Union Address is this evening. Senators will gather at 8:20 p.m. tonight in this Chamber in order to proceed as a body to the House of Representatives, where the speech will be given.

There are up to six rollcall votes remaining: the Leahy amendment dealing with sex trafficking, the Portman amendment dealing with sex trafficking, the Murkowski amendment dealing with tribal protections, the Coburn amendment dealing with consolidation of DOJ rape programs, the Coburn amendment dealing with notice to victims and, most importantly, final passage of this legislation.

We are still working on some committee hearings that are creating some conflict, and we are going to see if we can work something out. At this stage we have not done that. Unless we ask the Senate to change the voting order, we will have those votes starting at 11 o'clock today.

STATE OF THE UNION

Four years ago, as newly elected President of the United States, Barack Obama prepared to deliver his first address to a joint session of Congress. The country at that time was in the midst of a grave crisis. Our economy had been shaken to its core by a financial crisis sparked by Wall Street greed. Millions of Americans had lost their jobs, their homes, and their hope.

President Obama predicted America would rise to meet the challenges of the day. He said:

> We will rebuild, we will recover, and the United States of America will emerge stronger than before. The weight of this crisis will not determine the destiny of this Nation.

Four years later we can say with certainty he was right. Over the last 35 months, American businesses have created more than 6.1 million jobs—6.1 million jobs—including hundreds of thousands of jobs in manufacturing in the auto industry. As a matter of fact, the figures are staggering. Five hundred thousand manufacturing jobs have been added, and 1 million jobs have been saved due to the President's auto rescue program. That is a fairly significant change.

We still have a long way to go to get back to full strength, and there are still too many Americans out of work. We made solid progress in the last 4 years, but we have a long way to go. The depth of the crisis did not determine our destiny. Instead, determination drove us to prosper again. We are faced with an opportunity disguised as a challenge. We must build on this progress, fostering a lasting recovery that ensures Americans' success is determined by the strength of their will, not the size of their wallet.

Tonight, President Obama will chart a course to maintain the economic progress we made and revitalize the still struggling middle class. I look forward to hearing his vision. I expect the President will call for commonsense investments in our future. Investments have been deferred for far too long because of economic turmoil. When times are hard, these investments are easy to put off. If America hopes to compete in a changing world, we must prepare today's students for tomorrow's jobs. We must give small businesses and American manufacturers the support they need to thrive. We must stop relying on foreign oil and start investing in renewable energy. It is better for our environment and for our economy.

If we hope to rebuild and maintain a world-class economy, we must build a 21st century infrastructure to support that economy. Renewing these investments is not only the right thing to do for our country, it is the right thing to do for our economy.

In the last 4 years the President has repeatedly reached across the aisle to Republicans, suggesting we find common ground for the sake of recovery. Tonight will be no different. He will

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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reach across that aisle. I expect the President's proposal will include ideas supported by both Democrats and, in the past, Republicans. I hope my Republican colleagues will give his vision the consideration it deserves.

Tonight President Obama will also propose a balanced alternative to the devastating automatic spending cuts which take effect next month. Democrats believe we should prevent these harmful arbitrary cuts, cuts to both military and, initiatives to help middle-class families prosper. Remember, Republicans in the Senate and in the House voted for these harsh measures. We could easily avert these job-destroying cuts which would hinder the economic recovery by ending wasteful tax breaks for corporations and giveaways to companies that ship jobs overseas. A balanced approach to pare senseless spending reduction with a modest contribution from the wealthiest Americans would limit the damage of the so-called sequestration.

I was disappointed to learn yesterday the Republican leaders in the House have no intention of bringing legislation to the floor to replace the sequester with a more sensible approach. They are going to do nothing.

Senate Democrats will offer their own solution to the sequester later this week. If Republicans truly agree that these across-the-board cuts would be damaging to our economy and to national security, they should work to help us pass an alternative.

During his first State of the Union Address a long time ago, the first President of the United States, George Washington, told Congress this:

> The welfare of our country is the great object to which our cares and efforts ought to be directed.

As Republicans and Democrats from both Chambers come together, I repeat, the welfare of our country is the great object to which our cares and efforts ought to be directed.

Democrats and Republicans should hear the message that George Washington gave a long time ago. It is important to listen to the State of the Union tonight, which we will, and we should all keep in mind the words of George Washington. Despite our differences, if there is the will to work together, the power to build an economy works for every American, and we will succeed.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 47, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

> A bill (S. 47) to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.
>
> Pending:
>
> Coburn amendment No. 15, to more quickly resolve rape cases and reduce the deficit by consolidating unnecessary duplication within the Department of Justice.
>
> Coburn amendment No. 16, to amend the requirements for speedy notice to victims and to require a report to Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum, and I ask unanimous consent that the time be equally divided between both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, tonight we will welcome the President to the Capitol to deliver his State of the Union Address.

As I mentioned yesterday, Republicans will be listening with great interest to see where the President plans to take the country over the coming year. Some media outlets are already reporting we will be subjected to another litany of leftwing proposals, with plenty of red meat for the President's base. I sure hope not. The campaign is over, and the fact is that if the President plans to accomplish anything good for the country in the coming months, he is going to have to go through a Republican-controlled House.

So this morning I would like to humbly suggest once again that it is time for the President to reach out to Congress, including Republicans, and make divided government work. That is how he will actually address the issues Americans are most concerned about right now, and it is the only way.

The first issue many of us will be listening for tonight is the President's plan for controlling spending and replacing the Obama sequester. The record is clear that the President and his aides came up with that sequester, and they got it. It is a little puzzling to see them now trying to pass it off like a hot potato.

Republicans have been very clear about the fact that we would rather enact smarter spending cuts. House Republicans even voted on the plan—not once but twice—to do just that. But Washington Democrats so far have failed to put forward a serious proposal of their own. They ignored the issue for more than 1 year before finally showing up to the debate last week with the usual gimmicks.

This is the President's chance to rally the American people around a real set of spending cuts and reforms. I will be interested to see what he plans to offer because what we have been hearing so far, frankly, isn't very encouraging. He needs to understand the American people will not accept attempts to replace deficit reduction both parties have already agreed to with tax hikes. We already agreed to reduce spending in the amount the sequester would reduce spending when we voted for the Budget Control Act back in August of 2011 and the President signed it.

What we expect the President will be offering are tax hikes we all know would be used to finance even more spending, when we promised the American people we would spend less. If the President does try to do that, then he shouldn't expect anyone else to go along, least of all the American people.

Many on both sides of the aisle support eliminating tax loopholes in the context of fundamental bipartisan tax simplification that lowers tax rates, and we hope to have a chance to do that in the months ahead. But it is bad policy to punish this industry or that one so Washington can fund 1 more week of government spending and cause more Americans to lose their jobs.

Remember, due to the operation of law, the President already got the tax increases he wanted back on January 1. Because the law expired, the President got the tax increases he wanted—not with any votes, but he got it by the operation of law. So we are done with that part of the equation. The tax issue is over.

If the President wants a balanced approach, now is the time to show his hand on the spending cuts and reforms he will accept. That is how compromise works. But when we hear the White House suggest the challenge of controlling spending is essentially complete or when we hear the House Democratic leader echo the President's claim that we don't have a spending problem, it is hard to know where to start after a ridiculous suggestion such as that.

Over the weekend I spent some time in Nelson County, KY, and I can assure everyone the folks I spoke with there strongly disagree with the President's assessment.

The truth is the President knows better than that himself. Deep down he knows spending is completely out of control. He knows the debt has already grown by $6 trillion over his 4 years in office. He knows that without spending reform, the national debt will increase to double the size of our economy in just a few decades. He knows something must be done now to save Medicare and Social Security before they go broke. Tonight is a chance to show it, to be straight with the American people, and to reveal what he plans to do about all this.

The good news is that many of the things we need to do to control spending and many of the things we need to

do to get the economy moving again are all one and the same. So I was pleased to read the President might pivot to jobs again. Unfortunately, we have seen that headline so many times before. We will have to wait to see how serious it actually is. I have lost count of how many times the President has made one of those pivots. He has pivoted so many times, reporters covering the White House must be getting completely dizzy.

I also hope the President doesn't call for more Washington spending tonight. Not only is that an ineffective way to create jobs, but it is also the very reason our debt continues to climb to such completely unsustainable levels.

If the President does want to do something about job creation for a change, he should leave aside the things we know haven't worked and try some things that will, such as getting the government out of the way. Not only will that help jump-start the private economy, it will help us get spending under control at the same time. It would be a twofer. Jump-start the private economy and get spending under control at the same time is the best way to inprove this economy.

I also hope the President will use the big stage he will have tonight to finally level with the American people about the consequences of ObamaCare. They deserve to know what is about to hit them—the cost increases, the premium hikes, the taxes. They deserve to know that not only may they not be able to keep the health plan they have and like but that CBO tells us there will also be fewer jobs. I know these things will not be easy for him to say, but that is what it means to be a statesman; to be honest with the people you represent, to admit when something doesn't turn out the way you said it would.

Even if we don't hear the President speak directly to the issues Americans are most concerned about tonight, I am confident the man who is set to follow him with the Republican's response will do just that. In some ways, Senator RUBIO embodies the American dream. As the child of immigrants, he is uniquely positioned to speak to the aspirations of the middle class. Unlike our rather easily distracted President, Senator RUBIO has never had to pivot to jobs. He has kept a laser focus on job creation and the economy ever since he got here.

I have laid out the issues the President needs to address if he is interested in working with Republicans to get some good things done for the country in the days and months ahead. I sure hope he is listening.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, as President Obama gets ready to deliver his State of the Union Address tonight, I would like to remind the American people of what he said 4 years ago during his first speech to a joint session of Congress. Four years ago President Obama said he did not believe in big government.

Since then he has given us four consecutive trillion-dollar deficits, he has nationalized our health care sector, and he has used Federal agencies to impose Draconian regulations. If we add the cost of all these proposed or final regulations the Obama administration published last year, the total economic burden comes to more than $236 billion. That is a wet blanket on the American economy and economic growth and job creation. If anyone out there still thinks President Obama opposes big government, as the song goes, ''I've got some oceanfront property in Arizona'' I'd like to sell you.

Four year ago the President told us he was concerned about our massive national debt. Since then our gross national debt has increased by nearly $6 trillion and has grown larger than the entire U.S. economy.

Four year ago the President said we could not ignore our long-term challenges. Since then he has ignored the recommendations of his own bipartisan fiscal commission known as Simpson-Bowles, and his own Treasury Secretary has acknowledged that the Obama administration does not have a serious plan for long-term debt reduction.

Four years ago the President told us his trillion-dollar debt-financed stimulus package would feature unprecedented oversight. Then we learned the stimulus package wasted money on boondoggles such as Solyndra.

Four years ago the President promised us his plan for health care reform would reduce the cost of health care for American families. Since then the cost of employer-provided family health insurance has increased by more than $2,300 per family.

Four years ago the President said he viewed the Federal budget as a blueprint for our future. Since then two of the President's budget proposals have been unanimously rejected by this Chamber—by Republicans and Democrats alike—and America's credit rating has been downgraded.

If you buy these unfulfilled promises the President has made over the last 4 years, as the song goes, not only will I sell you some oceanfront property in Arizona, ''I'll throw the Golden Gate in for free.''

In short, much of what the President has said in February of 2009 has been hollow rhetoric, unmet with action and followup. I can only hope the President's speech tonight will seriously address our biggest fiscal challenges: a debt burden larger than our economy, $37 trillion in unfunded Medicare liabilities, and more than $100 trillion in total unfunded liabilities.

In addition, I can only hope the President will offer a serious plan for boosting economic growth and reducing unemployment. Amid the longest period of high unemployment since the Great Depression, with the national rate still hovering near 8 percent, Americans deserve a President who is focused intensely on the right policies for job creation.

A second term offers a second chance. If the President wants to regain the credibility he has lost over the last 4 years on each of these issues, he will start tonight.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, what is the regular order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is considering S. 47.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, before I go on to that, I would note that many have come to this floor to talk about the deficit and things of that nature. I ask anybody who is decrying our deficit if they voted for a needless war in Iraq and then voted to put it on the credit card.

The war in Iraq has cost this Nation nearly $1 trillion so far, and with all the wounded who have come back from this unnecessary war, we will, beyond the lifetime of most of us, still be paying for that.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are the only wars in America's history we did not have a special tax to pay for—both were put on a credit card. They were begun at a time when the last administration had inherited a large surplus from the Democratic administration before it. Since I have been old enough to vote, only Democratic administrations have left surpluses. But they took that surplus, wasted it on the war in Iraq, and because they were unwilling to pay for this war—a war that was paid for only by the men and women who served and their families; we don't have a draft—most people can say: It didn't affect me. Well, it affected those families enormously, and it will affect every single taxpayer for the rest of their lives because it will take that long to pay for a war that so many in this body and the other body voted for but then stood up and said: We cannot possibly have taxes to pay for things we are spending money on. That is one thing they voted for—for the first time in the history of this country, they voted to not pay for a war.

I urge everybody not to lose sight of the fact that a major part of our deficit was caused by the House and Senate voting for a war we never should have been in, one I voted against. In fact, everybody who actually read the intelligence material voted against it. Now our children and our grandchildren will have to pay for our mistakes.

I don't want to hear lectures about our deficit from people who voted to help create that deficit by voting for an unnecessary war.

On the subject we are on, S. 47, after more than a week of consideration, the Senate will finally vote on the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. This is a good bill that makes needed changes recommended by victims and those who work with them

every day. I urge all those Senators who have opposed reauthorizing VAWA to end their opposition and join with us. Despite the predictions by some that the Republican House of Representatives will refuse to consider the Senate bill, as it did last year, I see reason for hope.

Just yesterday 17 Republican members of the House wrote to their own leadership urging immediate reauthorization of VAWA. They rejected the ideological opposition of Heritage and the Family Research Council. They recognize that VAWA is effective, efficient and successful ''in curbing domestic violence and supporting victims,'' and that ''VAWA programs save lives.'' They also note, as I have said repeatedly on this floor: ''VAWA must reach all victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in every community in the country.''

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the Republican members' letter to Speaker BOEHNER be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The Senate has rejected the Republican substitute and defeated the Coburn amendment to strip the tribal jurisdiction provisions that have been included in the Senate bill for the past two years. Those amendments would have greatly narrowed VAWA's ability to prevent crime and help victims and would have undercut our commitment to all victims of rape and domestic violence. I hope Senators will continue to vote against amendments that weaken this important legislation.

This morning the Senate has the opportunity to vote for an amendment that goes in the opposite direction from the Coburn amendments by allowing us to help more victims of serious crime in the United States and around the world. This morning the Senate is to vote on the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. That is another bipartisan bill that was written with the input of victims and service providers to make critical improvements to existing law. Last year, this legislation had 57 cosponsors—including 15 Republicans. In particular, I thank Senator RUBIO who has been a strong cosponsor of this important measure.

Today is February 12, the day on which Abraham Lincoln was born. It was 150 years ago that he delivered the Emancipation Proclamation and it would be fitting that the Senate pass the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act on his birthday. Although the 13th amendment to our Constitution was ratified long ago, making slavery illegal, we continue to fight human trafficking, which can amount to modern day slavery. This terrible crime still occurs throughout the world—including in the United States of America. The Polaris Project estimates that there are more than 27 million victims of human trafficking worldwide today.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act will help us continue to make real progress on this issue. It is a parallel effort to our reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Our effort is to stop human trafficking at its roots by supporting both domestic and international efforts to fight against trafficking and to punish its perpetrators. We provide critical resources to help support victims as they rebuild their lives.

This measure strengthens criminal anti-trafficking statutes to ensure that law enforcement agencies have the tools they need to effectively combat all forms of trafficking. It ensures better coordination among Federal agencies, between law enforcement and victim service providers, and with foreign countries to work on every facet of this complicated problem. It includes measures to encourage victims to come forward and report this terrible crime, which leads to more prosecutions and help for more victims.

We have included accountability measures to ensure that Federal funds are used for their intended purposes, and we have streamlined programs to focus scarce resources on the approaches that have been the most successful. A Senator asserted yesterday that trafficking programs have been wasteful and duplicative. In fact, the programs supported by this amendment have been carefully tracked and shown to be effective. Nonetheless, the amendment reduces authorization levels by almost a third from the levels in the last reauthorization because we are determined to ensure efficiency and respond to concerns. We have made similar efforts to streamline VAWA.

The United States remains a beacon of hope for so many who face human rights abuses. We know that young women and girls often just 11, 12, or 13 years old are being bought and sold. We know that workers are being held and forced into labor against their will. I urge all Senators to join in passing the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. People in this country and millions around the world are counting on us.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2013.

Speaker JOHN BOEHNER,
Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER AND LEADER CANTOR: We are writing to urge you to immediately reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). As you know, we are long overdue in passing a reauthorization of this landmark piece of legislation which seeks to reduce instances of domestic violence and protect women who are victims of such violence.

Over the course of the past several years, we have met with constituents in our districts who agree that VAWA programs are an important part of a larger criminal justice framework that seeks to reduce abuse against women and children. We appreciate the need to make efficient and effective use of federal dollars, and believe that VAWA programs in our districts have met that threshold and have been a success in curbing domestic violence and supporting victims. Now is the time to seek bipartisan compromise on the reauthorization of these programs. VAWA programs save lives, and we must allow states and communities the opportunity to build upon the successes of current VAWA programs so that we can help even more people.

It is unfortunate that states are already preparing for Congress's inaction. In New Jersey, for example, the state legislature recently passed a bridge fund bill to fill the void left by a lack of federal funds in the event VAWA is not reauthorized.

We believe a bipartisan plan to reauthorize VAWA is more important than ever. Last year, in a bipartisan letter many of us in the Republican Conference wrote to the Judiciary Committee, we said: ''VAWA must reach all victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in every community in the country.'' This statement still holds true, and underscores the need to reauthorize this critical legislation. If you have any questions, or if we can be of additional assistance, your staff may contact Joe Heaton with Rep. Runyan.

Sincerely,

Jon Runyan, Charlie Dent, Dave Reichert, Richard Hanna, David Joyce, Shelley Moore-Capito, Frank LoBiondo, Michael Fitzpatrick, Jim Gerlach, Chris Gibson, Rodney Frelinghuysen, Leonard Lance, Patrick Meehan, Rodney Davis, Tom Reed, Lee Terry, Michael Grimm, *Members of Congress*.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters from human rights and civil rights organizations in support of S. 47, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE,
Washington, DC, February 1, 2013.

Re NAACP Strong Support for S. 47, to Reauthorize the 1994 Violence Against Women Act

Senator PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY: On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I would like to sincerely thank you for your leadership in introducing S. 47, legislation strengthening and reauthorizing the 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). As strong and consistent supporters of VAWA, the NAACP recognizes that this important legislation would improve criminal justice and community-based responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in the United States.

As you know, the NAACP supported the passage of VAWA in 1994, and its reauthorization in 2000 and 2005. We have witnessed VAWA change the landscape for victims of violence in the United States who once suffered in silence. Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking have now been able to access services, and a new generation of families and justice system professionals has come to understand that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking are crimes that our society will no longer tolerate.

Your bill will not only continue proven effective programs, but that it will make key changes to streamline VAWA and make sure that even more people have access to safety, stability and justice.

Thank you again for your continued leadership in this endeavor. Your thoughtfulness and tenacity in this area over the years has improved the lives of millions of Americans. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

HILARY O. SHELTON,
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau & Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy.

SEATTLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

RESOLUTION #13–01: SUPPORT FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Whereas, all Seattle residents are born free and equal in dignity and rights; and

Whereas, the Seattle Human Rights Commission is committed to protecting and advocating for justice, human rights, and the equal treatment of all people who live and work in Seattle; and

Whereas, on December 10, 2012, Seattle officially declared itself a Human Rights City through Council Resolution Number 31420; and

Whereas, human safety is a fundamental human right and violence against women is a violation of human rights; and

Whereas, Congress failed to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in the 112th Congress; and

Whereas, in the 112th Congress, the U.S. Senate passed a version of VAWA that included important protections for groups particularly affected by violence against women, such as Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities; and

Whereas, in the 112th Congress the U.S. House of Representatives passed a version of VAWA that left out those protections for Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities; and

Whereas, in the current 113th Congress, the Senate is considering a nearly identical bill (S. 47) to the one it passed in the 112th Congress which contains the same important protections for Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities; and

Whereas, in the current 113th Congress, Rep. Gwen Moore introduced the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (H.R. 11) in the House of Representatives, which is identical to the Senate bill; and

Whereas, protections against sexual assault and domestic violence for Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities are required in order to guarantee the human rights of equality, safety, liberty, integrity and dignity which are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the American Declaration on Human Rights among others;

Whereas, in 2011 the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women recommended that the U.S. reassess its laws and policies protecting domestic violence survivors and punishing abusers, including the recognition of tribal authority to prosecute offenders contained in the current Senate bill (S. 47); and

Whereas, in 2011 the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (ICHR) ordered the United States to comply with its international duty to prevent violence against women in the case of *Jessica Lenahan (Gonzáles)* v. *the United States*, through the enactment of legislation and policy reforms that do not discriminate and provide for equal protection before the law to victims of domestic violence and their children, under Article 2 of the American Declaration on Human Rights; and

Whereas, in 2012 the Commission joined with the Seattle Women's Commission to call for the U.S. House to pass the Senate version of VAWA and on June 27, 2012, the Commission co-sponsored a public rally with the Seattle Women's Commission to support the Senate version of VAWA; and

Whereas, on September 6, 2012 the Commission adopted Resolution 12–03 urging the House to pass the Senate version of VAWA,

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Seattle Human Rights Commission hereby calls upon the United States Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act by passing legislation which does not leave out fundamental protections for Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities in recognition of the principle that safety is a fundamental human right and violence against women is a violation of human rights; and

Now therefore be it further resolved, that the Seattle Human Rights Commission urges the Senate to pass S. 47 and the House to pass H.R. 11; and

Now therefore be it finally resolved, that should the House leadership decide against advancing H.R. 11, then in that case the Seattle Human Rights Commission urges the House to pass legislation that still contains protection for Native Americans, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities.

Adopted by the Seattle Human Rights Commission on February 1, 2013

CHRISTOPHER STEARNS,
Chairman,
JENNIFER YOGI,
Secretary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time be equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we have had an early unanimous consent order, so following that, I ask unanimous consent that the sequence of votes outlined under the previous order now start at 11:30 a.m., and the additional 30 minutes of debate be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; that following the disposition of the Coburn amendment No. 15, the Senate recess for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate resume the sequence of votes under the previous order; and finally, all other provisions of the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my amendment numbered 21 be modified with the changes that are at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time be equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 21, AS MODIFIED

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I call up my amendment numbered 21, as modified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) proposes an amendment numbered 21, as modified.

The amendment (No. 21), as modified, is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE XII—TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION

Subtitle A—Combating International Trafficking in Persons

SEC. 1201. REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Section 105 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(7)(J), by striking ''section 105(f) of this division'' and inserting ''subsection (g)'';

(2) in subsection (e)(2)—

(A) by striking ''(2) **COORDINATION OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES**.—'' and all that follows through ''exploitation.'';

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as paragraph (2), and moving such paragraph, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the left; and

(C) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the left;

(3) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Each regional bureau in the Department of State shall contribute to the realization of the anti-trafficking goals and objectives of the Secretary of State. Each year, in cooperation with the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, each regional bureau shall submit a list of anti-trafficking goals and objectives to the Secretary of State for each country in the geographic area of responsibilities of the regional bureau. Host governments shall be informed of the goals and objectives for their particular country and, to the extent possible, host government officials should be consulted regarding the goals and objectives.''.

SEC. 1202. PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST SIGNIFICANT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 is amended by inserting after section 105 (22 U.S.C. 7103) the following:

"SEC. 105A. CREATING, BUILDING, AND STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST SIGNIFICANT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

''(a) DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to promote collaboration and cooperation—

''(1) between the United States Government and governments listed on the annual Trafficking in Persons Report;

''(2) between foreign governments and civil society actors; and

''(3) between the United States Government and private sector entities.

''(b) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Director of the office established pursuant to section 105(e)(1) of this Act, in coordination and cooperation with other officials at the Department of State, officials at the Department of Labor, and other relevant officials of the United States Government, shall promote, build, and sustain partnerships between the United States Government and private entities, including foundations, universities, corporations, community-based organizations, and other nongovernmental organizations, to ensure that—

''(1) United States citizens do not use any item, product, or material produced or extracted with the use and labor from victims of severe forms of trafficking; and

''(2) such entities do not contribute to trafficking in persons involving sexual exploitation.

''(c) PROGRAM TO ADDRESS EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—The Secretary of State, acting through the Director established pursuant to section 105(e)(1) of this Act, is authorized to establish a fund to assist foreign governments in meeting unexpected, urgent needs in prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of victims, and prosecution of trafficking offenders.

''(d) CHILD PROTECTION COMPACTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Secretary of Labor, and the heads of other relevant agencies, is authorized to provide assistance under this section for each country that enters into a child protection compact with the United States to support policies and programs that—

''(A) prevent and respond to violence, exploitation, and abuse against children; and

''(B) measurably reduce the trafficking of minors by building sustainable and effective systems of justice, prevention, and protection.

''(2) ELEMENTS.—A child protection compact under this subsection shall establish a multi-year plan for achieving shared objectives in furtherance of the purposes of this Act. The compact should take into account, if applicable, the national child protection strategies and national action plans for human trafficking of a country, and shall describe—

''(A) the specific objectives the foreign government and the United States Government expect to achieve during the term of the compact;

''(B) the responsibilities of the foreign government and the United States Government in the achievement of such objectives;

''(C) the particular programs or initiatives to be undertaken in the achievement of such objectives and the amount of funding to be allocated to each program or initiative by both countries;

''(D) regular outcome indicators to monitor and measure progress toward achieving such objectives;

''(E) a multi-year financial plan, including the estimated amount of contributions by the United States Government and the foreign government, and proposed mechanisms to implement the plan and provide oversight;

''(F) how a country strategy will be developed to sustain progress made toward achieving such objectives after expiration of the compact; and

''(G) how child protection data will be collected, tracked, and managed to provide strengthened case management and policy planning.

''(3) FORM OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance under this subsection may be provided in the form of grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts to or with national governments, regional or local governmental units, or nongovernmental organizations or private entities with expertise in the protection of victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.

''(4) ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the agencies set forth in paragraph (1) and relevant officers of the Department of Justice, shall select countries with which to enter into child protection compacts. The selection of countries under this paragraph shall be based on—

''(A) the selection criteria set forth in paragraph (5); and

''(B) objective, documented, and quantifiable indicators, to the maximum extent possible.

''(5) SELECTION CRITERIA.—A country shall be selected under paragraph (4) on the basis of criteria developed by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Labor. Such criteria shall include—

''(A) a documented high prevalence of trafficking in persons within the country; and

''(B) demonstrated political motivation and sustained commitment by the government of such country to undertake meaningful measures to address severe forms of trafficking in persons, including prevention, protection of victims, and the enactment and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws against perpetrators.

''(6) SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may suspend or terminate assistance provided under this subsection in whole or in part for a country or entity if the Secretary determines that—

''(i) the country or entity is engaged in activities that are contrary to the national security interests of the United States;

''(ii) the country or entity has engaged in a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine the eligibility of the country or entity, as the case may be; or

''(iii) the country or entity has failed to adhere to its responsibilities under the Compact.

''(B) REINSTATEMENT.—The Secretary may reinstate assistance for a country or entity suspended or terminated under this paragraph only if the Secretary determines that the country or entity has demonstrated a commitment to correcting each condition for which assistance was suspended or terminated under subparagraph (A).''.

SEC. 1203. PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

(a) TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES.—Section 105(d)(6) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(6)) is amended by inserting '', and make reasonable efforts to distribute information to enable all relevant Federal Government agencies to publicize the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline on their websites, in all headquarters offices, and in all field offices throughout the United States'' before the period at the end.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Section 107(a)(2) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(a)(2)) is amended by inserting ''and shall brief Congress annually on such efforts'' before the period at the end.

SEC. 1204. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 108(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''peacekeeping'' and inserting ''diplomatic, peacekeeping,'';

(B) by striking '', and measures'' and inserting '', a transparent system for remediating or punishing such public officials as a deterrent, measures''; and

(C) by inserting '', effective bilateral, multilateral, or regional information sharing and cooperation arrangements with other countries, and effective policies or laws regulating foreign labor recruiters and holding them civilly and criminally liable for fraudulent recruiting'' before the period at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''and has entered into bilateral, multilateral, or regional law enforcement cooperation and coordination arrangements with other countries'' before the period at the end;

(3) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by inserting '', including diplomats and soldiers,'' after ''public officials'';

(B) by striking ''peacekeeping'' and inserting ''diplomatic, peacekeeping,''; and

(C) by inserting ''A government's failure to appropriately address public allegations against such public officials, especially once such officials have returned to their home countries, shall be considered inaction under these criteria.'' after ''such trafficking.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (11) as paragraphs (10) through (12), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) Whether the government has entered into effective, transparent partnerships, cooperative arrangements, or agreements that have resulted in concrete and measurable outcomes with—

''(A) domestic civil society organizations, private sector entities, or international nongovernmental organizations, or into multilateral or regional arrangements or agreements, to assist the government's efforts to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and punish traffickers; or

''(B) the United States toward agreed goals and objectives in the collective fight against trafficking.''.

SEC. 1205. BEST PRACTICES IN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ERADICATION.

Section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''with respect to the status of severe forms of trafficking in persons that shall include—'' and inserting ''describing the anti-trafficking efforts of the United States and foreign governments according to the minimum standards and criteria enumerated in section 108, and the nature and scope of trafficking in persons in each country and analysis of the trend lines for individual governmental efforts. The report should include—'';

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by inserting at the end the following:

''(G) a section entitled 'Promising Practices in the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons' to highlight effective practices and use of innovation and technology in prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnerships, including by foreign governments, the private sector, and domestic civil society actors.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (2);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(4) in paragraph (2), as redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

''(E) PUBLIC NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after notifying Congress of each country determined to have met the requirements under subclauses (I) through (III) of subparagraph (D)(ii), the Secretary of State shall provide a detailed description of the credible evidence supporting such determination on a publicly available website maintained by the Department of State.''.

SEC. 1206. PROTECTIONS FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS AND OTHER NONIMMIGRANTS.

Section 202 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1375b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND VIDEO FOR CONSULAR WAITING ROOMS'' after ''INFORMATION PAMPHLET''; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''The video shall be distributed and shown in consular waiting rooms in embassies and consulates appropriate to the circumstances that are determined to have the greatest concentration of employment or education-based non-immigrant visa applicants, and where sufficient video facilities exist in waiting or other rooms where applicants wait or convene. The Secretary of State is authorized to augment video facilities in such consulates or embassies in order to fulfill the purposes of this section.'';

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and produce or dub the video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and the video produced or dubbed'' after ''translated''; and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) DEADLINE FOR VIDEO DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of State shall make available the video developed under subsection (a) produced or dubbed in all the languages referred to in subsection (c).''.

SEC. 1207. PREVENTION OF CHILD MARRIAGE.

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

''(j) PREVENTION OF CHILD TRAFFICKING THROUGH CHILD MARRIAGE.—The Secretary of State shall establish and implement a multi-year, multi-sectoral strategy—

''(1) to prevent child marriage;

''(2) to promote the empowerment of girls at risk of child marriage in developing countries;

''(3) that should address the unique needs, vulnerabilities, and potential of girls younger than 18 years of age in developing countries;

''(4) that targets areas in developing countries with high prevalence of child marriage; and

''(5) that includes diplomatic and programmatic initiatives.''.

(b) INCLUSION OF CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS IN REPORTS.—The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 116 (22 U.S.C. 2151n), by adding at the end the following:

''(g) CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required under subsection (d) shall include, for each country in which child marriage is prevalent, a description of the status of the practice of child marriage in such country.

''(2) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'child marriage' means the marriage of a girl or boy who is—

''(A) younger than the minimum age for marriage under the laws of the country in which such girl or boy is a resident; or

''(B) younger than 18 years of age, if no such law exists.''; and

(2) in section 502B (22 U.S.C. 2304), by adding at the end the following:

''(i) CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required under subsection (b) shall include, for each country in which child marriage is prevalent, a description of the status of the practice of child marriage in such country.

''(2) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'child marriage' means the marriage of a girl or boy who is—

''(A) younger than the minimum age for marriage under the laws of the country in which such girl or boy is a resident; or

''(B) younger than 18 years of age, if no such law exists.''.

SEC. 1208. CHILD SOLDIERS.

Section 404 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(b), (c), and (d), the authorities contained in section 516 or 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j or 2347)'' and inserting ''(b) through (f), the authorities contained in sections 516, 541, and 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j, 2347, and 2348)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) EXCEPTION FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.—The limitation set forth in subsection (a) that relates to section 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to programs that support military professionalization, security sector reform, heightened respect for human rights, peacekeeping preparation, or the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers.''.

Subtitle B—Combating Trafficking in Persons in the United States

PART I—PENALTIES AGAINST TRAFFICKERS AND OTHER CRIMES

SEC. 1211. CRIMINAL TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

(a) RICO AMENDMENT.—Section 1961(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''section 1351 (relating to fraud in foreign labor contracting),'' before ''section 1425''.

(b) ENGAGING IN ILLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT IN FOREIGN PLACES.—Section 2423(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''or resides, either temporarily or permanently, in a foreign country'' after ''commerce''.

(c) UNLAWFUL CONDUCT WITH RESPECT TO DOCUMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1597. Unlawful conduct with respect to immigration documents

''(a) DESTRUCTION, CONCEALMENT, REMOVAL, CONFISCATION, OR POSSESSION OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS.—It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or possess, an actual or purported passport or other immigration document of another individual —

''(1) in the course of violating section 1351 of this title or section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324);

''(2) with intent to violate section 1351 of this title or section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324); or

''(3) in order to, without lawful authority, maintain, prevent, or restrict the labor of services of the individual.

''(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

''(c) OBSTRUCTION.—Any person who knowingly obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties described in subsection (b).''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1597. Unlawful conduct with respect to immigration documents.''.

SEC. 1212. CIVIL REMEDIES; CLARIFYING DEFINITION.

(a) CIVIL REMEDY FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.—Section 2255 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 2241(c)'' and inserting ''section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c)''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''six years'' and inserting ''10 years''.

(b) DEFINITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (14) as paragraphs (2) through (15), respectively;

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

''(1) ABUSE OR THREATENED ABUSE OF LAW OR LEGAL PROCESS.—The term 'abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process' means the use or threatened use of a law or legal process, whether administrative, civil, or criminal, in any manner or for any purpose for which the law was not designed, in order to exert pressure on another person to cause that person to take some action or refrain from taking some action.'';

(C) in paragraph (14), as redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (8)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9)''; and

(D) in paragraph (15), as redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (8) or (9)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9) or (10)''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT OF 2000.—The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et eq.) is amended—

(i) in section 110(e) (22 U.S.C. 7107(e))—

(I) by striking ''section 103(7)(A)'' and inserting ''section 103(8)(A)''; and

(II) by striking ''section 103(7)(B)'' and inserting ''section 103(8)(B)''; and

(ii) in section 113(g)(2) (22 U.S.C. 7110(g)(2)), by striking ''section 103(8)(A)'' and inserting ''section 103(9)(A)''.

(B) NORTH KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2004.—Section 203(b)(2) of the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 (22 U.S.C. 7833(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''section 103(14)'' and inserting ''section 103(15)''.

(C) TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.—Section 207 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044e) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section 103(8)'' and inserting ''section 103(9)'';

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 103(9)'' and inserting ''section 103(10)''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking ''section 103(3)'' and inserting ''section 103(4)''.

(D) VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF

2005.—Section 111(a)(1) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044f(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''paragraph (8)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9)''.

PART II—ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF POSSIBLE WITNESSES AND INFORMANTS

SEC. 1221. PROTECTIONS FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS WHO COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Section 101(a)(15)(T)(ii)(III) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(ii)(III) is amended by inserting '', or any adult or minor children of a derivative beneficiary of the alien, as'' after ''age''.

SEC. 1222. PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUD IN FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING.

Section 101(a)(15)(U)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii)) is amended by inserting ''fraud in foreign labor contracting (as defined in section 1351 of title 18, United States Code);'' after ''perjury;''.

PART III—ENSURING INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND EXPANDED REPORTING

SEC. 1231. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Section 105(d)(7) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(7)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (J) as subparagraphs (I) through (O);

(2) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

''(B) the number of persons who have been granted continued presence in the United States under section 107(c)(3) during the preceding fiscal year and the mean and median time taken to adjudicate applications submitted under such section, including the time from the receipt of an application by law enforcement to the issuance of continued presence, and a description of any efforts being taken to reduce the adjudication and processing time while ensuring the safe and competent processing of the applications;

''(C) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or otherwise provided status under subparagraph (T)(i) or (U)(i) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) during the preceding fiscal year;

''(D) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or status under clause (ii) of section 101(a)(15)(T) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)) during the preceding fiscal year, broken down by the number of such persons described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of such clause (ii);

''(E) the amount of Federal funds expended in direct benefits paid to individuals described in subparagraph (D) in conjunction with T visa status;

''(F) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or status under section 101(a)(15)(U)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(i)) during the preceding fiscal year;

''(G) the mean and median time in which it takes to adjudicate applications submitted under the provisions of law set forth in subparagraph (C), including the time between the receipt of an application and the issuance of a visa and work authorization;

''(H) any efforts being taken to reduce the adjudication and processing time, while ensuring the safe and competent processing of the applications;'';

(3) in subparagraph (N)(iii), as redesignated, by striking ''and'' at the end;

(4) in subparagraph (O), as redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(P) the activities undertaken by Federal agencies to train appropriate State, tribal, and local government and law enforcement officials to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking, including both sex and labor trafficking;

''(Q) the activities undertaken by Federal agencies in cooperation with State, tribal, and local law enforcement officials to identify, investigate, and prosecute offenses under sections 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, 1592, and 1594 of title 18, United States Code, or equivalent State offenses, including, in each fiscal year—

''(i) the number, age, gender, country of origin, and citizenship status of victims identified for each offense;

''(ii) the number of individuals charged, and the number of individuals convicted, under each offense;

''(iii) the number of individuals referred for prosecution for State offenses, including offenses relating to the purchasing of commercial sex acts;

''(iv) the number of victims granted continued presence in the United States under section 107(c)(3); and

''(v) the number of victims granted a visa or otherwise provided status under subparagraph (T)(i) or (U)(i) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)); and

''(R) the activities undertaken by the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services to meet the specific needs of minor victims of domestic trafficking, including actions taken pursuant to subsection (f) and section 202(a) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044(a)), and the steps taken to increase cooperation among Federal agencies to ensure the effective and efficient use of programs for which the victims are eligible.''.

SEC. 1232. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

Section 105(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C. 7112(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than December 1, 2014, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of Labor shall submit the list developed under paragraph (2)(C) to Congress.''.

SEC. 1233. INFORMATION SHARING TO COMBAT CHILD LABOR AND SLAVE LABOR.

Section 105(a) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C. 7112(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Secretary of State shall, on a regular basis, provide information relating to child labor and forced labor in the production of goods in violation of international standards to the Department of Labor to be used in developing the list described in subsection (b)(2)(C).''.

SEC. 1234. GOVERNMENT TRAINING EFFORTS TO INCLUDE THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Section 107(c)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting ''the Department of Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission,'' before ''and the Department''; and

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting '', in consultation with the Secretary of Labor,'' before ''shall provide''.

SEC. 1235. GAO REPORT ON THE USE OF FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report on the use of foreign labor contractors to—

(1) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a) should, to the extent possible—

(1) address the role and practices of United States employers in—

(A) the use of labor recruiters or brokers; or

(B) directly recruiting foreign workers;

(2) analyze the laws that protect such workers, both overseas and domestically;

(3) describe the oversight and enforcement mechanisms in Federal departments and agencies for such laws; and

(4) identify any gaps that may exist in these protections; and

(5) recommend possible actions for Federal departments and agencies to combat any abuses.

(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall—

(1) describe the role of labor recruiters or brokers working in countries that are sending workers and receiving funds, including any identified involvement in labor abuses;

(2) describe the role and practices of employers in the United States that commission labor recruiters or brokers or directly recruit foreign workers;

(3) describe the role of Federal departments and agencies in overseeing and regulating the foreign labor recruitment process, including certifying and enforcing under existing regulations;

(4) describe the type of jobs and the numbers of positions in the United States that have been filled through foreign workers during each of the last 8 years, including positions within the Federal Government;

(5) describe any efforts or programs undertaken by Federal, State and local government entities to encourage employers, directly or indirectly, to use foreign workers or to reward employers for using foreign workers; and

(6) based on the information required under paragraphs (1) through (3), identify any common abuses of foreign workers and the employment system, including the use of fees and debts, and recommendations of actions that could be taken by Federal departments and agencies to combat any identified abuses.

SEC. 1236. ACCOUNTABILITY.

All grants awarded by the Attorney General under this title or an Act amended by this title shall be subject to the following accountability provisions:

(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ''unresolved audit finding'' means an audit report finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the grantee has used grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved during the 12-month period beginning on the date on which the final audit report is issued

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this title or an Act amended by this title to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after the end of the 12-month period described in subparagraph (A).

(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this title or an Act amended by this title, the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible applicants that did not have an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title.

(E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title during the 2-fiscal-year period during which the entity is barred from receiving grants under subparagraph (C), the Attorney General shall—

(i) deposit an amount equal to the amount of the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph and the grant programs under this title or an Act amended by this title, the term ''nonprofit organization'' means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General may not award a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subparagraph available for public inspection.

(3) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this title or an Act amended by this title may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or entity awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this title or an Act amended by this title, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than $20,000 in funds made available to the Department of Justice, unless the Deputy Attorney General or the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Director, or principal deputy (as designated by the Deputy Attorney General) provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host the conference.

(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food, beverages, audio-visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and entertainment.

(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved under this paragraph.

(4) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, an annual certification indicating whether—

(A) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General under paragraph (1) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

(B) all mandatory exclusions required under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued;

(C) all reimbursements required under paragraph (1)(E) have been made; and

(D) includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under paragraph (1) from the previous year.

PART IV—ENHANCING STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

SEC. 1241. ASSISTANCE FOR DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044a) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO DEVELOP, EXPAND, AND STRENGTHEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR CERTAIN PERSONS SUBJECT TO TRAFFICKING.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term 'Assistant Secretary' means the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services.

''(2) ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The term 'Assistant Attorney General' means the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice.

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a State or unit of local government that—

''(A) has significant criminal activity involving sex trafficking of minors;

''(B) has demonstrated cooperation between Federal, State, local, and, where applicable, tribal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and social service providers in addressing sex trafficking of minors;

''(C) has developed a workable, multi-disciplinary plan to combat sex trafficking of minors, including—

''(i) building or establishing a residential care facility for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(ii) the provision of rehabilitative care to minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(iii) the provision of specialized training for law enforcement officers and social service providers for all forms of sex trafficking, with a focus on sex trafficking of minors;

''(iv) prevention, deterrence, and prosecution of offenses involving sex trafficking of minors;

''(v) cooperation or referral agreements with organizations providing outreach or other related services to runaway and homeless youth; and

''(vi) law enforcement protocols or procedures to screen all individuals arrested for prostitution, whether adult or minor, for victimization by sex trafficking and by other crimes, such as sexual assault and domestic violence; and

''(D) provides assurance that a minor victim of sex trafficking shall not be required to collaborate with law enforcement to have access to residential care or services provided with a grant under this section.

''(4) MINOR VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING.—The term 'minor victim of sex trafficking' means an individual who—

''(A) is younger than 18 years of age, and is a victim of an offense described in section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, or a comparable State law; or

''(B)(i) is not younger than 18 years of age nor older than 20 years of age;

''(ii) before the individual reached 18 years of age, was described in subparagraph (A); and

''(iii) was receiving shelter or services as a minor victim of sex trafficking.

''(5) QUALIFIED NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.—The term 'qualified nongovernmental organization' means an organization that—

''(A) is not a State or unit of local government, or an agency of a State or unit of local government;

''(B) has demonstrated experience providing services to victims of sex trafficking or related populations (such as runaway and homeless youth), or employs staff specialized in the treatment of sex trafficking victims; and

''(C) demonstrates a plan to sustain the provision of services beyond the period of a grant awarded under this section.

''(6) SEX TRAFFICKING OF A MINOR.—The term 'sex trafficking of a minor' means an offense described in section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, or a comparable State law, against a minor.

''(b) SEX TRAFFICKING BLOCK GRANTS.—

''(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Attorney General, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary, may make block grants to 4 eligible entities located in different regions of the United States to combat sex trafficking of minors.

''(B) REQUIREMENT.—Not fewer than 1 of the block grants made under subparagraph (A) shall be awarded to an eligible entity with a State population of less than 5,000,000.

''(C) GRANT AMOUNT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations under subsection (g) to carry out this section, each grant made under this section shall be for an amount not less than $1,500,000 and not greater than $2,000,000.

''(D) DURATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A grant made under this section shall be for a period of 1 year.

''(ii) RENEWAL.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Attorney General may renew a grant under this section for up to 3 1-year periods.

''(II) PRIORITY.—In making grants in any fiscal year after the first fiscal year in which grants are made under this section, the Assistant Attorney General shall give priority to an eligible entity that received a grant in the preceding fiscal year and is eligible for renewal under this subparagraph, taking into account any evaluation of the eligible entity conducted under paragraph (4), if available.

''(E) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Assistant Attorney General shall consult with the Assistant Secretary with respect to—

''(i) evaluations of grant recipients under paragraph (4);

''(ii) avoiding unintentional duplication of grants; and

''(iii) any other areas of shared concern.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) ALLOCATION.—Not less than 67 percent of each grant made under paragraph (1) shall be used by the eligible entity to provide residential care and services (as described in clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (B))

to minor victims of sex trafficking through qualified nongovernmental organizations.

''(B) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded pursuant to paragraph (2) may be used for—

''(i) providing residential care to minor victims of sex trafficking, including temporary or long-term placement as appropriate;

''(ii) providing 24-hour emergency social services response for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(iii) providing minor victims of sex trafficking with clothing and other daily necessities needed to keep such victims from returning to living on the street;

''(iv) case management services for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(v) mental health counseling for minor victims of sex trafficking, including specialized counseling and substance abuse treatment;

''(vi) legal services for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(vii) specialized training for social service providers, public sector personnel, and private sector personnel likely to encounter sex trafficking victims on issues related to the sex trafficking of minors and severe forms of trafficking in persons;

''(viii) outreach and education programs to provide information about deterrence and prevention of sex trafficking of minors;

''(ix) programs to provide treatment to individuals charged or cited with purchasing or attempting to purchase sex acts in cases where—

''(I) a treatment program can be mandated as a condition of a sentence, fine, suspended sentence, or probation, or is an appropriate alternative to criminal prosecution; and

''(II) the individual was not charged with purchasing or attempting to purchase sex acts with a minor; and

''(x) screening and referral of minor victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.

''(3) APPLICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Assistant Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Assistant Attorney General may reasonably require.

''(B) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought; and

''(ii) provide such additional assurances as the Assistant Attorney General determines to be essential to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

''(4) EVALUATION.—The Assistant Attorney General shall enter into a contract with an academic or non-profit organization that has experience in issues related to sex trafficking of minors and evaluation of grant programs to conduct an annual evaluation of each grant made under this section to determine the impact and effectiveness of programs funded with the grant.

''(c) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section that is found to have utilized grant funds for any unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost shall not be eligible for any grant funds awarded under the grant for 2 fiscal years following the year in which the unauthorized expenditure or unallowable cost is reported.

''(d) COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity shall not be eligible to receive a grant under this section if, during the 5 fiscal years before the eligible entity submits an application for the grant, the eligible entity has been found to have violated the terms or conditions of a Government grant program by utilizing grant funds for unauthorized expenditures or otherwise unallowable costs.

''(e) ADMINISTRATIVE CAP.—The cost of administering the grants authorized by this section shall not exceed 3 percent of the total amount appropriated to carry out this section.

''(f) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—For fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct an audit of all 4 eligible entities that receive block grants under this section.

''(g) MATCH REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section shall provide a non-Federal match in an amount equal to not less than—

''(1) 15 percent of the grant during the first year;

''(2) 25 percent of the grant during the first renewal period;

''(3) 40 percent of the grant during the second renewal period; and

''(4) 50 percent of the grant during the third renewal period.

''(h) NO LIMITATION ON SECTION 204 GRANTS.—An entity that applies for a grant under section 204 is not prohibited from also applying for a grant under this section.

''(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated $8,000,000 to the Attorney General for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017 to carry out this section.

''(j) GAO EVALUATION.—Not later than 30 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that contains—

''(1) an evaluation of the impact of this section in aiding minor victims of sex trafficking in the jurisdiction of the entity receiving the grant; and

''(2) recommendations, if any, regarding any legislative or administrative action the Comptroller General determines appropriate.''.

(b) SUNSET PROVISION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be effective during the 4-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1242. EXPANDING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking '', which involve United States citizens, or aliens admitted for permanent residence, and'';

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) as subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) to train law enforcement personnel how to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons and related offenses;'';

and

(D) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated, by inserting ''and prioritize the investigations and prosecutions of those cases involving minor victims'' after ''sex acts'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) NO LIMITATION ON SECTION 202 GRANT APPLICATIONS.—An entity that applies for a grant under section 202 is not prohibited from also applying for a grant under this section.'';

(4) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by striking ''$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) GAO EVALUATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of and submit to Congress a report evaluating the impact of this section on—

''(1) the ability of law enforcement personnel to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons and investigate and prosecute cases against offenders, including offenders who engage in the purchasing of commercial sex acts with a minor; and

''(2) recommendations, if any, regarding any legislative or administrative action the Comptroller General determines appropriate to improve the ability described in paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 1243. MODEL STATE CRIMINAL LAW PROTECTION FOR CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS.

Section 225(b) of the Trafficking Victims Reauthorization Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 7101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) protects children exploited through prostitution by including safe harbor provisions that—

''(A) treat an individual under 18 years of age who has been arrested for engaging in, or attempting to engage in, a sexual act with another person in exchange for monetary compensation as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons;

''(B) prohibit the charging or prosecution of an individual described in subparagraph (A) for a prostitution offense;

''(C) require the referral of an individual described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate service providers, including comprehensive service or community-based programs that provide assistance to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation; and

''(D) provide that an individual described in subparagraph (A) shall not be required to prove fraud, force, or coercion in order to receive the protections described under this paragraph;''.

Subtitle C—Authorization of Appropriations

SEC. 1251. ADJUSTMENT OF AUTHORIZATION LEVELS FOR THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT OF 2000.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 112A(b)(4) (22 U.S.C. 7109a(b)(4))—

(A) by striking ''$2,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000''; and

(B) by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017''; and

(2) in section 113 (22 U.S.C. 7110)—

(A) subsection (a)—

(i) by striking ''$5,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' each place it appears and inserting ''$2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017'';

(ii) by inserting '', including regional trafficking in persons officers,'' after ''for additional personnel,''; and

(iii) by striking '', and $3,000 for official reception and representation expenses'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$12,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$14,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''to the Secretary of Health and Human Services'' and all that follows and inserting ''$8,000,000

to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017.'';

(C) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''2008 through 2011'' each place it appears and inserting ''2014 through 2017'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 and $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(II) by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017'';

(D) in subsection (d)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively, and moving such paragraphs 2 ems to the left;

(ii) in the paragraph (1), as redesignated, by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$11,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by striking ''to the Attorney General'' and all that follows and inserting ''$11,000,000 to the Attorney General for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017.'';

(E) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$7,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$7,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017'';

(F) in subsection (f), by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(G) in subsection (i), by striking ''$18,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''.

SEC. 1252. ADJUSTMENT OF AUTHORIZATION LEVELS FOR THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–164) is amended—

(1) by striking section 102(b)(7); and

(2) in section 201(c)(2), by striking ''$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$250,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''.

Subtitle D—Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1261. APPROPRIATE CUSTODIAL SETTINGS FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS WHO REACH THE AGE OF MAJORITY WHILE IN FEDERAL CUSTODY.

Section 235(c)(2) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Subject to'' and inserting the following:

''(A) MINORS IN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CUSTODY.—Subject to''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ALIENS TRANSFERRED FROM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUSTODY.—If a minor described in subparagraph (A) reaches 18 years of age and is transferred to the custody of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary shall consider placement in the least restrictive setting available after taking into account the alien's danger to self, danger to the community, and risk of flight. Such aliens shall be eligible to participate in alternative to detention programs, utilizing a continuum of alternatives based on the alien's need for supervision, which may include placement of the alien with an individual or an organizational sponsor, or in a supervised group home.''.

SEC. 1262. APPOINTMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATES FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS.

Section 235(c)(6) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(6)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(2) by striking ''and criminal''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) APPOINTMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATES.—

''(i) INITIAL SITES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall appoint child advocates at 3 new immigration detention sites to provide independent child advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied alien children.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL SITES.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary shall appoint child advocates at not more than 3 additional immigration detention sites.

''(iii) SELECTION OF SITES.—Sites at which child advocate programs will be established under this subparagraph shall be located at immigration detention sites at which more than 50 children are held in immigration custody, and shall be selected sequentially, with priority given to locations with—

''(I) the largest number of unaccompanied alien children; and

''(II) the most vulnerable populations of unaccompanied children.

''(C) RESTRICTIONS.—

''(i) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A child advocate program may not use more that 10 percent of the Federal funds received under this section for administrative expenses.

''(ii) NONEXCLUSIVITY.—Nothing in this section may be construed to restrict the ability of a child advocate program under this section to apply for or obtain funding from any other source to carry out the programs described in this section.

''(iii) CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—A child advocate program selected under this section shall contribute non-Federal funds, either directly or through in-kind contributions, to the costs of the child advocate program in an amount that is not less than 25 percent of the total amount of Federal funds received by the child advocate program under this section. In-kind contributions may not exceed 40 percent of the matching requirement under this clause.

''(D) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report describing the activities undertaken by the Secretary to authorize the appointment of independent Child Advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied alien children to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

''(E) ASSESSMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATE PROGRAM.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study regarding the effectiveness of the Child Advocate Program operated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

''(ii) MATTERS TO BE STUDIED.—In the study required under clause (i), the Comptroller General shall— collect information and analyze the following:

''(I) analyze the effectiveness of existing child advocate programs in improving outcomes for trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied alien children;

''(II) evaluate the implementation of child advocate programs in new sites pursuant to subparagraph (B);

''(III) evaluate the extent to which eligible trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied children are receiving child advocate services and assess the possible budgetary implications of increased participation in the program;

''(IV) evaluate the barriers to improving outcomes for trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied children; and

''(V) make recommendations on statutory changes to improve the Child Advocate Program in relation to the matters analyzed under subclauses (I) through (IV).

''(iii) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit the results of the study required under this subparagraph to—

''(I) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

''(II) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

''(III) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

''(IV) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

''(F) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary and Human Services to carry out this subsection—

''(i) $1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 and 2015; and

''(ii) $2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2016 and 2017.''.

SEC. 1263. ACCESS TO FEDERAL FOSTER CARE AND UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINOR PROTECTIONS FOR CERTAIN U VISA RECIPIENTS.

Section 235(d)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A),

(A) by striking ''either'';

(B) by striking ''or who'' and inserting a comma; and

(C) by inserting '', or has been granted status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)),'' before '', shall be eligible''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', or status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)),'' after ''(8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J))''.

SEC. 1264. GAO STUDY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BORDER SCREENINGS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the effectiveness of screenings conducted by Department of Homeland Security personnel in carrying out section 235(a)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(4)).

(2) STUDY.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall take into account—

(A) the degree to which Department of Homeland Security personnel are adequately ensuring that—

(i) all children are being screened to determine whether they are described in section

235(a)(2)(A) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act;

(ii) appropriate and reliable determinations are being made about whether children are described in section 235(a)(2)(A) of such Act, including determinations of the age of such children;

(iii) children are repatriated in an appropriate manner, consistent with clauses (i) through (iii) of section 235(a)(2)(C) of such Act;

(iv) children are appropriately being permitted to withdraw their applications for admission, in accordance with section 235(a)(2)(B)(i) of such Act;

(v) children are being properly cared for while they are in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security and awaiting repatriation or transfer to the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(vi) children are being transferred to the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services in a manner that is consistent with such Act; and

(B) the number of such children that have been transferred to the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Federal funds expended to maintain custody of such children, and the Federal benefits available to such children, if any.

(3) ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OPERATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), for the purposes of conducting the study described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide the Comptroller General with unrestricted access to all stages of screenings and other interactions between Department of Homeland Security personnel and children encountered by the Comptroller General.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary shall not permit unrestricted access under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that the security of a particular interaction would be threatened by such access.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the commencement of the study described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that contains the Commission's findings and recommendations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I have already spoken about this, and I want to reiterate what I said earlier. Our country, justifiably so, is a beacon of hope for so many who face human rights abuses. I think of what is written on the iconic Statue of Liberty; so many people come to our shores for freedom. We also know there are many who are being held in these despicable trafficking schemes around the world. There are children who are 11, 12, 13 years old being held, and we have to speak for them.

I hope all Senators will join me in voting for this amendment. There are protections for victims of trafficking in the reauthorization act. It is a bipartisan bill written with the input of victims and service providers. It helps us to more effectively fight human trafficking, which is really modern-day slavery. Whether people are trafficked in the sex trade—especially children—or in forced labor, it is slavery. It is not isolated. There are 27 million victims worldwide today according to the Polaris Project. This amendment will help us to stop it by supporting both domestic and international efforts to fight against trafficking.

Just as important as it is to help us punish the perpetrators, the amendment will help us rebuild the lives of those caught up in it. We know funds are always limited. We put in accountability measures to ensure the Federal funds are used for their intended purposes.

Let us continue to have the United States as a beacon of hope to people around the world.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters in support of amendment 21, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, to S. 47, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

AMERICANS FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2013.

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY: Americans for Immigrant Justice (AI Justice), is writing to express our strong support for final passage of the Violence Against Women Act (S. 47) and amendment #21 to S. 47. This vital legislation and amendment improves existing VAWA programs and strengthens protections for all victims of violence.

AI Justice was established in 1996 and provides free legal services to immigrants of all nationalities, including immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. AI Justice's specialized Lucha Project addresses survivors' needs in a holistic manner and engages all immigrant communities in an effort to end violence against women. We have assisted thousands of immigrant survivors, and we understand firsthand why this important legislation and amendment are needed.

The authorization in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) expired on September 30, 2011. We ask all Senators to support amendment #21, which reauthorizes the TVPA and provides additional tools necessary to combat trafficking and modern-day slavery at home and abroad. We urge all Senators to oppose any attempt to weaken the bill and oppose any attempts to attach nongermane amendments to S. 47.

The United States can and should do more to help protect all victims and fight domestic violence and human trafficking. We urge all Senators to vote for final passage of the Violence Against Women Act and for amendment #21, which reauthorizes the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Sincerely,

CORY W. SMITH,
Washington, DC Office Director, Americans for Immigrant Justice.

ALLIANCE TO END SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2013.

Sen. PATRICK LEAHY,
Russell Senate Bldg, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY, The Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST), a diverse alliance of U.S.-based human rights organizations, acting with a shared agenda to end modern-day slavery and human trafficking around the world, is writing to express our strong support for amendment (#21) to the Violence Against Women Act (S. 47). This critical amendment includes the text of S. 1301, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), and additional grant reporting requirements.

As of September 30, 2011, the authorizations contained in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) expired. We urge Senators to support amendment #21, which reauthorizes the TVPA, provides additional tools necessary to combat trafficking and modern-day slavery at home and abroad, and continues the fight to end modern-day slavery and human trafficking in our generation.

Although the United States has taken significant steps to combat human trafficking through a comprehensive approach, much more needs to be done. The scope of human trafficking and slavery has come into sharp focus over the past years with an estimated 27 million slaves worldwide. Combined, human trafficking and slavery are the world's third largest criminal enterprises, after drugs and weapons. The United States can and should do more to help fight human trafficking both domestically and internationally. We urge passage of the amendment to continue U.S. leadership and further the victim-centered approach that has been crucial to combating human trafficking around the world.

Sincerely,

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), ECPAT–USA, Free the Slaves, International Justice Mission, Not for Sale Campaign, Polaris Project, Safe Horizon, Solidarity Center, Verité, Vital Voices Global Partnership, World Vision.

FREEDOM NETWORK USA,
February 11, 2013.

Re Amendment #21 (Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act) to S. 47 (Violence Against Women Act)

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Russell Senate Bldg., U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN, The Freedom Network (USA), which was established in 2001, is a coalition of 35 nongovernmental organizations and individual experts that provide services to, and advocate for the rights of, trafficking survivors in the United States. The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), groundbreaking legislation which increased the U.S. government's efforts to protect victims, authorized the government to strengthen efforts to prosecute traffickers, and allowed for increased prevention measures, funds some of the Freedom Network's most vital programs, including comprehensive case management, shelter, and legal services. The Freedom Network enthusiastically commends and supports you for introducing this vital legislation as an amendment (Amendment #21) to the bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) (Senate Bill 47).

With an estimated 27 million victims of human trafficking worldwide, the United States should continue to lead the charge to end this human rights abuse. Throughout the course of the 112th Congress, the Freedom Network worked fervently in support of the TVPRA (S. 1301), which ultimately culminated in 57 co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle by the end of 2012. Today, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 47, and they will debate Amendment #21 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 through 2017 for the TVPRA, to enhance

measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes. Both the TVPRA and VAWA are critical to survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

Thank you for your continued attention to this issue. Please contact Freedom Network Policy Co-Chairs Keeli Sorensen (keeli.sorensen@safehorizon.org) and Ivy Suriyopas (isuriyopas@aaldef.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

BILL BERNSTEIN,
Co-Chair.
PATRICIA MEDIGE,
Co-Chair.
SUZANNE TOMATORE,
Co-Chair.

MEMBERS OF THE FREEDOM NETWORK (USA)

American Gateways (TX); Americans for Immigrant Justice (FL); API Safety Center & Chaya (WA); Arizona League to End Regional Human Trafficking (AZ); Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (NY); Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (CA); Ayuda, Inc. (DC); Break the Chain Campaign, Institute for Policy Studies (DC); Coalition of Immokalee Workers Anti-Slavery Campaign (FL); Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CA); Colorado Legal Services (CO); Florida Freedom Partnership/Anti-Human Trafficking Program (FL); Florrie Burke (NY); Immigrant Women and Children Project, City Bar Justice Center (NY); International Institute of Buffalo (NY); International Institute of St. Louis (MO).

International Organization for Adolescents (IL); Kristen Heffernan (NY); Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (CA); LUCHA: A Women's Legal Project, Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (FL); Maria Jose Fletcher (FL); Marianna Smirnova (CA); Martina Vandenberg (DC); Mosaic Family Services (TX); My Sisters' Place; National Immigrant Justice Center (IL); Safe Horizon, Anti-Trafficking Program and Streetwork Project (NY); Sapna Patel (TX); Sex Workers Project, Urban Justice Center (NY); Southern Poverty Law Center Immigrant Justice Project (GA); Tapestri (GA); VIDA Legal Assistance (FL); Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network (WA); Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WI); Worker Justice Center of New York (NY).

Mr. LEAHY. Let's pass this.

Mr. President, I am going to suggest the absence of a quorum unless somebody else seeks recognition. I see the distinguished Senator from Florida on the floor, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I wish to echo my support for this amendment which is, basically, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Human trafficking is an issue which is shocking to people in its prevalence, both in our country and around the world. The idea of human slavery is something people think about as a historical issue, something that happened a long time ago. The fact is it is happening today all over the world, and it is happening in the United States. It is a tragic issue.

There is not just sex trafficking, which gets all the attention and, obviously, is something that is very bad, but there is also labor trafficking. There are people in this country who are brought here under false pretenses, and when they get here they don't get paid, they are mistreated, and on many occasions they are threatened that their family back home is going to be hurt if they go to the authorities.

We have had cases of this happening in Florida. We have seen horrible cases that have been documented in Florida. This is one of the issues I have become passionate about, and anyone could become passionate about, if ever a person meets any of these survivors, these young men and women who have survived some of the most brutal treatment one can imagine. So this is a great step forward in reauthorizing not just this bill but America's example to the world that we take this issue seriously.

I also think this is an issue of awareness. In the years to come, I hope we will continue to talk about this issue because there is still a lack of awareness in this country among many people about how serious this problem truly is. I am grateful we will, hopefully, be able to move forward, and I wish to thank the Senator from Vermont for offering this amendment.

Should I yield the floor?

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, before the Senator from Florida yields, I appreciate the strong support of Senator RUBIO. He has been the voice of reason and consistency in this area and I appreciate it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum with the time equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask permission to speak as in morning business for 8 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Senator GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 281 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, 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. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 21, AS MODIFIED

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we are going to vote in a couple minutes, but I would reiterate what I said earlier. This is going to be a vote on the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. It is a bill that was written with the input of victims and service providers. Last year, we had 57 cosponsors, including 15 Republicans.

I do want to thank Senator RUBIO, who was on the floor a few minutes ago speaking about it.

I could not help but think, as I said earlier, when I looked at the calendar today, February 12—the day on which Abraham Lincoln was born; and 150 years ago, he delivered the Emancipation Proclamation—wouldn't it be great if the Senate passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act on President Lincoln's birthday?

I also said earlier today that the Senate should be—often is—the conscience of the Nation. I have to imagine that the conscience of the vast majority of our 300 million Americans—whether they are Republicans or Democrats; liberals, moderates, or conservatives; Independents—their conscience would rebel against the idea of, really, slave trafficking, whether it is people trapped in the sex trade or in factories where they face the possibility, if there is a fire, they are all going to die because they are forced to be there.

Let's speak. Let's speak to the conscience of this country.

Mr. President, have the yeas and nays been ordered on my amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. They have not.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 21, as modified.

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 5, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 15 Leg.]

YEAS—93

Alexander	Coats	Hagan
Ayotte	Cochran	Harkin
Baldwin	Collins	Hatch
Barrasso	Coons	Heinrich
Baucus	Corker	Heitkamp
Begich	Cornyn	Heller
Bennet	Cowan	Hirono
Blumenthal	Crapo	Hoeven
Blunt	Cruz	Isakson
Boozman	Donnelly	Johanns
Boxer	Durbin	Johnson (SD)
Brown	Enzi	Kaine
Burr	Feinstein	King
Cantwell	Fischer	Kirk
Cardin	Flake	Klobuchar
Carper	Franken	Landrieu
Casey	Graham	Lautenberg
Chambliss	Grassley	Leahy

Levin	Portman	Shelby
Manchin	Pryor	Stabenow
McCaskill	Reed	Tester
McConnell	Reid	Thune
Menendez	Risch	Toomey
Merkley	Roberts	Udall (CO)
Mikulski	Rockefeller	Udall (NM)
Moran	Rubio	Vitter
Murkowski	Sanders	Warner
Murphy	Schatz	Warren
Murray	Schumer	Whitehouse
Nelson	Scott	Wicker
Paul	Shaheen	Wyden

NAYS—5

Coburn	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Inhofe	Lee	

NOT VOTING—2

Gillibrand	McCain

The amendment (No. 21) was agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MANCHIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay upon the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

AMENDMENT NO. 10

Mr. LEAHY. Parliamentary inquiry: Under the previous order, we are now on amendment No. 10?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment has not been made pending.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 10.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] proposes an amendment numbered 10.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike section 302 and insert the following:

SEC. 302. CREATING HOPE THROUGH OUTREACH, OPTIONS, SERVICES, AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

Subtitle L of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 is amended by striking sections 41201 through 41204 (42 U.S.C. 14043c through 14043c–3) and inserting the following:

"SEC. 41201. CREATING HOPE THROUGH OUTREACH, OPTIONS, SERVICES, AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH ('CHOOSE CHILDREN & YOUTH').

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General, working in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education, shall award grants to enhance the safety of youth and children who are victims of, or exposed to, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking and prevent future violence.

''(b) PROGRAM PURPOSES.—Funds provided under this section may be used for the following program purpose areas:

''(1) SERVICES TO ADVOCATE FOR AND RESPOND TO YOUTH.—To develop, expand, and strengthen victim-centered interventions and services that target youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking. Services may include victim services, counseling, advocacy, mentoring, educational support, transportation, legal assistance in civil, criminal and administrative matters, such as family law cases, housing cases, child welfare proceedings, campus administrative proceedings, and civil protection order proceedings, population-specific services, and other activities that support youth in finding safety, stability, and justice and in addressing the emotional, cognitive, and physical effects of trauma. Funds may be used to—

''(A) assess and analyze currently available services for youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, determining relevant barriers to such services in a particular locality, and developing a community protocol to address such problems collaboratively;

''(B) develop and implement policies, practices, and procedures to effectively respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking against youth; or

''(C) provide technical assistance and training to enhance the ability of school personnel, victim service providers, child protective service workers, staff of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, court personnel, individuals who work in after school programs, medical personnel, social workers, mental health personnel, and workers in other programs that serve children and youth to improve their ability to appropriately respond to the needs of children and youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, and to properly refer such children, youth, and their families to appropriate services.

''(2) SUPPORTING YOUTH THROUGH EDUCATION AND PROTECTION.—To enable middle schools, high schools, and institutions of higher education to—

''(A) provide training to school personnel, including healthcare providers and security personnel, on the needs of students who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking;

''(B) develop and implement prevention and intervention policies in middle and high schools, including appropriate responses to, and identification and referral procedures for, students who are experiencing or perpetrating domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking, and procedures for handling the requirements of court protective orders issued to or against students;

''(C) provide support services for student victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking, such as a resource person who is either on-site or on-call;

''(D) implement developmentally appropriate educational programming for students regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking and the impact of such violence on youth; or

''(E) develop strategies to increase identification, support, referrals, and prevention programming for youth who are at high risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking.

''(c) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

''(A) a victim service provider, tribal nonprofit, or population-specific or community-based organization with a demonstrated history of effective work addressing the needs of youth who are, including runaway or homeless youth affected by, victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking;

''(B) a victim service provider that is partnered with an entity that has a demonstrated history of effective work addressing the needs of youth; or

''(C) a public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, a school district, or an institution of higher education.

''(2) PARTNERSHIPS.—

''(A) EDUCATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant for the purposes described in subsection (b)(2), an entity described in paragraph (1) shall be partnered with a public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, a school district, or an institution of higher education.

''(B) OTHER PARTNERSHIPS.—All applicants under this section are encouraged to work in partnership with organizations and agencies that work with the relevant population. Such entities may include—

''(i) a State, tribe, unit of local government, or territory;

''(ii) a population specific or community-based organization;

''(iii) batterer intervention programs or sex offender treatment programs with specialized knowledge and experience working with youth offenders; or

''(iv) any other agencies or nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations with the capacity to provide effective assistance to the adult, youth, and child victims served by the partnership.

''(d) GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS.—Applicants for grants under this section shall establish and implement policies, practices, and procedures that—

''(1) require and include appropriate referral systems for child and youth victims;

''(2) protect the confidentiality and privacy of child and youth victim information, particularly in the context of parental or third party involvement and consent, mandatory reporting duties, and working with other service providers all with priority on victim safety and autonomy; and

''(3) ensure that all individuals providing intervention or prevention programming to children or youth through a program funded under this section have completed, or will complete, sufficient training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking.

''(e) DEFINITIONS AND GRANT CONDITIONS.—In this section, the definitions and grant conditions provided for in section 40002 shall apply.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.

''(g) ALLOTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 50 percent of the total amount appropriated under this section for each fiscal year shall be used for the purposes described in subsection (b)(1).

''(2) INDIAN TRIBES.—Not less than 10 percent of the total amount appropriated under this section for each fiscal year shall be made available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. The requirements of this section shall not apply to funds allocated under this paragraph.

''(h) PRIORITY.—The Attorney General shall prioritize grant applications under this section that coordinate with prevention programs in the community.''.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, this is a commonsense amendment. We just voted on the Violence Against Women Act amendment for trafficking offered by Senator LEAHY. This is an amendment that actually deals with the underlying legislation. It is really a clarifying amendment.

I am pleased to be joined by Senators BLUMENTHAL, AYOTTE, COLLINS, BROWN, COCHRAN, RUBIO, ALEXANDER, and GILLIBRAND. It has to do with offering protection and services to victims of sex trafficking under VAWA. This simply says under section 302 of VAWA that we ensure sex trafficking is covered.

Right now youth and children who are exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault or stalking are covered but not sex trafficking. I think it is consistent with the amendment we just passed. It is also an important clarification of the underlying bill.

There are about 300,000 young Americans the FBI says are at risk today. This is a commonsense approach, and I would hope that all Senators on both sides of the aisle would agree that sex trafficking should be covered by this act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I agree with the Senator from Ohio. I am perfectly willing to accept this amendment by a voice vote, and I do support it.

I am encouraged that the Senate has voted to pass the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, which will let us make real progress in helping victims of human trafficking. I worked with Senator RUBIO last Congress to reauthorize and improve our antitrafficking law and needed programs. We were stymied by an anonymous Republican objection. Today we achieved a breakthrough when the Senate voted to approve the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act.

I thank Senators from both sides of the aisle who have rejected the cramped view of the Heritage Foundation and joined with us to make progress on this important issue, to help victims and to help prevent human trafficking. The vote the Senate just took to approve vital antitrafficking legislation will ensure that resources and services get to trafficking victims in ways shown to work. By our action, we are improving and strengthening antitrafficking programs.

I do not wish to conflate or confuse the two issues. The Violence Against Women Act provides programs for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Trafficking is different, a unique form of abuse with separate programs designed to address it in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

When trafficking victims also experience sexual assault, they can also access programs funded through VAWA for sexual assault victims. The Leahy-Crapo Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act explicitly provides that VAWA programs are to help victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. That includes trafficking victims. That language was carefully crafted with advocates for victims of those crimes.

Accordingly, I believe that amendment 10 is unnecessary. It duplicates and reiterates what the bill already provides. So long as it does not harm and does not create confusion, I support it. The Senator from Oklahoma may accuse us of providing duplicative programs, but no one is going to subject themselves to sexual assault just because they might be eligible for a VAWA program or help from a trafficking program. No individual victim is going to somehow profit at taxpayers' expense. The amendment is accepted merely as further clarification of the availability of VAWA programs to children who are both victims of trafficking and sexual assault. Sex trafficking victims are by definition also sexual assault victims.

I am not in favor of confusing program administrators or taking program funds away from victims of rape and domestic violence. I have worked hard not to pit victims against each other. Instead, I have tried to provide for the needs of all victims.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I want to again thank the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, PATRICK LEAHY, for his leadership on this bill and on the issue of human trafficking. He has led this Chamber.

I want to thank my colleague, Senator PORTMAN, for truly a commonsense amendment that aims to combat one of the great scourges in the United States and around the world, sex trafficking involving young people. We can take a strong step and send a strong message by providing the kinds of services to young victims as we do to other victims who receive aid under VAWA. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. PORTMAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 100, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 16 Leg.]

YEAS—100

Alexander	Barrasso	Bennet
Ayotte	Baucus	Blumenthal
Baldwin	Begich	Blunt
Boozman	Hatch	Nelson
Boxer	Heinrich	Paul
Brown	Heitkamp	Portman
Burr	Heller	Pryor
Cantwell	Hirono	Reed
Cardin	Hoeven	Reid
Carper	Inhofe	Risch
Casey	Isakson	Roberts
Chambliss	Johanns	Rockefeller
Coats	Johnson (SD)	Rubio
Coburn	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Cochran	Kaine	Schatz
Collins	King	Schumer
Coons	Kirk	Scott
Corker	Klobuchar	Sessions
Cornyn	Landrieu	Shaheen
Cowan	Lautenberg	Shelby
Crapo	Leahy	Stabenow
Cruz	Lee	Tester
Donnelly	Levin	Thune
Durbin	Manchin	Toomey
Enzi	McCain	Udall (CO)
Feinstein	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Fischer	McConnell	Vitter
Flake	Menendez	Warner
Franken	Merkley	Warren
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Graham	Moran	Wicker
Grassley	Murkowski	Wyden
Hagan	Murphy	
Harkin	Murray	

The amendment (No. 10) was agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I move to reconsider.

Mr. MERKLEY. I move to lay that on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 11

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, the distinguished Senator from Alaska, Ms. MURKOWSKI, has filed amendment No. 11, a technical fix to ensure that VAWA's tribal provisions apply to Alaska. I now offer the amendment on her behalf. I support this amendment and I ask it be added to the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the amendment.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. LEAHY], for Ms. MURKOWSKI, proposes an amendment numbered 11.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

Beginning on page 186, strike line 5 and all that follows through page 187, line 3, and insert the following:

SEC. 905. TRIBAL PROTECTION ORDERS.

Section 2265 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) TRIBAL COURT JURISDICTION.—For purposes of this section, a court of an Indian tribe shall have full civil jurisdiction to issue and enforce protection orders involving any person, including the authority to enforce any orders through civil contempt proceedings, to exclude violators from Indian land, and to use other appropriate mechanisms, in matters arising anywhere in the Indian country of the Indian tribe (as defined in section 1151) or otherwise within the authority of the Indian tribe.''.

Beginning on page 193, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 194, line 3, and insert the following:

SEC. 910. SPECIAL RULE FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA.

(a) EXPANDED JURISDICTION.—In the State of Alaska, the amendments made by sections 904 and 905 shall only apply to the Indian

country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code) of the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve.

(b) RETAINED JURISDICTION.—The jurisdiction and authority of each Indian tribe in the State of Alaska under section 2265(e) of title 18, United States Code (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)—

(1) shall remain in full force and effect; and

(2) are not limited or diminished by this Act or any amendment made by this Act.

(c) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act limits or diminishes the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska, any subdivision of the State of Alaska, or any Indian tribe in the State of Alaska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided.

Mr. LEAHY. I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 11) was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 15

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 15, offered by the Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, this is an amendment that follows GAO recommendations with which the Justice Department agreed in terms of an audit on the duplication within their program. As a matter of fact, I have the data where the Justice Department actually concurred with the GAO on it. The purpose of the amendment is to eliminate the backlog in DNA testing, both in terms of rape kits and CODIS. The Cornyn amendment improved the bill but does not direct the money necessary. It is a small percentage, less than 2 percent over 10 years out of that bill, less than 2 percent of 1 year's spending. We spent $40 million for 10 years on these grants and what we are asking for is .4 of 1 percent to help solve the backlog on all the DNA cases.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. The bipartisan Leahy-Crapo Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act already reduces authorization levels and adds important accountability measures. These are careful, appropriate, and effective steps. The Coburn amendment would mandate sweeping cuts which would decimate programs. The amendment is opposed by law enforcement, including the National Association of Police Organizations, and by the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women.

Of course we all want to combat fraud, waste, and abuse. But this amendment is not the way to do it. The amendment purports to be based on findings by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, GAO, but it misconstrues those findings. The amendment states that the GAO identified $3.9 billion in ''duplicative'' grants programs. That is simply not the case. The July 2012 GAO report states that the total amount of grants awarded by the Justice Department in fiscal year 2010 was only $3.6 billion. You cannot have $3.9 billion in duplication when the total amount of grant money awarded was less than that.

More importantly, the GAO report did not actually conclude that there was duplication. The July report said there was ''the potential risk of unnecessary duplication'' and recommended that the Justice Department conduct an assessment to determine if grant programs could be consolidated to mitigate that risk. The GAO did not recommend any funding cuts and certainly did not recommend the $780 million cut that this amendment would require. As I have noted, our bill already includes a 17-percent cut in authorizations.

The amendment offered by Senator COBURN requires the Department of Justice to gut key grant programs. It would mandate that the Department cut at least $780 million from its grant programs, many of which provide critical funding to law enforcement and victim service providers. This would have devastating effects on victims of rape and domestic violence, and I urge Senators to vote against it.

The amendment tries to sugarcoat the damage it will do by reference to untested rape kits. In fact, it is the amendment that is duplicative. We have established the Debbie Smith Act to reduce the backlog of untested rape kits and the Leahy-Crapo bill already includes measures to reduce the backlog through core VAWA programs and through the inclusion of the SAFER Act.

By gutting grant programs to law enforcement and victims, the Coburn amendment does not help victims of rape, who rely on victim service providers funded with these grants and on law enforcement who count on Federal support. Mandating vast cuts in programs for victims and law enforcement at a time when those programs are already being squeezed is bad policy. These grant programs save lives. The amendment is bad for victims and bad for law enforcement. I urge Senators to oppose it.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters in opposition to amendment No. 15 to S. 47, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.,
Alexandria, Virginia, February 11, 2013.

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY: On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file officers from across the United States, I write to you to inform you that we strongly oppose proposed Amendment 15, offered by Senator Coburn, to the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization of 2013 (S. 47).

This amendment would mandate cuts of $780 million or more from Department of Justice grant programs. Those cuts would have to come from programs that help victims of crime, like the Violence Against Women Act, or from aid to state and local law enforcement, among other important grant programs.

Mandating vast cuts in programs for victims and law enforcement at a time when those programs are already being squeezed is bad policy. State and local governments rely on vital federal assistance, including for bullet proof vests and other life-saving equipment.

This VAWA reauthorization already reduces authorization levels and adds important accountability measures. These are careful, appropriate, and effective steps. The Coburn amendment would add sweeping and unprincipled mandated cuts which would decimate programs. For these reasons, we must strongly oppose it.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON,
Executive Director.

NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,
Washington, DC, February 8, 2013.

Senator PATRICK LEAHY,
Chair, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR LEAHY: The National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence represents thousands of national, tribal, state, territorial and local organizations, as well as survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. We are committed to securing an end to violence against women. National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence agrees that more funding should be made available for the rape kit backlog and other critical victim services and notes that significant provisions to do this and address the crime of rape are already included in S. 47.

On the other hand, the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence is opposed to Amendment No. 15 to S. 47, proposed by Senator Coburn. Senator Coburn's amendment has the ostensible goal of saving money on administrative costs in order to redirect those funds to address the nation's rape kit backlog. But the amendment's mandates would ultimately cost so much money themselves—that they could not generate the proposed savings promised to alleviate the rape kit backlog.

This amendment would mandate cuts of more than $700 million to Department of Justice grant programs, eviscerating services to victims of all crimes and decimating justice system responses to crime.

This amendment also requires a top to bottom review of every program in the Department of Justice, every staff position in the Department of Justice, and every staff person hired by every contractor engaged by the Department of Justice. An audit of this scope is simply unworkable and would drain valuable resources that would otherwise support law enforcement agencies, courts, prosecutors' office, and victim services, leaving

victims of all forms of crime vulnerable to great harm.

The audit proposed in Amendment No. 15 would require the Department of Justice to investigate every one of its approximately 110,000 employees, including U.S. Attorneys, FBI agents, federal marshals, ATF employees, federal prison employees, in search of supposed duplications and waste. The U.S. Department of Justice has 38 agencies and is the largest law enforcement agency in this country; to hamper its incredibly important work fighting crime every day with an audit that may or may not yield proof of duplication or waste, is an injustice to all of the people the Justice Department is bound to protect and serve. A review of this size and scope would clearly cost hundreds of millions of dollars, a growth of government functions that is unconscionable in a time of fiscal crisis.

There is an easier and much less expensive way to reduce administrative costs in order to dedicate more funding to direct services—and that is accomplished in S. 47. S. 47 consolidates 13 existing programs in the Office on Violence Against Women into 4 programs. S. 47 already addresses duplication and potential waste in Violence Against Women Act-funded programs through these consolidations. S. 47 will free up more funds for direct services by consolidating administrative functions—and will preserve desperately needed services.

Amendment No. 15 will require the Department of Justice to spend hundreds of millions of dollars that could otherwise go toward direct services, meaning fewer victims served and more programs closing. We ask you and your fellow Senators to vote NO on Amendment No. 15.

Sincerely,

THE MEMBER PROGRAMS OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 53, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 17 Leg.]

YEAS—46

Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blunt	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hatch	Portman
Burr	Heller	Risch
Chambliss	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Scott
Cochran	Johanns	Sessions
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Corker	Kirk	Thune
Cornyn	Lee	Toomey
Crapo	Manchin	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McCaskill	
Fischer	McConnell	

NAYS—53

Baldwin	Hagan	Nelson
Baucus	Harkin	Pryor
Begich	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reid
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rockefeller
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Landrieu	Stabenow
Casey	Lautenberg	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cowan	Levin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Franken	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	

NOT VOTING—1

Alexander

The amendment (No. 15) was rejected.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:41 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013—Continued

AMENDMENT NO. 16

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 16 offered by the Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, this is simply an amendment that says if a woman is raped and there is an article of indictment against the rapist, she ought to have a right to know the sexually transmitted diseases that rapist carries.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. The Senator from Oklahoma was a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee when the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act was considered and approved. He was a member for many years and never came to me to raise this issue. It has not been considered and its potential consequences of cutting 20 percent of Federal assistance grants to states that help law enforcement and encourage arrests in sexual assault and domestic violence cases could be disastrous. It is the wrong way to go.

I think we all agree that victims of sexual assault should receive testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. The Leahy-Crapo bill already adds new coverage for HIV testing and services for sexual assault victims. There is also already a five percent penalty in the law for those who don't provide HIV testing.

However, the amendment would mandate that states force tests on defendants, those accused of crimes but not tried or convicted. To require such testing within 48 hours of information or indictment is practically difficult or impossible for many states and violates the state constitution in others. This amendment sets up requirements that many state and local governments cannot comply with and will cause states to lose millions in assistance that helps victims of rape and domestic violence.

The Senator from Oklahoma has consistently voted against VAWA. That is his right. But we should not make the programs more difficult for law enforcement and victims because he does not support them. This is not the right way to reduce government—by setting up government mandates that law enforcement cannot meet and then cutting their assistance funding when they cannot. I do not believe this one-size-fits-all mandate from Washington to our states is the right way to go.

A large majority of states are not in compliance with this provision and would lose crucial funds for preventing rape and domestic violence and helping victims. These funds are particularly important in difficult economic times, and cutting them would be devastating for victims. The amendment's mandate is overly proscriptive and intrusive and would result in a loss of crucial services to many victims. That is why the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women strongly opposes this amendment.

I am willing to work on even more ways to ensure that rape victims receive all needed treatment. But doing so with measures that will punish the rape victims themselves by denying them access to needed services is inhumane and counter-productive. I urge Senators to oppose this amendment.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters in opposition to amendment No. 16 to S. 47, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,

Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY: The National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence is comprised of national, tribal, state, territorial and local organizations, as well as individuals, committed to securing an end to violence against women, and we are urging Senators to oppose Amendment No. 16 to S. 47, proposed by Senator Coburn. The National Task Force strongly supports the increased availability of treatment options for victims of sexual violence who have acquired a sexually transmitted infection as a result

of an assault. While ostensibly this amendment addresses that issue, it in fact fundamentally alters the purpose and approach of one of VAWA's key grant programs and severely penalizes grant recipients for compliance failures that may be impossible for them to meet.

The National Task Force would welcome the addition of treatment to the existing language in S. 47 related to victim testing and counseling and the expansion of this purpose area to include all sexually transmitted infections.

However, amendment 16 goes well beyond this recommendation. The amendment would require all recipients one of VAWA's grant programs to pay for sexual assault victims' treatment for sexually transmitted infections. Amendment 16 is overly prescriptive and fails to allow states and local governments to address other pressing violence against women priorities in their communities. Additionally, it is administratively unworkable because grantees will have no way to budget for unanticipated costs of treatment.

Additionally, amendment 16 goes far beyond current law to require grantees to certify that state law requires testing offenders for all sexually transmitted infections or risk lose 20% of their grant funding. Many states are already losing 5% of certain grants for failure to comply with existing law requiring HIV testing of offenders. Amendment 16 would result in 20% grant penalties for many local governments who would have no way to comply. It is a one size fits all approach to a grant program that was designed specifically to meet critical community priorities as identified by those communities.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. The people who oppose it oppose it on the grounds they might not get as much money unless they actually keep a woman from getting raped twice—once by the system we set up and once by their attacker.

If Senators vote against this, what they are saying is they don't have any compassion for the women who don't know the status of the person who raped them. Therefore, they go under treatment; they go through unknown and severe psychological stress, having to be repeatedly tested.

We put this in the bill the last time at 5 percent. All we did this time is raise it to 20 percent to try to reduce this behavior in the States.

The chairman of the Judiciary Committee voted for this last time. So to say what we are doing is not in the best interests of women is wrong. If someone really thinks women ought to get raped twice, vote against this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator has expired.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, would that it were so simple. The amendment is simply going to take protections away from thousands of women, and that is why I oppose it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. COBURN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 57, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 18 Leg.]

YEAS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hagan	Roberts
Burr	Hatch	Rubio
Chambliss	Hoeven	Scott
Coats	Inhofe	Sessions
Coburn	Isakson	Shelby
Cochran	Johanns	Thune
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cornyn	Lee	Vitter
Crapo	Manchin	Wicker
Cruz	McCain	
Enzi	McConnell	

NAYS—57

Baldwin	Harkin	Murphy
Baucus	Heinrich	Murray
Begich	Heitkamp	Nelson
Bennet	Heller	Pryor
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Brown	Kaine	Rockefeller
Cantwell	King	Sanders
Cardin	Kirk	Schatz
Carper	Klobuchar	Schumer
Casey	Landrieu	Shaheen
Collins	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Cowan	Levin	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Franken	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murkowski	Wyden

The amendment (No. 16) was rejected.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, today I would like to address a provision of the Violence Against Women Act, S. 47, that is of great concern. Title IX of VAWA provides tribal courts with special jurisdiction over non-Indians who are charged with crimes of domestic violence. While title IX requires tribal courts availing themselves of this special jurisdiction to provide the non-Indian defendant ''all other rights whose protection is necessary under the Constitution,'' I am concerned that such proceedings have the potential to deprive U.S. citizens of crucial due process rights, especially without further connection to the existing Federal court system.

First, title IX currently requires a defendant to be tried by an impartial jury drawn from sources that ''reflect a fair cross section of the community.'' We are always concerned that the population from which a jury is drawn not result in bias against a defendant who may not be part of the same race, culture, or religion as the jurors. While the population of many Indian lands consists of a wide variety of both Indians and non-Indians, many parts of Indian country are populated by Indians who have close ties to one another but limited interaction with non-Indians. I believe we must seek to minimize the potential for bias against non-Indian defendants under such circumstances.

Second, in State and Federal courts, the defendant has several options with which to challenge the validity of the court's rulings. Under the special jurisdiction laid out in title IX, the defendant lacks both the ability to remove his case to Federal court when appropriate and the ability to appeal a decision to a Federal appeals court. While many tribal courts have proven to be as consistent and fair as traditional courts, the possibility of removal and appeal is key to the oversight that U.S. citizens rightfully expect in criminal proceedings.

For these reasons I respectfully urge my colleagues to oppose S. 47.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I recognize the concerns of the Senator from Oklahoma. His amendment has good intentions by seeking to find ways to reduce duplication for all Department of Justice, DOJ, grants to State and local governments and nonprofit organizations. I agree with the Senator from Oklahoma that we need to pinch every penny.

However, as chairwoman of both the Appropriations Committee and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, CJS, I must oppose the amendment. It directs the Justice Department to develop and implement a plan that eliminates, consolidates or streamlines seemingly similar existing grant programs to find at least $780 million in savings. Then, regardless of whether or not duplication in grant programs is identified, $780 million would be automatically rescinded for deficit reduction, unless DOJ chooses to redirect a portion for DNA backlog reduction grants.

I oppose this amendment for two reasons. First, the fiscal year 2013 Senate CJS bill already rescinds over $61 million from DOJ grants, coming on top of $93 million rescinded in the fiscal year 2012 enacted bill. The Justice Department's grant components are already struggling to meet those mandatory rescissions. In order to meet an additional $780 million, this amendment would give the Department enormous power to unilaterally terminate programs with no input from Congress.

Second, Justice grants have already been slashed, and are likely to take more cuts in the coming months and years. Since fiscal year 2010, DOJ grants have been cut by more than $1.5 billion, a 41 percent reduction, from $3.6 billion in fiscal year 2010 to $2.1 billion in fiscal year 2012, shifting the burden of crime fighting to State and local governments where budgets are also stressed. Should sequestration kick in, grants will be cut by at least $110 million, or another 5 percent reduction. This amendment would cut another $780 million from programs like Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, COPS Hiring, youth mentoring, bulletproof vests, and the Violence Against Women Act. Altogether, this would be an astounding cut of $2.4 billion, or 64 percent, since fiscal year 2010.

The Senator from Oklahoma and I agree that we need to be strong sentries over taxpayers' funds. I have encouraged the Attorney General to follow GAO's recommendations, and he has responded by directing the Department to assess and consolidate grant programs when possible in order to prevent unnecessary duplication. But the Coburn amendment implements sweeping cuts, which will impact every Justice grant program. It will hurt our law enforcement and community partners at home, who are already struggling with limited tools to keep our families and neighborhoods safe and help victims of crime.

I oppose this amendment and urge my colleagues to vote no.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, as a cosponsor of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, I urge my colleagues to adopt this important measure.

The issue before us is not partisan. It is not of importance to just one State or region, or to a single group or interest. It is manifestly in the interest of every American to reauthorize these important programs that have made such a difference in the lives of women and families across this country.

Since its passage, the Violence Against Women Act has provided comprehensive support to survivors of domestic and sexual violence and to the Federal, State and local agencies that confront this scourge every day. The original legislation passed in 1994 laid a strong foundation that helped establish a coordinated response to violence against women. Reauthorizations in 2000 and 2005 strengthened that foundation. Today, through violence prevention grants, services to survivors of sexual assault, legal assistance, transitional housing grants, assistance to law enforcement agencies and prosecutors and other efforts, VAWA has made an enormous difference.

Deaths due to violent acts by intimate partners have decreased significantly. And according to a cost-benefit analysis, VAWA saved nearly $15 billion in its first 6 years of existence by avoiding the high social costs violence against women exacts on our Nation. William T. Robinson, the president of the American Bar Association, calls VAWA ''the single most effective federal effort to respond to the epidemic of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in this country.''

I had hoped the Congress would act to reauthorize VAWA last year. There is no reason that today we cannot pass this legislation with overwhelming bipartisan support. Doing so will make an enormous difference in protecting women from domestic abuse and other forms of violence. And it will make a strong statement that the Senate is united in our desire to ensure that our mothers, wives, sisters, and daughters will continue to receive that protection.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on passage of S. 47, as amended.

Mr. LEAHY. As the Senate now votes on the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, I hope we will join together in a strong bipartisan majority to pass this important legislation. Enactment of our bill to help all victims of domestic and sexual violence is overdue. Together we can finally finish what we started last year. We are deeply indebted to the women and men around the country who have been working with us and have been steadfast in their commitment to the victims and to our efforts to combat domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault.

The Violence Against Women Act has been effective at preventing crimes and protecting victims. But there is so much more to be done. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recent survey found that one in four women has been the victim of severe physical domestic violence, and one in five women has been raped in her lifetime. More than half of the homicides in my state of Vermont are related to domestic violence. This is simply unacceptable. We can and we must do better.

The Senate overwhelmingly passed the Leahy-Crapo bill last April. In the nearly 10 months since then, thousands of women around the country have been victimized. We have heard of too many cases, yet the vast majority of these crimes are never reported at all. I cannot help but feel that some of those crimes could have been prevented. Some of those victims could have gotten more assistance. Congress should not delay any longer.

Our bill offers support for those techniques already proven in the field that help identify high-risk cases and prevent domestic violence homicides. It will increase VAWA's focus on rape victims and push colleges to strengthen their efforts to protect students from domestic and sexual violence. This reauthorization will allow us to make real progress in addressing the horrifying epidemic of domestic violence in tribal communities. This bipartisan bill will allow services to get to those in the LGBT community who have had trouble accessing services in the past. The bill also includes key improvements for immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence.

All of these provisions were included because victims and the people who work with them every day told us they were needed to prevent crimes and provide better assistance to victims. We are trying to help victims and prevent crime. We have been working to get this bill through the Senate and to the House so we can quickly get a good bill to the President for his signature. We cannot afford further delay while more victims suffer unnecessarily.

I, again, thank the Majority Leader for making violence against women a priority for the Senate. We have been debating this measure since last Monday. We have considered a number of amendments. In the legislative process we have been able to make additional progress by adopting the bipartisan Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, as well.

I noted at the outset of this debate that by providing new tools and resources to communities all around the country, we have helped bring the crimes of rape and domestic violence out of the shadows. The Federal Government is standing with the women of this country and sent the message that we would no longer tolerate their treatment as second class citizens. Our bill renews and reinforces that commitment.

Ending violence against women is not an easy problem to solve, but there are simple and significant steps we can take right now, without delay, by passing this legislation. We have worked hard to make this bill bipartisan and I am proud that it has more than 60 Senate cosponsors. It also has the support of more than 1400 local, state and national organizations from around the country that work with victims every day and know just how critical this law has been. I included their most recent letter of support with my remarks last Monday. I, again, thank them for their tireless efforts.

There remain some special interest lobbies and some Senators who do not appreciate the role of the Federal Government in helping improve the lives of Americans. It is disappointed that Heritage Action and the Family Research Council are urging opposition to our bipartisan bill. I hope that Senators will listen, instead, to the victims and to law enforcement and to the more than 1400 national, state, and local organizations that strongly support our Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.

If anyone needs a reminder of how important government help can be, just think about the way that Federal and local law enforcement worked together last week to rescue Ethan, a 5-year-old kidnapped boy, from an underground bunker in Alabama, where he had been held hostage for almost a week. Ask the family and local law enforcement if they appreciated the help of the FBI, the Defense Department and so many who contributed to the safe return of that innocent victim.

Every day across this nation we are reminded of the importance of programs like the Violence Against Women Act. Our bipartisan bill does more than protect victims of domestic violence. It also contains provisions to protect victims of stalking. This morning the Washington Post reported that a ''man stalking one of his victims shot and killed two women waiting to pass through metal detectors at a courthouse . . . Two male police officers also were struck by bullets . . . but were

saved by their bullet-proof vests.'' This episode should remind us all that after working to reauthorize and reinvigorate the Violence Against Women Act, we must also reauthorize the Bullet Proof Vest program so that more of our law enforcement officials can be protected.

I spent years in local law enforcement and have great respect for the men and women who protect us every day. When I hear Senators say that we should not provide Federal assistance, we should not help officers get the protection they need with bulletproof vests, or that we should not help the families of fallen public safety officers, I strongly disagree. In our Federal system, we can help and when we can, we should help. And that is exactly the opportunity that is before us today. We have the power to help improve the lives of millions of people in this country by renewing and expanding our commitment to end domestic and sexual violence and strengthen our commitment against human trafficking. A recent study from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) found that more than 24 people per minute are the victims of rape, domestic violence and stalking in this country. We can take action to change that and we must.

I am proud that our bill seeks to support all victims, regardless of their immigration status, their sexual orientation or their membership in an Indian tribe. As I have said countless times on the floor of this chamber, ''a victim is a victim is a victim.'' The Violence Against Women Act is an example of how the Federal Government can help solve problems in cooperation with state and local communities. The fact is that women are safer today because of this law and there is no excuse not to improve upon it and reauthorize it without delay. We are working to protect victims—all victims—of domestic and sexual violence. I urge all Senators to look past the narrow, ideological opposition of some and join with us. That is what the former senior Senator from Texas, Senator Hutchison, did last year when her Republican substitute was rejected by the Senate.

I hope that despite 14 Republican Senators not voting to proceed to consider the bill and 35 Republican Senators supporting what was a poor substitute offered and rejected early in this debate, we will have a strong bipartisan vote for final passage. I urge those who previously opposed our efforts to improve the Violence Against Women Act to join with us and help the Senate send our strong bill to the House of Representatives so that we can get it enacted. Despite the predictions by some that the Republican House of Representatives will refuse to consider the Senate bill, as it did last year, I see reason for hope. Just yesterday 17 Republican members of the House wrote to their own leadership urging immediate reauthorization of VAWA.

I thank the many Senators who have helped shape this bill and have spoken is such strong support of it, including Senator CRAPO, Senator MIKULSKI, Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator MURRAY, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator COONS, Senator COLLINS, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator FRANKEN, Senator HAGAN, Senator CASEY, and so many others. I also thank their staffs and my own, including Kristine Lucius, Noah Bookbinder, Anya McMurray, Chris Leopold, Bryan Seeley, and Clark Flynt, for their countless hours of work away from their own families as we try to make all families safer and more secure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time in opposition?

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I yield back our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 19 Leg.]

YEAS—78

Alexander	Flake	Moran
Ayotte	Franken	Murkowski
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murphy
Baucus	Hagan	Murray
Begich	Harkin	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Portman
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Pryor
Boxer	Heller	Reed
Brown	Hirono	Reid
Burr	Hoeven	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Isakson	Sanders
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kirk	Shelby
Coats	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cochran	Landrieu	Tester
Collins	Lautenberg	Toomey
Coons	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Corker	Levin	Udall (NM)
Cowan	Manchin	Vitter
Crapo	McCain	Warner
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warren
Durbin	Menendez	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Merkley	Wicker
Fischer	Mikulski	Wyden

NAYS—22

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hatch	Roberts
Boozman	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Johanns	Scott
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Enzi	McConnell	
Graham	Paul	

The bill (S. 47), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 47

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 ''Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. Universal definitions and grant conditions.
Sec. 4. Effective date.

TITLE I—ENHANCING JUDICIAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TOOLS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Sec. 101. Stop grants.
Sec. 102. Grants to encourage arrest policies and enforcement of protection orders.
Sec. 103. Legal assistance for victims.
Sec. 104. Consolidation of grants to support families in the justice system.
Sec. 105. Sex offender management.
Sec. 106. Court-appointed special advocate program.
Sec. 107. Criminal provision relating to stalking, including cyberstalking.
Sec. 108. Outreach and services to underserved populations grant.
Sec. 109. Culturally specific services grant.

TITLE II—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

Sec. 201. Sexual assault services program.
Sec. 202. Rural domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and child abuse enforcement assistance.
Sec. 203. Training and services to end violence against women with disabilities grants.
Sec. 204. Enhanced training and services to end abuse in later life.

TITLE III—SERVICES, PROTECTION, AND JUSTICE FOR YOUNG VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Sec. 301. Rape prevention and education grant.
Sec. 302. Creating hope through outreach, options, services, and education for children and youth.
Sec. 303. Grants to combat violent crimes on campuses.
Sec. 304. Campus sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking education and prevention.

TITLE IV—VIOLENCE REDUCTION PRACTICES

Sec. 401. Study conducted by the centers for disease control and prevention.
Sec. 402. Saving money and reducing tragedies through prevention grants.

TITLE V—STRENGTHENING THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

Sec. 501. Consolidation of grants to strengthen the healthcare system's response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

TITLE VI—SAFE HOMES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

Sec. 601. Housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
Sec. 602. Transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
Sec. 603. Addressing the housing needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

TITLE VII—ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Sec. 701. National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic and sexual violence.

TITLE VIII—PROTECTION OF BATTERED IMMIGRANTS
Sec. 801. U nonimmigrant definition.
Sec. 802. Annual report on immigration applications made by victims of abuse.
Sec. 803. Protection for children of VAWA self-petitioners.
Sec. 804. Public charge.
Sec. 805. Requirements applicable to U visas.
Sec. 806. Hardship waivers.
Sec. 807. Protections for a fiancée or fiancé of a citizen.
Sec. 808. Regulation of international marriage brokers.
Sec. 809. Eligibility of crime and trafficking victims in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to adjust status.
Sec. 810. Disclosure of information for national security purposes.
TITLE IX—SAFETY FOR INDIAN WOMEN
Sec. 901. Grants to Indian tribal governments.
Sec. 902. Grants to Indian tribal coalitions.
Sec. 903. Consultation.
Sec. 904. Tribal jurisdiction over crimes of domestic violence.
Sec. 905. Tribal protection orders.
Sec. 906. Amendments to the Federal assault statute.
Sec. 907. Analysis and research on violence against Indian women.
Sec. 908. Effective dates; pilot project.
Sec. 909. Indian law and order commission; Report on the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission.
Sec. 910. Special rule for the State of Alaska.
TITLE X—SAFER ACT
Sec. 1001. Short title.
Sec. 1002. Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs.
Sec. 1003. Reports to Congress.
Sec. 1004. Reducing the rape kit backlog.
Sec. 1005. Oversight and accountability.
Sec. 1006. Sunset.
TITLE XI—OTHER MATTERS
Sec. 1101. Sexual abuse in custodial settings.
Sec. 1102. Anonymous online harassment.
Sec. 1103. Stalker database.
Sec. 1104. Federal victim assistants reauthorization.
Sec. 1105. Child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners reauthorization.
TITLE XII—TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION
Subtitle A—Combating International Trafficking in Persons
Sec. 1201. Regional strategies for combating trafficking in persons.
Sec. 1202. Partnerships against significant trafficking in persons.
Sec. 1203. Protection and assistance for victims of trafficking.
Sec. 1204. Minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.
Sec. 1205. Best practices in trafficking in persons eradication.
Sec. 1206. Protections for domestic workers and other nonimmigrants.
Sec. 1207. Prevention of child marriage.
Sec. 1208. Child soldiers.
Subtitle B—Combating Trafficking in Persons in the United States
PART I—PENALTIES AGAINST TRAFFICKERS AND OTHER CRIMES
Sec. 1211. Criminal trafficking offenses.
Sec. 1212. Civil remedies; clarifying definition.
PART II—ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF POSSIBLE WITNESSES AND INFORMANTS
Sec. 1221. Protections for trafficking victims who cooperate with law enforcement.
Sec. 1222. Protection against fraud in foreign labor contracting.
PART III—ENSURING INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND EXPANDED REPORTING
Sec. 1231. Reporting requirements for the Attorney General.
Sec. 1232. Reporting requirements for the Secretary of Labor.
Sec. 1233. Information sharing to combat child labor and slave labor.
Sec. 1234. Government training efforts to include the Department of Labor.
Sec. 1235. GAO report on the use of foreign labor contractors.
Sec. 1236. Accountability.
PART IV—ENHANCING STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
Sec. 1241. Assistance for domestic minor sex trafficking victims.
Sec. 1242. Expanding local law enforcement grants for investigations and prosecutions of trafficking.
Sec. 1243. Model State criminal law protection for child trafficking victims and survivors.
Subtitle C—Authorization of Appropriations
Sec. 1251. Adjustment of authorization levels for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.
Sec. 1252. Adjustment of authorization levels for the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005.
Subtitle D—Unaccompanied Alien Children
Sec. 1261. Appropriate custodial settings for unaccompanied minors who reach the age of majority while in Federal custody.
Sec. 1262. Appointment of child advocates for unaccompanied minors.
Sec. 1263. Access to Federal foster care and unaccompanied refugee minor protections for certain U Visa recipients.
Sec. 1264. GAO study of the effectiveness of border screenings.

SEC. 3. UNIVERSAL DEFINITIONS AND GRANT CONDITIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (a) of section 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (5), (17), (18), (23), (29), (33), (36), and (37);

(2) by redesignating—

(A) paragraphs (34) and (35) as paragraphs (41) and (42), respectively;

(B) paragraphs (30), (31), and (32) as paragraphs (36), (37), and (38), respectively;

(C) paragraphs (24) through (28) as paragraphs (30) through (34), respectively;

(D) paragraphs (21) and (22) as paragraphs (26) and (27), respectively;

(E) paragraphs (19) and (20) as paragraphs (23) and (24), respectively;

(F) paragraphs (10) through (16) as paragraphs (13) through (19), respectively;

(G) paragraphs (6), (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (8), (9), (10), and (11), respectively; and

(H) paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), respectively;

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redesignated, the following:

''(1) ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE.—The term 'Alaska Native village' has the same meaning given such term in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).'';

(4) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by striking ''serious harm.'' and inserting ''serious harm to an unemancipated minor.'';

(5) in paragraph (4), as redesignated, by striking ''The term'' through ''that—'' and inserting ''The term 'community-based organization' means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization that serves a specific geographic community that—'';

(6) by inserting after paragraph (5), as redesignated, the following:

''(6) CULTURALLY SPECIFIC.—The term 'culturally specific' means primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)).

''(7) CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES.—The term 'culturally specific services' means community-based services that include culturally relevant and linguistically specific services and resources to culturally specific communities.'';

(7) in paragraph (8), as redesignated, by inserting ''or intimate partner'' after ''former spouse'' and ''as a spouse'';

(8) by inserting after paragraph (11), as redesignated, the following:

''(12) HOMELESS.—The term 'homeless' has the meaning provided in section 41403(6).'';

(9) in paragraph (18), as redesignated, by inserting ''or Village Public Safety Officers'' after ''governmental victim services programs'';

(10) in paragraph (19), as redesignated, by inserting at the end the following:

''Intake or referral, by itself, does not constitute legal assistance.'';

(11) by inserting after paragraph (19), as redesignated, the following:

''(20) PERSONALLY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OR PERSONAL INFORMATION.—The term 'personally identifying information' or 'personal information' means individually identifying information for or about an individual including information likely to disclose the location of a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, regardless of whether the information is encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected, including—

''(A) a first and last name;

''(B) a home or other physical address;

''(C) contact information (including a postal, e-mail or Internet protocol address, or telephone or facsimile number);

''(D) a social security number, driver license number, passport number, or student identification number; and

''(E) any other information, including date of birth, racial or ethnic background, or religious affiliation, that would serve to identify any individual.

''(21) POPULATION SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION.—The term 'population specific organization' means a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that primarily serves members of a specific underserved population and has demonstrated experience and expertise providing targeted services to members of that specific underserved population.

''(22) POPULATION SPECIFIC SERVICES.—The term 'population specific services' means victim-centered services that address the safety, health, economic, legal, housing, workplace, immigration, confidentiality, or other needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that are designed primarily for and are targeted to a specific underserved population.'';

(12) in paragraph (23), as redesignated, by striking ''services'' and inserting ''assistance'';

(13) by inserting after paragraph (24), as redesignated, the following:

''(25) RAPE CRISIS CENTER.—The term 'rape crisis center' means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization, or governmental entity in a State other than a Territory that provides intervention and related assistance, as specified in section 41601(b)(2)(C), to victims of sexual assault without regard to their age. In the case of a governmental entity, the entity may not be part of the criminal justice system (such as a law enforcement agency) and must be able to offer a comparable level of confidentiality

as a nonprofit entity that provides similar victim services.'';

(14) in paragraph (26), as redesignated—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'' after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following:

''(C) any federally recognized Indian tribe.'';

(15) in paragraph (27), as redesignated—

(A) by striking ''52'' and inserting ''57''; and

(B) by striking ''150,000'' and inserting ''250,000'';

(16) by inserting after paragraph (27), as redesignated, the following:

''(28) SEX TRAFFICKING.—The term 'sex trafficking' means any conduct proscribed by section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, whether or not the conduct occurs in interstate or foreign commerce or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

''(29) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The term 'sexual assault' means any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.'';

(17) by inserting after paragraph (34), as redesignated, the following:

''(35) TRIBAL COALITION.—The term 'tribal coalition' means an established nonprofit, nongovernmental Indian organization, Alaska Native organization, or a Native Hawaiian organization that—

''(A) provides education, support, and technical assistance to member Indian service providers in a manner that enables those member providers to establish and maintain culturally appropriate services, including shelter and rape crisis services, designed to assist Indian women and the dependents of those women who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and

''(B) is comprised of board and general members that are representative of—

''(i) the member service providers described in subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) the tribal communities in which the services are being provided.'';

(18) by inserting after paragraph (38), as redesignated, the following:

''(39) UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.—The term 'underserved populations' means populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate.

''(40) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'unit of local government' means any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.''; and

(19) by inserting after paragraph (42), as redesignated, the following:

''(43) VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term 'victim service provider' means a nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a State or tribal coalition, that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including domestic violence shelters, faith-based organizations, and other organizations, with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(44) VICTIM SERVICES OR SERVICES.—The terms 'victim services' and 'services' mean services provided to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including telephonic or web-based hotlines, legal advocacy, economic advocacy, emergency and transitional shelter, accompaniment and advocacy through medical, civil or criminal justice, immigration, and social support systems, crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, information and referrals, culturally specific services, population specific services, and other related supportive services.

''(45) YOUTH.—The term 'youth' means a person who is 11 to 24 years old.''.

(b) GRANTS CONDITIONS.—Subsection (b) of section 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:

''(i) disclose, reveal, or release any personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied through grantees' and subgrantees' programs, regardless of whether the information has been encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected; or

''(ii) disclose, reveal, or release individual client information without the informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person (or in the case of an unemancipated minor, the minor and the parent or guardian or in the case of legal incapacity, a court-appointed guardian) about whom information is sought, whether for this program or any other Federal, State, tribal, or territorial grant program, except that consent for release may not be given by the abuser of the minor, incapacitated person, or the abuser of the other parent of the minor.

If a minor or a person with a legally appointed guardian is permitted by law to receive services without the parent's or guardian's consent, the minor or person with a guardian may release information without additional consent.'';

(B) by amending subparagraph (D), to read as follows:

''(D) INFORMATION SHARING.—

''(i) Grantees and subgrantees may share—

''(I) nonpersonally identifying data in the aggregate regarding services to their clients and nonpersonally identifying demographic information in order to comply with Federal, State, tribal, or territorial reporting, evaluation, or data collection requirements;

''(II) court-generated information and law enforcement-generated information contained in secure, governmental registries for protection order enforcement purposes; and

''(III) law enforcement-generated and prosecution-generated information necessary for law enforcement and prosecution purposes.

''(ii) In no circumstances may—

''(I) an adult, youth, or child victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking be required to provide a consent to release his or her personally identifying information as a condition of eligibility for the services provided by the grantee or subgrantee;

''(II) any personally identifying information be shared in order to comply with Federal, tribal, or State reporting, evaluation, or data collection requirements, whether for this program or any other Federal, tribal, or State grant program.'';

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F);

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

''(E) STATUTORILY MANDATED REPORTS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT.—Nothing in this section prohibits a grantee or subgrantee from reporting suspected abuse or neglect, as those terms are defined and specifically mandated by the State or tribe involved.''; and

(E) by inserting after subparagraph (F), as redesignated, the following:

''(G) CONFIDENTIALITY ASSESSMENT AND ASSURANCES.—Grantees and subgrantees must document their compliance with the confidentiality and privacy provisions required under this section.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) APPROVED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the activities under this title, grantees and subgrantees may collaborate with or provide information to Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial public officials and agencies to develop and implement policies and develop and promote State, local, or tribal legislation or model codes designed to reduce or eliminate domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.'';

(3) in paragraph (7), by inserting at the end the following:

''Final reports of such evaluations shall be made available to the public via the agency's website.''; and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

''(12) DELIVERY OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE.—Any grantee or subgrantee providing legal assistance with funds awarded under this title shall comply with the eligibility requirements in section 1201(d) of the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–6(d)).

''(13) CIVIL RIGHTS.—

''(A) NONDISCRIMINATION.—No person in the United States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity (as defined in paragraph 249(c)(4) of title 18, United States Code), sexual orientation, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (title IV of Public Law 103–322; 108 Stat. 1902), the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (division B of Public Law 106–386; 114 Stat. 1491), the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (title IX of Public Law 109–162; 119 Stat. 3080), the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, and any other program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated for grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance administered by the Office on Violence Against Women.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—If sex segregation or sex-specific programming is necessary to the essential operation of a program, nothing in this paragraph shall prevent any such program or activity from consideration of an individual's sex. In such circumstances, grantees may meet the requirements of this paragraph by providing comparable services to individuals who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming.

''(C) DISCRIMINATION.—The authority of the Attorney General and the Office of Justice Programs to enforce this paragraph shall be the same as it is under section 3789d of title 42, United States Code.

''(D) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing contained in this paragraph shall be construed, interpreted, or applied to supplant, displace, preempt, or otherwise diminish the responsibilities and liabilities under other State or Federal civil rights law, whether statutory or common.

''(14) CLARIFICATION OF VICTIM SERVICES AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE.—Victim services and

legal assistance under this title also include services and assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are also victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons as defined by section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

''(15) CONFERRAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office on Violence Against Women shall establish a biennial conferral process with State and tribal coalitions and technical assistance providers who receive funding through grants administered by the Office on Violence Against Women and authorized by this Act, and other key stakeholders.

''(B) AREAS COVERED.—The areas of conferral under this paragraph shall include—

''(i) the administration of grants;

''(ii) unmet needs;

''(iii) promising practices in the field; and

''(iv) emerging trends.

''(C) INITIAL CONFERRAL.—The first conferral shall be initiated not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

''(D) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the conclusion of each conferral period, the Office on Violence Against Women shall publish a comprehensive report that—

''(i) summarizes the issues presented during conferral and what, if any, policies it intends to implement to address those issues;

''(ii) is made available to the public on the Office on Violence Against Women's website and submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

''(16) ACCOUNTABILITY.—All grants awarded by the Attorney General under this Act shall be subject to the following accountability provisions:

''(A) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this Act to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

''(ii) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term 'unresolved audit finding' means a finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the audited grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within 12 months from the date when the final audit report is issued.

''(iii) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this Act that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this Act during the following 2 fiscal years.

''(iv) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this Act, the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible entities that did not have an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal years prior to submitting an application for a grant under this Act.

''(v) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this Act during the 2-fiscal-year period in which the entity is barred from receiving grants under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall—

''(I) deposit an amount equal to the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

''(II) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

''(B) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph and the grant programs described in this Act, the term 'nonprofit organization' means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

''(ii) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General may not award a grant under any grant program described in this Act to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(iii) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under a grant program described in this Act and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subsection available for public inspection.

''(C) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

''(i) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this Act may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or organization awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this Act, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than $20,000 in Department funds, unless the Deputy Attorney General or such Assistant Attorney Generals, Directors, or principal deputies as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

''(ii) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under clause (i) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food and beverages, audiovisual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and any entertainment.

''(iii) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all approved conference expenditures referenced in this paragraph.

''(D) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, an annual certification that—

''(i) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General under paragraph (1) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

''(ii) all mandatory exclusions required under subparagraph (A)(iii) have been issued;

''(iii) all reimbursements required under subparagraph (A)(v) have been made; and

''(iv) includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under subparagraph (A) from the previous year.''.

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, the provisions of titles I, II, III, IV, VII, and sections 3, 602, 901, and 902 of this Act shall not take effect until the beginning of the fiscal year following the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE I—ENHANCING JUDICIAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TOOLS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

SEC. 101. STOP GRANTS.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 1001(a)(18) (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(18)), by striking ''$225,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$222,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018'';

(2) in section 2001(b) (42 U.S.C. 3796gg(b))—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''equipment'' and inserting ''resources''; and

(ii) by inserting ''for the protection and safety of victims,'' after ''women,'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''sexual assault'' and all that follows through ''dating violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the appropriate use of nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a))'';

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''sexual assault and domestic violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''sexual assault and domestic violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims'';

(E) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''sexual assault and domestic violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking''; and

(ii) by inserting '', classifying,'' after ''identifying'';

(F) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by inserting ''and legal assistance'' after ''victim services'';

(ii) by striking ''domestic violence and dating violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking''; and

(iii) by striking ''sexual assault and domestic violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking'';

(G) by striking paragraph (6) and redesignating paragraphs (7) through (14) as paragraphs (6) through (13), respectively;

(H) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by subparagraph (G), by striking ''sexual assault and domestic violence'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking'';

(I) in paragraph (7), as redesignated by subparagraph (G), by striking ''and dating violence'' and inserting ''dating violence, and stalking'';

(J) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by subparagraph (G), by striking ''domestic violence or sexual assault'' and inserting '' domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking'';

(K) in paragraph (12), as redesignated by subparagraph (G)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''triage protocols to ensure that dangerous or potentially lethal cases are identified and prioritized'' and inserting ''the use of evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide and prioritize dangerous or potentially lethal cases''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(L) in paragraph (13), as redesignated by subparagraph (G)—

(i) by striking ''to provide'' and inserting ''providing'';

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit nongovernmental'';

(iii) by striking the comma after ''local governments'';

(iv) in the matter following subparagraph (C), by striking ''paragraph (14)'' and inserting ''paragraph (13)''; and

(v) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(M) by inserting after paragraph (13), as redesignated by subparagraph (G), the following:

''(14) developing and promoting State, local, or tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

''(15) developing, implementing, or enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, or other similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault;

''(16) developing and strengthening policies, protocols, best practices, and training for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims;

''(17) developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional and detention settings;

''(18) identifying and conducting inventories of backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and developing protocols and policies for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims;

''(19) developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses targeting male and female victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity, as defined in section 249(c) of title 18, United States Code; and

''(20) developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, with not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated to a State to be used for this purpose.'';

(3) in section 2007 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–1)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''nonprofit nongovernmental victim service programs'' and inserting ''victim service providers'';

(B) in subsection (b)(6), by striking ''(not including populations of Indian tribes)'';

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) grantees and subgrantees shall develop a plan for implementation and shall consult and coordinate with—

''(A) the State sexual assault coalition;

''(B) the State domestic violence coalition;

''(C) the law enforcement entities within the State;

''(D) prosecution offices;

''(E) State and local courts;

''(F) Tribal governments in those States with State or federally recognized Indian tribes;

''(G) representatives from underserved populations, including culturally specific populations;

''(H) victim service providers;

''(I) population specific organizations; and

''(J) other entities that the State or the Attorney General identifies as needed for the planning process;'';

(ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (2), as amended by clause (i), the following:

''(3) grantees shall coordinate the State implementation plan described in paragraph (2) with the State plans described in section 307 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10407) and the programs described in section 1404 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10603) and section 393A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b–1b).'';

(iv) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by clause (ii)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and not less than 25 percent shall be allocated for prosecutors'';

(II) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D);

(III) by inserting after subparagraph (A), the following:

''(B) not less than 25 percent shall be allocated for prosecutors;''; and

(IV) in subparagraph (D) as redesignated by subclause (II) by striking ''for'' and inserting ''to''; and

(v) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter, not less than 20 percent of the total amount granted to a State under this subchapter shall be allocated for programs or projects in 2 or more allocations listed in paragraph (4) that meaningfully address sexual assault, including stranger rape, acquaintance rape, alcohol or drug-facilitated rape, and rape within the context of an intimate partner relationship.'';

(D) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An application for a grant under this section shall include—

''(1) the certifications of qualification required under subsection (c);

''(2) proof of compliance with the requirements for the payment of forensic medical exams and judicial notification, described in section 2010;

''(3) proof of compliance with the requirements for paying fees and costs relating to domestic violence and protection order cases, described in section 2011 of this title;

''(4) proof of compliance with the requirements prohibiting polygraph examinations of victims of sexual assault, described in section 2013 of this title;

''(5) an implementation plan required under subsection (i); and

''(6) any other documentation that the Attorney General may require.'';

(E) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''domestic violence and sexual assault'' and inserting ''domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking''; and

(II) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''linguistically and''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) CONDITIONS.—In disbursing grants under this part, the Attorney General may impose reasonable conditions on grant awards to ensure that the States meet statutory, regulatory, and other program requirements.'';

(F) in subsection (f), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', except that, for purposes of this subsection, the costs of the projects for victim services or tribes for which there is an exemption under section 40002(b)(1) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(b)(1)) shall not count toward the total costs of the projects.''; and

(G) by adding at the end the following:

''(i) IMPLEMENTATION PLANS.—A State applying for a grant under this part shall—

''(1) develop an implementation plan in consultation with the entities listed in subsection (c)(2), that identifies how the State will use the funds awarded under this part, including how the State will meet the requirements of subsection (c)(5); and

''(2) submit to the Attorney General—

''(A) the implementation plan developed under paragraph (1);

''(B) documentation from each member of the planning committee as to their participation in the planning process;

''(C) documentation from the prosecution, law enforcement, court, and victim services programs to be assisted, describing—

''(i) the need for the grant funds;

''(ii) the intended use of the grant funds;

''(iii) the expected result of the grant funds; and

''(iv) the demographic characteristics of the populations to be served, including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background;

''(D) a description of how the State will ensure that any subgrantees will consult with victim service providers during the course of developing their grant applications in order to ensure that the proposed activities are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims;

''(E) demographic data on the distribution of underserved populations within the State and a description of how the State will meet the needs of underserved populations, including the minimum allocation for population specific services required under subsection (c)(4)(C);

''(F) a description of how the State plans to meet the regulations issued pursuant to subsection (e)(2);

''(G) goals and objectives for reducing domestic violence-related homicides within the State; and

''(H) any other information requested by the Attorney General.

''(j) REALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—A State may use any returned or remaining funds for any authorized purpose under this part if—

''(1) funds from a subgrant awarded under this part are returned to the State; or

''(2) the State does not receive sufficient eligible applications to award the full funding within the allocations in subsection (c)(4)'';

(4) in section 2010 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–4)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State, Indian tribal government, or unit of local government shall not be entitled to funds under this subchapter unless the State, Indian tribal government, unit of local government, or another governmental entity—

''(A) incurs the full out-of-pocket cost of forensic medical exams described in subsection (b) for victims of sexual assault; and

''(B) coordinates with health care providers in the region to notify victims of sexual assault of the availability of rape exams at no cost to the victims.'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''or'' after the semicolon;

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; or'' and inserting a period; and

(iii) by striking paragraph (3); and

(C) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

''(d) NONCOOPERATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be in compliance with this section, a State, Indian tribal government, or unit of local government shall comply with subsection (b) without regard to whether the victim participates in the criminal justice system or cooperates with law enforcement.

''(2) COMPLIANCE PERIOD.—States, territories, and Indian tribal governments shall have 3 years from the date of enactment of this Act to come into compliance with this section.''; and

(5) in section 2011(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–5(a)(1))—

(A) by inserting ''modification, enforcement, dismissal, withdrawal'' after ''registration,'' each place it appears;

(B) by inserting '', dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking'' after ''felony domestic violence''; and

(C) by striking ''victim of domestic violence'' and all that follows through ''sexual assault'' and inserting ''victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking''.

SEC. 102. GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICIES AND ENFORCEMENT OF PROTECTION ORDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part U of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796hh et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2101 (42 U.S.C. 3796hh)—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''States,'' and all that follows through ''units of local government'' and inserting ''grantees'';

(ii) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and enforcement of protection orders across State and tribal lines'' before the period;

(iii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and training in police departments to improve tracking of cases'' and inserting ''data collection systems, and training in police departments to improve tracking of cases and classification of complaints'';

(iv) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''and provide the appropriate training and education about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking'' after ''computer tracking systems'';

(v) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''and other victim services'' after ''legal advocacy service programs'';

(vi) in paragraph (6), by striking ''judges'' and inserting ''Federal, State, tribal, territorial, and local judges, courts, and court-based and court-related personnel'';

(vii) in paragraph (8), by striking ''and sexual assault'' and inserting ''dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking'';

(viii) in paragraph (10), by striking ''nonprofit, non-governmental victim services organizations,'' and inserting ''victim service providers, staff from population specific organizations,''; and

(ix) by adding at the end the following:

''(14) To develop and implement training programs for prosecutors and other prosecution-related personnel regarding best practices to ensure offender accountability, victim safety, and victim consultation in cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

''(15) To develop or strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against immigrant victims, including the appropriate use of applications for nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)).

''(16) To develop and promote State, local, or tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the appropriate treatment of victims.

''(17) To develop, implement, or enhance sexual assault nurse examiner programs or sexual assault forensic examiner programs, including the hiring and training of such examiners.

''(18) To develop, implement, or enhance Sexual Assault Response Teams or similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.

''(19) To develop and strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors regarding the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.

''(20) To provide human immunodeficiency virus testing programs, counseling, and prophylaxis for victims of sexual assault.

''(21) To identify and inventory backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and to develop protocols for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including policies and protocols for notifying and involving victims.

''(22) To develop multidisciplinary high-risk teams focusing on reducing domestic violence and dating violence homicides by—

''(A) using evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of homicide and link high-risk victims to immediate crisis intervention services;

''(B) identifying and managing high-risk offenders; and

''(C) providing ongoing victim advocacy and referrals to comprehensive services including legal, housing, health care, and economic assistance.'';

(B) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ''except for a court,'' before ''certify''; and

(II) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), and adjusting the margin accordingly;

(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''except for a court,'' before ''demonstrate'';

(iii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) by striking ''spouses'' each place it appears and inserting ''parties''; and

(II) by striking ''spouse'' and inserting ''party'';

(iv) in paragraph (4)—

(I) by inserting '', dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking'' after ''felony domestic violence'';

(II) by inserting ''modification, enforcement, dismissal,'' after ''registration,'' each place it appears;

(III) by inserting ''dating violence,'' after ''victim of domestic violence,''; and

(IV) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(v) in paragraph (5)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking '', not later than 3 years after January 5, 2006'';

(II) by inserting '', trial of, or sentencing for'' after ''investigation of'' each place it appears;

(III) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), and adjusting the margin accordingly;

(IV) in clause (ii), as redesignated by subclause (III) of this clause, by striking ''subparagraph (A)'' and inserting ''clause (i)''; and

(V) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(vi) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5), as amended by this subparagraph, as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively;

(vii) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), as redesignated by clause (v) of this subparagraph—

(I) by striking the comma that immediately follows another comma; and

(II) by striking ''grantees are States'' and inserting the following: ''grantees are—

''(1) States''; and

(viii) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) a State, tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition or a victim service provider that partners with a State, Indian tribal government, or unit of local government that certifies that the State, Indian tribal government, or unit of local government meets the requirements under paragraph (1).'';

(C) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting '', policy,'' after ''law''; and

(II) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and the defendant is in custody or has been served with the information or indictment'' before the semicolon; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''it'' and inserting ''its''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) ALLOCATION FOR TRIBAL COALITIONS.—Of the amounts appropriated for purposes of this part for each fiscal year, not less than 5 percent shall be available for grants under section 2001 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg).

''(g) ALLOCATION FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT.—Of the amounts appropriated for purposes of this part for each fiscal year, not less than 25 percent shall be available for projects that address sexual assault, including stranger rape, acquaintance rape, alcohol or drug-facilitated rape, and rape within the context of an intimate partner relationship.''; and

(2) in section 2102(a) (42 U.S.C. 3796hh–1(a))—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''court,'' after ''tribal government,''; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''nonprofit, private sexual assault and domestic violence programs'' and inserting ''victim service providers and, as appropriate, population specific organizations''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1001(a)(19) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(19)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$75,000,000'' and all that follows through ''2011.'' and inserting ''$73,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''; and

(2) by striking the period that immediately follows another period.

SEC. 103. LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS.

Section 1201 of the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–6) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''arising as a consequence of'' and inserting ''relating to or arising out of''; and

(B) in the second sentence, by inserting ''or arising out of'' after ''relating to'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by inserting ''AND GRANT CONDITIONS'' after ''DEFINITIONS''; and

(B) by inserting ''and grant conditions'' after ''definitions'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''victims services organizations'' and inserting ''victim service providers''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) to implement, expand, and establish efforts and projects to provide competent, supervised pro bono legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, except that not more than 10 percent of the funds awarded under this section may be used for the purpose described in this paragraph.'';

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''this section has completed'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''this section—''

''(A) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or

''(B)(i) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''stalking organization'' and inserting ''stalking victim service provider''; and

(5) in subsection (f) in paragraph (1), by striking ''this section'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''this section $57,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

SEC. 104. CONSOLIDATION OF GRANTS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386; 114 Stat. 1509) is amended by striking the section preceding section 1302 (42 U.S.C. 10420), as amended by section 306 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162; 119 Stat. 316), and inserting the following:

''SEC. 1301. GRANTS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to States, units of local government, courts (including juvenile courts), Indian tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, legal services providers, and victim services providers to improve the response of all aspects of the civil and criminal justice system to families with a history of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or in cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant under this section may be used to—

''(1) provide supervised visitation and safe visitation exchange of children and youth by and between parents in situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, or stalking;

''(2) develop and promote State, local, and tribal legislation, policies, and best practices for improving civil and criminal court functions, responses, practices, and procedures in cases involving a history of domestic violence or sexual assault, or in cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse, including cases in which the victim proceeds pro se;

''(3) educate court-based and court-related personnel and court-appointed personnel (including custody evaluators and guardians ad litem) and child protective services workers on the dynamics of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including information on perpetrator behavior, evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide, and on issues relating to the needs of victims, including safety, security, privacy, and confidentiality, including cases in which the victim proceeds pro se;

''(4) provide appropriate resources in juvenile court matters to respond to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault (including child sexual abuse), and stalking and ensure necessary services dealing with the health and mental health of victims are available;

''(5) enable courts or court-based or court-related programs to develop or enhance—

''(A) court infrastructure (such as specialized courts, consolidated courts, dockets, intake centers, or interpreter services);

''(B) community-based initiatives within the court system (such as court watch programs, victim assistants, pro se victim assistance programs, or community-based supplementary services);

''(C) offender management, monitoring, and accountability programs;

''(D) safe and confidential information-storage and information-sharing databases within and between court systems;

''(E) education and outreach programs to improve community access, including enhanced access for underserved populations; and

''(F) other projects likely to improve court responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

''(6) provide civil legal assistance and advocacy services, including legal information and resources in cases in which the victim proceeds pro se, to—

''(A) victims of domestic violence; and

''(B) nonoffending parents in matters—

''(i) that involve allegations of child sexual abuse;

''(ii) that relate to family matters, including civil protection orders, custody, and divorce; and

''(iii) in which the other parent is represented by counsel;

''(7) collect data and provide training and technical assistance, including developing State, local, and tribal model codes and policies, to improve the capacity of grantees and communities to address the civil justice needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who have legal representation, who are proceeding pro se, or who are proceeding with the assistance of a legal advocate; and

''(8) to improve training and education to assist judges, judicial personnel, attorneys, child welfare personnel, and legal advocates in the civil justice system.

''(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In making grants for purposes described in paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b), the Attorney General shall consider—

''(A) the number of families to be served by the proposed programs and services;

''(B) the extent to which the proposed programs and services serve underserved populations;

''(C) the extent to which the applicant demonstrates cooperation and collaboration with nonprofit, nongovernmental entities in the local community with demonstrated histories of effective work on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including State or tribal domestic violence coalitions, State or tribal sexual assault coalitions, local shelters, and programs for domestic violence and sexual assault victims; and

''(D) the extent to which the applicant demonstrates coordination and collaboration with State, tribal, and local court systems, including mechanisms for communication and referral.

''(2) OTHER GRANTS.—In making grants under subsection (b)(8) the Attorney General shall take into account the extent to which the grantee has expertise addressing the judicial system's handling of family violence, child custody, child abuse and neglect, adoption, foster care, supervised visitation, divorce, and parentage.

''(d) APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS.—The Attorney General may make a grant under this section to an applicant that—

''(1) demonstrates expertise in the areas of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or child sexual abuse, as appropriate;

''(2) ensures that any fees charged to individuals for use of supervised visitation programs and services are based on the income of those individuals, unless otherwise provided by court order;

''(3) for a court-based program, certifies that victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are not charged fees or any other costs related to the filing, petitioning, modifying, issuance, registration, enforcement, withdrawal, or dismissal of matters relating to the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;

''(4) demonstrates that adequate security measures, including adequate facilities, procedures, and personnel capable of preventing violence, and adequate standards are, or will be, in place (including the development of protocols or policies to ensure that confidential information is not shared with courts, law enforcement agencies, or child welfare agencies unless necessary to ensure the safety of any child or adult using the services of a program funded under this section), if the applicant proposes to operate supervised visitation programs and services or safe visitation exchange;

''(5) certifies that the organizational policies of the applicant do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims being physically present in the same place, in cases where domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking is alleged;

''(6) certifies that any person providing legal assistance through a program funded under this section has completed or will complete training on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including child sexual abuse, and related legal issues; and

''(7) certifies that any person providing custody evaluation or guardian ad litem services through a program funded under this section has completed or will complete training developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, State, territorial, or local domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victim service provider or coalition on the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault, including child sexual abuse, that includes training on how to review evidence of past abuse and the use of evidenced-based theories to make recommendations on custody and visitation.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $22,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018. Amounts appropriated pursuant to this subsection shall remain available until expended.

''(f) ALLOTMENT FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 10 percent of the total amount available under this section for each fiscal year shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 3796gg–10 of this title.

''(2) APPLICABILITY OF PART.—The requirements of this section shall not apply to funds allocated for the program described in paragraph (1).''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subtitle J of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043 et seq.) is repealed.

SEC. 105. SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT.

Section 40152(c) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13941) is amended by striking ''$5,000,000'' and all that follows and inserting ''$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

SEC. 106. COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM.

Subtitle B of title II of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13011 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 216 (42 U.S.C. 13012), by striking ''January 1, 2010'' and inserting ''January 1, 2015'';

(2) in section 217 (42 U.S.C. 13013)—

(A) by striking ''Code of Ethics'' in section (c)(2) and inserting ''Standards for Programs''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) REPORTING.—An organization that receives a grant under this section for a fiscal

year shall submit to the Administrator a report regarding the use of the grant for the fiscal year, including a discussion of outcome performance measures (which shall be established by the Administrator) to determine the effectiveness of the programs of the organization in meeting the needs of children in the child welfare system.''; and

(3) in section 219(a) (42 U.S.C. 13014(a)), by striking ''fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 107. CRIMINAL PROVISION RELATING TO STALKING, INCLUDING CYBERSTALKING.

(a) INTERSTATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—Section 2261(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''is present'' after ''Indian Country or''; and

(2) by inserting ''or presence'' after ''as a result of such travel'';

(b) STALKING.—Section 2261A of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 2261A. Stalking

''Whoever—

''(1) travels in interstate or foreign commerce or is present within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or enters or leaves Indian country, with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate, or place under surveillance with intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person, and in the course of, or as a result of, such travel or presence engages in conduct that—

''(A) places that person in reasonable fear of the death of, or serious bodily injury to—

''(i) that person;

''(ii) an immediate family member (as defined in section 115) of that person; or

''(iii) a spouse or intimate partner of that person; or

''(B) causes, attempts to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause substantial emotional distress to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A); or

''(2) with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate, or place under surveillance with intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person, uses the mail, any interactive computer service or electronic communication service or electronic communication system of interstate commerce, or any other facility of interstate or foreign commerce to engage in a course of conduct that—

''(A) places that person in reasonable fear of the death of or serious bodily injury to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (1)(A); or

''(B) causes, attempts to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause substantial emotional distress to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (1)(A),

shall be punished as provided in section 2261(b) of this title.''.

(c) INTERSTATE VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER.—Section 2262(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''is present'' after ''Indian Country or''.

SEC. 108. OUTREACH AND SERVICES TO UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS GRANT.

Section 120 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14045) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 120. GRANTS FOR OUTREACH AND SERVICES TO UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts appropriated under the grant programs identified in paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall take 2 percent of such appropriated amounts and combine them to award grants to eligible entities described in subsection (b) of this section to develop and implement outreach strategies targeted at adult or youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in underserved populations and to provide victim services to meet the needs of adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in underserved populations. The requirements of the grant programs identified in paragraph (2) shall not apply to this grant program.

''(2) PROGRAMS COVERED.—The programs covered by paragraph (1) are the programs carried out under the following provisions:

''(A) Section 2001 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women).

''(B) Section 2101 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program).

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Eligible entities under this section are—

''(1) population specific organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in providing population specific services in the relevant underserved communities, or population specific organizations working in partnership with a victim service provider or domestic violence or sexual assault coalition;

''(2) victim service providers offering population specific services for a specific underserved population; or

''(3) victim service providers working in partnership with a national, State, tribal, or local organization that has demonstrated experience and expertise in providing population specific services in the relevant underserved population.

''(c) PLANNING GRANTS.—The Attorney General may use up to 25 percent of funds available under this section to make one-time planning grants to eligible entities to support the planning and development of specially designed and targeted programs for adult and youth victims in one or more underserved populations, including—

''(1) identifying, building and strengthening partnerships with potential collaborators within underserved populations, Federal, State, tribal, territorial or local government entities, and public and private organizations;

''(2) conducting a needs assessment of the community and the targeted underserved population or populations to determine what the barriers are to service access and what factors contribute to those barriers, using input from the targeted underserved population or populations;

''(3) identifying promising prevention, outreach and intervention strategies for victims from a targeted underserved population or populations; and

''(4) developing a plan, with the input of the targeted underserved population or populations, for implementing prevention, outreach and intervention strategies to address the barriers to accessing services, promoting community engagement in the prevention of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking within the targeted underserved populations, and evaluating the program.

''(d) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The Attorney General shall make grants to eligible entities for the purpose of providing or enhancing population specific outreach and services to adult and youth victims in one or more underserved populations, including—

''(1) working with Federal, State, tribal, territorial and local governments, agencies, and organizations to develop or enhance population specific services;

''(2) strengthening the capacity of underserved populations to provide population specific services;

''(3) strengthening the capacity of traditional victim service providers to provide population specific services;

''(4) strengthening the effectiveness of criminal and civil justice interventions by providing training for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and other court personnel on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in underserved populations; or

''(5) working in cooperation with an underserved population to develop and implement outreach, education, prevention, and intervention strategies that highlight available resources and the specific issues faced by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking from underserved populations.

''(e) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Director of the Office on Violence Against Women at such time, in such form, and in such manner as the Director may prescribe.

''(f) REPORTS.—Each eligible entity receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Director of the Office on Violence Against Women a report that describes the activities carried out with grant funds.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to the funds identified in subsection (a)(1), there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.

''(h) DEFINITIONS AND GRANT CONDITIONS.—In this section the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925) shall apply.''.

SEC. 109. CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES GRANT.

Section 121 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14045a) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**AND LINGUISTICALLY**'';

(2) by striking ''and linguistically'' each place it appears;

(3) by striking ''and linguistic'' each place it appears;

(4) by striking subsection (a)(2) and inserting:

''(2) PROGRAMS COVERED.—The programs covered by paragraph (1) are the programs carried out under the following provisions:

''(A) Section 2101 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders).

''(B) Section 14201 of division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–6) (Legal Assistance for Victims).

''(C) Section 40295 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13971) (Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance).

''(D) Section 40802 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14041a) (Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against Women Later in Life).

''(E) Section 1402 of division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–7) (Education, Training, and Enhanced Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities).''; and

(5) in subsection (g), by striking ''linguistic and''.

TITLE II—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

SEC. 201. SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM.

(a) GRANTS TO STATES AND TERRITORIES.—Section 41601(b) of the Violence Against

Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043g(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''other programs'' and all that follows and inserting ''other nongovernmental or tribal programs and projects to assist individuals who have been victimized by sexual assault, without regard to the age of the individual.'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''or tribal programs and activities'' after ''nongovernmental organizations''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(v), by striking ''linguistically and''; and

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''(including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico)'' after ''The Attorney General shall allocate to each State'';

(B) by striking ''the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,'' after ''Guam'';

(C) by striking ''0.125 percent'' and inserting ''0.25 percent''; and

(D) by striking ''The District of Columbia shall be treated as a territory for purposes of calculating its allocation under the preceding formula.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 41601(f)(1) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043g(f)(1)) is amended by striking ''$50,000,000 to remain available until expended for each of the fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$40,000,000 to remain available until expended for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 202. RURAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING, AND CHILD ABUSE ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.

Section 40295 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13971) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(H), by inserting '', including sexual assault forensic examiners'' before the semicolon;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''victim advocacy groups'' and inserting ''victim service providers''; and

(ii) by inserting '', including developing multidisciplinary teams focusing on high risk cases with the goal of preventing domestic and dating violence homicides'' before the semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''and other long- and short-term assistance'' and inserting ''legal assistance, and other long-term and short-term victim and population specific services''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault, including sexual assault forensic examiner programs, Sexual Assault Response Teams, law enforcement training, and programs addressing rape kit backlogs.

''(5) developing programs and strategies that focus on the specific needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who reside in remote rural and geographically isolated areas, including addressing the challenges posed by the lack of access to shelters and victims services, and limited law enforcement resources and training, and providing training and resources to Community Health Aides involved in the delivery of Indian Health Service programs.''; and

(3) in subsection (e)(1), by striking ''$55,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 203. TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES GRANTS.

Section 1402 of division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–7) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''(including using evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide)'' after ''risk reduction'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''victim service organizations'' and inserting ''victim service providers''; and

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking ''victim services organizations'' and inserting ''victim service providers'';

(2) in subsection (c)(1)(D), by striking ''nonprofit and nongovernmental victim services organization, such as a State'' and inserting ''victim service provider, such as a State or tribal''; and

(3) in subsection (e), by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 204. ENHANCED TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END ABUSE IN LATER LIFE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14041 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

''Subtitle H—Enhanced Training and Services To End Abuse Later in Life

''SEC. 40801. ENHANCED TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END ABUSE IN LATER LIFE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

''(1) the term 'exploitation' has the meaning given the term in section 2011 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397j);

''(2) the term 'later life', relating to an individual, means the individual is 50 years of age or older; and

''(3) the term 'neglect' means the failure of a caregiver or fiduciary to provide the goods or services that are necessary to maintain the health or safety of an individual in later life.

''(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—

''(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General may make grants to eligible entities to carry out the activities described in paragraph (2).

''(2) MANDATORY AND PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) MANDATORY ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity receiving a grant under this section shall use the funds received under the grant to—

''(i) provide training programs to assist law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, agencies of States or units of local government, population specific organizations, victim service providers, victim advocates, and relevant officers in Federal, tribal, State, territorial, and local courts in recognizing and addressing instances of elder abuse;

''(ii) provide or enhance services for victims of abuse in later life, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, exploitation, and neglect;

''(iii) establish or support multidisciplinary collaborative community responses to victims of abuse in later life, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, exploitation, and neglect; and

''(iv) conduct cross-training for law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, agencies of States or units of local government, attorneys, health care providers, population specific organizations, faith-based advocates, victim service providers, and courts to better serve victims of abuse in later life, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, exploitation, and neglect.

''(B) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity receiving a grant under this section may use the funds received under the grant to—

''(i) provide training programs to assist attorneys, health care providers, faith-based leaders, or other community-based organizations in recognizing and addressing instances of abuse in later life, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, exploitation, and neglect; or

''(ii) conduct outreach activities and awareness campaigns to ensure that victims of abuse in later life, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, exploitation, and neglect receive appropriate assistance.

''(C) WAIVER.—The Attorney General may waive 1 or more of the activities described in subparagraph (A) upon making a determination that the activity would duplicate services available in the community.

''(D) LIMITATION.—An eligible entity receiving a grant under this section may use not more than 10 percent of the total funds received under the grant for an activity described in subparagraph (B)(ii).

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity shall be eligible to receive a grant under this section if—

''(A) the entity is—

''(i) a State;

''(ii) a unit of local government;

''(iii) a tribal government or tribal organization;

''(iv) a population specific organization with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals over 50 years of age;

''(v) a victim service provider with demonstrated experience in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; or

''(vi) a State, tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition; and

''(B) the entity demonstrates that it is part of a multidisciplinary partnership that includes, at a minimum—

''(i) a law enforcement agency;

''(ii) a prosecutor's office;

''(iii) a victim service provider; and

''(iv) a nonprofit program or government agency with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals in later life;

''(4) UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.—In making grants under this section, the Attorney General shall give priority to proposals providing services to culturally specific and underserved populations.

''(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

TITLE III—SERVICES, PROTECTION, AND JUSTICE FOR YOUNG VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

SEC. 301. RAPE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION GRANT.

Section 393A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b–1b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', territorial or tribal'' after ''crisis centers, State''; and

(B) in paragraph (6), by inserting ''and alcohol'' after ''about drugs''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) BASELINE FUNDING FOR STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND PUERTO RICO.—A minimum allocation of $150,000 shall be awarded in each fiscal year for each of the States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. A minimum allocation of $35,000 shall be awarded in each fiscal year for each Territory. Any unused or remaining funds shall be

allotted to each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico on the basis of population.''.

SEC. 302. CREATING HOPE THROUGH OUTREACH, OPTIONS, SERVICES, AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

Subtitle L of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 is amended by striking sections 41201 through 41204 (42 U.S.C. 14043c through 14043c–3) and inserting the following:

''SEC. 41201. CREATING HOPE THROUGH OUTREACH, OPTIONS, SERVICES, AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH ('CHOOSE CHILDREN & YOUTH').

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General, working in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education, shall award grants to enhance the safety of youth and children who are victims of, or exposed to, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking and prevent future violence.

''(b) PROGRAM PURPOSES.—Funds provided under this section may be used for the following program purpose areas:

''(1) SERVICES TO ADVOCATE FOR AND RESPOND TO YOUTH.—To develop, expand, and strengthen victim-centered interventions and services that target youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking. Services may include victim services, counseling, advocacy, mentoring, educational support, transportation, legal assistance in civil, criminal and administrative matters, such as family law cases, housing cases, child welfare proceedings, campus administrative proceedings, and civil protection order proceedings, population-specific services, and other activities that support youth in finding safety, stability, and justice and in addressing the emotional, cognitive, and physical effects of trauma. Funds may be used to—

''(A) assess and analyze currently available services for youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, determining relevant barriers to such services in a particular locality, and developing a community protocol to address such problems collaboratively;

''(B) develop and implement policies, practices, and procedures to effectively respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking against youth; or

''(C) provide technical assistance and training to enhance the ability of school personnel, victim service providers, child protective service workers, staff of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, court personnel, individuals who work in after school programs, medical personnel, social workers, mental health personnel, and workers in other programs that serve children and youth to improve their ability to appropriately respond to the needs of children and youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, and to properly refer such children, youth, and their families to appropriate services.

''(2) SUPPORTING YOUTH THROUGH EDUCATION AND PROTECTION.—To enable middle schools, high schools, and institutions of higher education to—

''(A) provide training to school personnel, including healthcare providers and security personnel, on the needs of students who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking;

''(B) develop and implement prevention and intervention policies in middle and high schools, including appropriate responses to, and identification and referral procedures for, students who are experiencing or perpetrating domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking, and procedures for handling the requirements of court protective orders issued to or against students;

''(C) provide support services for student victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking, such as a resource person who is either on-site or on-call;

''(D) implement developmentally appropriate educational programming for students regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking and the impact of such violence on youth; or

''(E) develop strategies to increase identification, support, referrals, and prevention programming for youth who are at high risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking.

''(c) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

''(A) a victim service provider, tribal nonprofit, or population-specific or community-based organization with a demonstrated history of effective work addressing the needs of youth who are, including runaway or homeless youth affected by, victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking;

''(B) a victim service provider that is partnered with an entity that has a demonstrated history of effective work addressing the needs of youth; or

''(C) a public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, a school district, or an institution of higher education.

''(2) PARTNERSHIPS.—

''(A) EDUCATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant for the purposes described in subsection (b)(2), an entity described in paragraph (1) shall be partnered with a public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, a school district, or an institution of higher education.

''(B) OTHER PARTNERSHIPS.—All applicants under this section are encouraged to work in partnership with organizations and agencies that work with the relevant population. Such entities may include—

''(i) a State, tribe, unit of local government, or territory;

''(ii) a population specific or community-based organization;

''(iii) batterer intervention programs or sex offender treatment programs with specialized knowledge and experience working with youth offenders; or

''(iv) any other agencies or nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations with the capacity to provide effective assistance to the adult, youth, and child victims served by the partnership.

''(d) GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS.—Applicants for grants under this section shall establish and implement policies, practices, and procedures that—

''(1) require and include appropriate referral systems for child and youth victims;

''(2) protect the confidentiality and privacy of child and youth victim information, particularly in the context of parental or third party involvement and consent, mandatory reporting duties, and working with other service providers all with priority on victim safety and autonomy; and

''(3) ensure that all individuals providing intervention or prevention programming to children or youth through a program funded under this section have completed, or will complete, sufficient training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking.

''(e) DEFINITIONS AND GRANT CONDITIONS.—In this section, the definitions and grant conditions provided for in section 40002 shall apply.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.

''(g) ALLOTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 50 percent of the total amount appropriated under this section for each fiscal year shall be used for the purposes described in subsection (b)(1).

''(2) INDIAN TRIBES.—Not less than 10 percent of the total amount appropriated under this section for each fiscal year shall be made available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. The requirements of this section shall not apply to funds allocated under this paragraph.

''(h) PRIORITY.—The Attorney General shall prioritize grant applications under this section that coordinate with prevention programs in the community.''.

SEC. 303. GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIMES ON CAMPUSES.

Section 304 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14045b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''stalking on campuses, and'' and inserting ''stalking on campuses,'';

(ii) by striking ''crimes against women on'' and inserting ''crimes on''; and

(iii) by inserting '', and to develop and strengthen prevention education and awareness programs'' before the period; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''$500,000'' and inserting ''$300,000'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting '', strengthen,'' after ''To develop''; and

(ii) by inserting ''including the use of technology to commit these crimes,'' after ''sexual assault and stalking,'';

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by inserting ''and population specific services'' after ''strengthen victim services programs'';

(ii) by striking ''entities carrying out'' and all that follows through ''stalking victim services programs'' and inserting ''victim service providers''; and

(iii) by inserting '', regardless of whether the services are provided by the institution or in coordination with community victim service providers'' before the period at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(9) To develop or adapt and provide developmental, culturally appropriate, and linguistically accessible print or electronic materials to address both prevention and intervention in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking.

''(10) To develop or adapt population specific strategies and projects for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from underserved populations on campus.'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''any non-profit'' and all that follows through

''victim services programs'' and inserting ''victim service providers'';

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (F) as subparagraphs (E) through (G), respectively; and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (C), the following:

''(D) describe how underserved populations in the campus community will be adequately served, including the provision of relevant population specific services;''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2018'';

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2), the following:

''(3) GRANTEE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—Each grantee shall comply with the following minimum requirements during the grant period:

''(A) The grantee shall create a coordinated community response including both organizations external to the institution and relevant divisions of the institution.

''(B) The grantee shall establish a mandatory prevention and education program on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking for all incoming students.

''(C) The grantee shall train all campus law enforcement to respond effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

''(D) The grantee shall train all members of campus disciplinary boards to respond effectively to situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.''; and

(5) in subsection (e), by striking ''there are'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''there is authorized to be appropriated $12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

SEC. 304. CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, AND STALKING EDUCATION AND PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 485(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', when the victim of such crime elects or is unable to make such a report.''; and

(B) in subparagraph (F)—

(i) in clause (i)(VIII), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(ii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by striking ''sexual orientation'' and inserting '' national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity,''; and

(II) by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking incidents that were reported to campus security authorities or local police agencies.'';

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting '', that withholds the names of victims as confidential,'' after ''that is timely'';

(3) in paragraph (6)(A)—

(A) by redesignating clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) as clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv), respectively;

(B) by inserting before clause (ii), as redesignated by subparagraph (A), the following:

''(i) The terms 'dating violence', 'domestic violence', and 'stalking' have the meaning given such terms in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a)).''; and

(C) by inserting after clause (iv), as redesignated by subparagraph (A), the following:

''(v) The term 'sexual assault' means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.'';

(4) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by striking ''paragraph (1)(F)'' and inserting ''clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (1)(F)''; and

(B) by inserting after ''Hate Crime Statistics Act.'' the following: ''For the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, such statistics shall be compiled in accordance with the definitions used in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a)).'';

(5) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the following:

''(8)(A) Each institution of higher education participating in any program under this title and title IV of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, other than a foreign institution of higher education, shall develop and distribute as part of the report described in paragraph (1) a statement of policy regarding—

''(i) such institution's programs to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and

''(ii) the procedures that such institution will follow once an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has been reported, including a statement of the standard of evidence that will be used during any institutional conduct proceeding arising from such a report.

''(B) The policy described in subparagraph (A) shall address the following areas:

''(i) Education programs to promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, which shall include—

''(I) primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees, which shall include—

''(aa) a statement that the institution of higher education prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

''(bb) the definition of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in the applicable jurisdiction;

''(cc) the definition of consent, in reference to sexual activity, in the applicable jurisdiction;

''(dd) safe and positive options for bystander intervention that may be carried out by an individual to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against a person other than such individual;

''(ee) information on risk reduction to recognize warning signs of abusive behavior and how to avoid potential attacks; and

''(ff) the information described in clauses (ii) through (vii); and

''(II) ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns for students and faculty, including information described in items (aa) through (ff) of subclause (I).

''(ii) Possible sanctions or protective measures that such institution may impose following a final determination of an institutional disciplinary procedure regarding rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(iii) Procedures victims should follow if a sex offense, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred, including information in writing about—

''(I) the importance of preserving evidence as may be necessary to the proof of criminal domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or in obtaining a protection order;

''(II) to whom the alleged offense should be reported;

''(III) options regarding law enforcement and campus authorities, including notification of the victim's option to—

''(aa) notify proper law enforcement authorities, including on-campus and local police;

''(bb) be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and

''(cc) decline to notify such authorities; and

''(IV) where applicable, the rights of victims and the institution's responsibilities regarding orders of protection, no contact orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court.

''(iv) Procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, which shall include a clear statement that—

''(I) such proceedings shall—

''(aa) provide a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution; and

''(bb) be conducted by officials who receive annual training on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability;

''(II) the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during an institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice; and

''(III) both the accuser and the accused shall be simultaneously informed, in writing, of—

''(aa) the outcome of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;

''(bb) the institution's procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the results of the institutional disciplinary proceeding;

''(cc) of any change to the results that occurs prior to the time that such results become final; and

''(dd) when such results become final.

''(v) Information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims, including how publicly-available recordkeeping will be accomplished without the inclusion of identifying information about the victim, to the extent permissible by law.

''(vi) Written notification of students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services available for victims both on-campus and in the community.

''(vii) Written notification of victims about options for, and available assistance in, changing academic, living, transportation, and working situations, if so requested by the victim and if such accommodations are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement.

''(C) A student or employee who reports to an institution of higher education that the student or employee has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, shall be provided with a written explanation of the student or employee's rights and options, as described in clauses (ii) through (vii) of subparagraph (B).'';

(6) in paragraph (9), by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting ''The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General of the United States,'';

(7) by striking paragraph (16) and inserting the following:

''(16)(A) The Secretary shall seek the advice and counsel of the Attorney General of the United States concerning the development, and dissemination to institutions of higher education, of best practices information about campus safety and emergencies.

''(B) The Secretary shall seek the advice and counsel of the Attorney General of the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services concerning the development, and dissemination to institutions of higher education, of best practices information about preventing and responding to incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including elements of institutional policies that have proven successful based on evidence-based outcome measurements.''; and

(8) by striking paragraph (17) and inserting the following:

''(17) No officer, employee, or agent of an institution participating in any program under this title shall retaliate, intimidate, threaten, coerce, or otherwise discriminate against any individual for exercising their rights or responsibilities under any provision of this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect with respect to the annual security report under section 485(f)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)) prepared by an institution of higher education 1 calendar year after the date of enactment of this Act, and each subsequent calendar year.

TITLE IV—VIOLENCE REDUCTION PRACTICES

SEC. 401. STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION.

Section 402(c) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 280b–4(c)) is amended by striking ''$2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 402. SAVING MONEY AND REDUCING TRAGEDIES THROUGH PREVENTION GRANTS.

(a) SMART PREVENTION.—Section 41303 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043d–2) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 41303. SAVING MONEY AND REDUCING TRAGEDIES THROUGH PREVENTION (SMART PREVENTION).

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education, is authorized to award grants for the purpose of preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by taking a comprehensive approach that focuses on youth, children exposed to violence, and men as leaders and influencers of social norms.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under this section may be used for the following purposes:

''(1) TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION.—To develop, maintain, or enhance programs that change attitudes and behaviors around the acceptability of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and provide education and skills training to young individuals and individuals who influence young individuals. The prevention program may use evidence-based, evidence-informed, or innovative strategies and practices focused on youth. Such a program should include—

''(A) age and developmentally-appropriate education on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sexual coercion, as well as healthy relationship skills, in school, in the community, or in health care settings;

''(B) community-based collaboration and training for those with influence on youth, such as parents, teachers, coaches, healthcare providers, faith-leaders, older teens, and mentors;

''(C) education and outreach to change environmental factors contributing to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and

''(D) policy development targeted to prevention, including school-based policies and protocols.

''(2) CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.—To develop, maintain or enhance programs designed to prevent future incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by preventing, reducing and responding to children's exposure to violence in the home. Such programs may include—

''(A) providing services for children exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, including direct counseling or advocacy, and support for the non-abusing parent; and

''(B) training and coordination for educational, after-school, and childcare programs on how to safely and confidentially identify children and families experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and properly refer children exposed and their families to services and violence prevention programs.

''(3) ENGAGING MEN AS LEADERS AND ROLE MODELS.—To develop, maintain or enhance programs that work with men to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by helping men to serve as role models and social influencers of other men and youth at the individual, school, community or statewide levels.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

''(1) a victim service provider, community-based organization, tribe or tribal organization, or other non-profit, nongovernmental organization that has a history of effective work preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and expertise in the specific area for which they are applying for funds; or

''(2) a partnership between a victim service provider, community-based organization, tribe or tribal organization, or other non-profit, nongovernmental organization that has a history of effective work preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and at least one of the following that has expertise in serving children exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, youth domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking prevention, or engaging men to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking:

''(A) A public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, or a school district.

''(B) A local community-based organization, population-specific organization, or faith-based organization that has established expertise in providing services to youth.

''(C) A community-based organization, population-specific organization, university or health care clinic, faith-based organization, or other non-profit, nongovernmental organization with a demonstrated history of effective work addressing the needs of children exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(D) A nonprofit, nongovernmental entity providing services for runaway or homeless youth affected by domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(E) Healthcare entities eligible for reimbursement under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, including providers that target the special needs of children and youth.

''(F) Any other agencies, population-specific organizations, or nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations with the capacity to provide necessary expertise to meet the goals of the program; or

''(3) a public, charter, tribal, or nationally accredited private middle or high school, a school administered by the Department of Defense under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code or section 1402 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978, a group of schools, a school district, or an institution of higher education.

''(d) GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Applicants for grants under this section shall prepare and submit to the Director an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Director may require that demonstrates the capacity of the applicant and partnering organizations to undertake the project.

''(2) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Applicants under this section shall establish and implement policies, practices, and procedures that—

''(A) include appropriate referral systems to direct any victim identified during program activities to highly qualified follow-up care;

''(B) protect the confidentiality and privacy of adult and youth victim information, particularly in the context of parental or third party involvement and consent, mandatory reporting duties, and working with other service providers;

''(C) ensure that all individuals providing prevention programming through a program funded under this section have completed or will complete sufficient training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking; and

''(D) document how prevention programs are coordinated with service programs in the community.

''(3) PREFERENCE.—In selecting grant recipients under this section, the Attorney General shall give preference to applicants that—

''(A) include outcome-based evaluation; and

''(B) identify any other community, school, or State-based efforts that are working on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking prevention and explain how the grantee or partnership will add value, coordinate with other programs, and not duplicate existing efforts.

''(e) DEFINITIONS AND GRANT CONDITIONS.—In this section, the definitions and grant conditions provided for in section 40002 shall apply.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018. Amounts appropriated under this section may only be used for programs and activities described under this section.

''(g) ALLOTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 25 percent of the total amounts appropriated under this section in each fiscal year shall be used for each set of purposes described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b).

''(2) INDIAN TRIBES.—Not less than 10 percent of the total amounts appropriated under this section in each fiscal year shall be made available for grants to Indian tribes or tribal organizations. If an insufficient number of

applications are received from Indian tribes or tribal organizations, such funds shall be allotted to other population-specific programs.''.

(b) REPEALS.—The following provisions are repealed:

(1) Sections 41304 and 41305 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043d–3 and 14043d–4).

(2) Section 403 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14045c).

TITLE V—STRENGTHENING THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

SEC. 501. CONSOLIDATION OF GRANTS TO STRENGTHEN THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

(a) GRANTS.—Section 399P of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–4) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 399P. GRANTS TO STRENGTHEN THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants for—

''(1) the development or enhancement and implementation of interdisciplinary training for health professionals, public health staff, and allied health professionals;

''(2) the development or enhancement and implementation of education programs for medical, nursing, dental, and other health profession students and residents to prevent and respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and

''(3) the development or enhancement and implementation of comprehensive statewide strategies to improve the response of clinics, public health facilities, hospitals, and other health settings (including behavioral and mental health programs) to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) REQUIRED USES.—Amounts provided under a grant under this section shall be used to—

''(A) fund interdisciplinary training and education programs under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) that—

''(i) are designed to train medical, psychology, dental, social work, nursing, and other health profession students, interns, residents, fellows, or current health care providers to identify and provide health care services (including mental or behavioral health care services and referrals to appropriate community services) to individuals who are or who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and

''(ii) plan and develop culturally competent clinical training components for integration into approved internship, residency, and fellowship training or continuing medical or other health education training that address physical, mental, and behavioral health issues, including protective factors, related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of violence and abuse, focus on reducing health disparities and preventing violence and abuse, and include the primacy of victim safety and confidentiality;

''(B) design and implement comprehensive strategies to improve the response of the health care system to domestic or sexual violence in clinical and public health settings, hospitals, clinics, and other health settings (including behavioral and mental health), under subsection (a)(3) through—

''(i) the implementation, dissemination, and evaluation of policies and procedures to guide health professionals and public health staff in identifying and responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including strategies to ensure that health information is maintained in a manner that protects the patient's privacy and safety, and safely uses health information technology to improve documentation, identification, assessment, treatment, and follow-up care;

''(ii) the development of on-site access to services to address the safety, medical, and mental health needs of patients by increasing the capacity of existing health care professionals and public health staff to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, or by contracting with or hiring domestic or sexual assault advocates to provide such services or to model other services appropriate to the geographic and cultural needs of a site;

''(iii) the development of measures and methods for the evaluation of the practice of identification, intervention, and documentation regarding victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the development and testing of quality improvement measurements, in accordance with the multi-stakeholder and quality measurement processes established under paragraphs (7) and (8) of section 1890(b) and section 1890A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395aaa(b)(7) and (8); 42 U.S.C. 1890A); and

''(iv) the provision of training and follow-up technical assistance to health care professionals, and public health staff, and allied health professionals to identify, assess, treat, and refer clients who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including using tools and training materials already developed.

''(2) PERMISSIBLE USES.—

''(A) CHILD AND ELDER ABUSE.—To the extent consistent with the purpose of this section, a grantee may use amounts received under this section to address, as part of a comprehensive programmatic approach implemented under the grant, issues relating to child or elder abuse.

''(B) RURAL AREAS.—Grants funded under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) may be used to offer to rural areas community-based training opportunities, which may include the use of distance learning networks and other available technologies needed to reach isolated rural areas, for medical, nursing, and other health profession students and residents on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and, as appropriate, other forms of violence and abuse.

''(C) OTHER USES.—Grants funded under subsection (a)(3) may be used for—

''(i) the development of training modules and policies that address the overlap of child abuse, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and elder abuse, as well as childhood exposure to domestic and sexual violence;

''(ii) the development, expansion, and implementation of sexual assault forensic medical examination or sexual assault nurse examiner programs;

''(iii) the inclusion of the health effects of lifetime exposure to violence and abuse as well as related protective factors and behavioral risk factors in health professional training schools including medical, dental, nursing, social work, and mental and behavioral health curricula, and allied health service training courses; or

''(iv) the integration of knowledge of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking into health care accreditation and professional licensing examinations, such as medical, dental, social work, and nursing boards, and where appropriate, other allied health exams.

''(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTEES.—

''(1) CONFIDENTIALITY AND SAFETY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Grantees under this section shall ensure that all programs developed with grant funds address issues of confidentiality and patient safety and comply with applicable confidentiality and nondisclosure requirements under section 40002(b)(2) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and that faculty and staff associated with delivering educational components are fully trained in procedures that will protect the immediate and ongoing security and confidentiality of the patients, patient records, and staff. Such grantees shall consult entities with demonstrated expertise in the confidentiality and safety needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on the development and adequacy of confidentially and security procedures, and provide documentation of such consultation.

''(B) ADVANCE NOTICE OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE.—Grantees under this section shall provide to patients advance notice about any circumstances under which information may be disclosed, such as mandatory reporting laws, and shall give patients the option to receive information and referrals without affirmatively disclosing abuse.

''(2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A grantee shall use not more than 10 percent of the amounts received under a grant under this section for administrative expenses.

''(3) APPLICATION.—

''(A) PREFERENCE.—In selecting grant recipients under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to applicants based on the strength of their evaluation strategies, with priority given to outcome based evaluations.

''(B) SUBSECTION (A)(1) AND (2) GRANTEES.—Applications for grants under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) shall include—

''(i) documentation that the applicant represents a team of entities working collaboratively to strengthen the response of the health care system to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and which includes at least one of each of—

''(I) an accredited school of allopathic or osteopathic medicine, psychology, nursing, dentistry, social work, or other health field;

''(II) a health care facility or system; or

''(III) a government or nonprofit entity with a history of effective work in the fields of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and

''(ii) strategies for the dissemination and sharing of curricula and other educational materials developed under the grant, if any, with other interested health professions schools and national resource repositories for materials on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

''(C) SUBSECTION (A)(3) GRANTEES.—An entity desiring a grant under subsection (a)(3) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such a manner, and containing such information and assurances as the Secretary may require, including—

''(i) documentation that all training, education, screening, assessment, services, treatment, and any other approach to patient care will be informed by an understanding of violence and abuse victimization and trauma-specific approaches that will be integrated into prevention, intervention, and treatment activities;

''(ii) strategies for the development and implementation of policies to prevent and address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking over the lifespan in health care settings;

''(iii) a plan for consulting with State and tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions, national nonprofit victim advocacy organizations, State or tribal law enforcement task forces (where appropriate), and population specific organizations with demonstrated expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;

''(iv) with respect to an application for a grant under which the grantee will have contact with patients, a plan, developed in collaboration with local victim service providers, to respond appropriately to and make correct referrals for individuals who disclose that they are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other types of violence, and documentation provided by the grantee of an ongoing collaborative relationship with a local victim service provider; and

''(v) with respect to an application for a grant proposing to fund a program described in subsection (b)(2)(C)(ii), a certification that any sexual assault forensic medical examination and sexual assault nurse examiner programs supported with such grant funds will adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Attorney General.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive funding under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), an entity shall be—

''(A) a nonprofit organization with a history of effective work in the field of training health professionals with an understanding of, and clinical skills pertinent to, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and lifetime exposure to violence and abuse;

''(B) an accredited school of allopathic or osteopathic medicine, psychology, nursing, dentistry, social work, or allied health;

''(C) a health care provider membership or professional organization, or a health care system; or

''(D) a State, tribal, territorial, or local entity.

''(2) SUBSECTION (A)(3) GRANTEES.—To be eligible to receive funding under subsection (a)(3), an entity shall be—

''(A) a State department (or other division) of health, a State, tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition or victim service provider, or any other nonprofit, nongovernmental organization with a history of effective work in the fields of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and health care, including physical or mental health care; or

''(B) a local victim service provider, a local department (or other division) of health, a local health clinic, hospital, or health system, or any other community-based organization with a history of effective work in the field of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and health care, including physical or mental health care.

''(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds made available to carry out this section for any fiscal year, the Secretary may make grants or enter into contracts to provide technical assistance with respect to the planning, development, and operation of any program, activity or service carried out pursuant to this section. Not more than 8 percent of the funds appropriated under this section in each fiscal year may be used to fund technical assistance under this subsection.

''(2) AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS.—The Secretary shall make publicly available materials developed by grantees under this section, including materials on training, best practices, and research and evaluation.

''(3) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall publish a biennial report on—

''(A) the distribution of funds under this section; and

''(B) the programs and activities supported by such funds.

''(f) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds made available to carry out this section for any fiscal year, the Secretary may use not more than 20 percent to make a grant or enter into a contract for research and evaluation of—

''(A) grants awarded under this section; and

''(B) other training for health professionals and effective interventions in the health care setting that prevent domestic violence, dating violence, and sexual assault across the lifespan, prevent the health effects of such violence, and improve the safety and health of individuals who are currently being victimized.

''(2) RESEARCH.—Research authorized in paragraph (1) may include—

''(A) research on the effects of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and childhood exposure to domestic, dating or sexual violence on health behaviors, health conditions, and health status of individuals, families, and populations, including underserved populations;

''(B) research to determine effective health care interventions to respond to and prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

''(C) research on the impact of domestic, dating and sexual violence, childhood exposure to such violence, and stalking on the health care system, health care utilization, health care costs, and health status; and

''(D) research on the impact of adverse childhood experiences on adult experience with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and adult health outcomes, including how to reduce or prevent the impact of adverse childhood experiences through the health care setting.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.

''(h) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided herein, the definitions provided for in section 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 shall apply to this section.''.

(b) REPEALS.—The following provisions are repealed:

(1) Section 40297 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13973).

(2) Section 758 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294h).

TITLE VI—SAFE HOMES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

SEC. 601. HOUSING PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Subtitle N of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e et seq.) is amended—

(1) by inserting after the subtitle heading the following:

''CHAPTER 1—GRANT PROGRAMS'';

(2) in section 41402 (42 U.S.C. 14043e–1), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''subtitle'' and inserting ''chapter'';

(3) in section 41403 (42 U.S.C. 14043e–2), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''subtitle'' and inserting ''chapter''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''CHAPTER 2—HOUSING RIGHTS

''SEC. 41411. HOUSING PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this chapter:

''(1) AFFILIATED INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'affiliated individual' means, with respect to an individual—

''(A) a spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child of that individual, or an individual to whom that individual stands in loco parentis; or

''(B) any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in the household of that individual.

''(2) APPROPRIATE AGENCY.—The term 'appropriate agency' means, with respect to a covered housing program, the Executive department (as defined in section 101 of title 5, United States Code) that carries out the covered housing program.

''(3) COVERED HOUSING PROGRAM.—The term 'covered housing program' means—

''(A) the program under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q);

''(B) the program under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013);

''(C) the program under subtitle D of title VIII of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.);

''(D) the program under subtitle A of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360 et seq.);

''(E) the program under subtitle A of title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12741 et seq.);

''(F) the program under paragraph (3) of section 221(d) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715l(d)) that bears interest at a rate determined under the proviso under paragraph (5) of such section 221(d);

''(G) the program under section 236 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1);

''(H) the programs under sections 6 and 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d and 1437f);

''(I) rural housing assistance provided under sections 514, 515, 516, 533, and 538 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484, 1485, 1486, 1490m, and 1490p–2); and

''(J) the low income housing tax credit program under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(b) PROHIBITED BASIS FOR DENIAL OR TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE OR EVICTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An applicant for or tenant of housing assisted under a covered housing program may not be denied admission to, denied assistance under, terminated from participation in, or evicted from the housing on the basis that the applicant or tenant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the applicant or tenant otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation, or occupancy.

''(2) CONSTRUCTION OF LEASE TERMS.—An incident of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall not be construed as—

''(A) a serious or repeated violation of a lease for housing assisted under a covered housing program by the victim or threatened victim of such incident; or

''(B) good cause for terminating the assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights to housing assisted under a covered housing program of the victim or threatened victim of such incident.

''(3) TERMINATION ON THE BASIS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.—

''(A) DENIAL OF ASSISTANCE, TENANCY, AND OCCUPANCY RIGHTS PROHIBITED.—No person may deny assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights to housing assisted under a covered housing program to a tenant solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is engaged in by a member of the household of the tenant or any guest or other person under the control of the tenant, if the tenant or an affiliated individual of the tenant is the victim or threatened victim of such domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(B) BIFURCATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program may bifurcate a lease for the housing in order to evict, remove, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or lawful occupant of the housing and who engages in criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against an affiliated individual or other individual, without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing a victim of such criminal activity who is also a tenant or lawful occupant of the housing.

''(ii) EFFECT OF EVICTION ON OTHER TENANTS.—If public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program evicts, removes, or terminates assistance to an individual under clause (i), and the individual is the sole tenant eligible to receive assistance under a covered housing program, the public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under the covered housing program shall provide any remaining tenant an opportunity to establish eligibility for the covered housing program. If a tenant described in the preceding sentence cannot establish eligibility, the public housing agency or owner or manager of the housing shall provide the tenant a reasonable time, as determined by the appropriate agency, to find new housing or to establish eligibility for housing under another covered housing program.

''(C) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed—

''(i) to limit the authority of a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program, when notified of a court order, to comply with a court order with respect to—

''(I) the rights of access to or control of property, including civil protection orders issued to protect a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or

''(II) the distribution or possession of property among members of a household in a case;

''(ii) to limit any otherwise available authority of a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program to evict or terminate assistance to a tenant for any violation of a lease not premised on the act of violence in question against the tenant or an affiliated person of the tenant, if the public housing agency or owner or manager does not subject an individual who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking to a more demanding standard than other tenants in determining whether to evict or terminate;

''(iii) to limit the authority to terminate assistance to a tenant or evict a tenant from housing assisted under a covered housing program if a public housing agency or owner or manager of the housing can demonstrate that an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or individuals employed at or providing service to the property would be present if the assistance is not terminated or the tenant is not evicted; or

''(iv) to supersede any provision of any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection than this section for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(c) DOCUMENTATION.—

''(1) REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTATION.—If an applicant for, or tenant of, housing assisted under a covered housing program represents to a public housing agency or owner or manager of the housing that the individual is entitled to protection under subsection (b), the public housing agency or owner or manager may request, in writing, that the applicant or tenant submit to the public housing agency or owner or manager a form of documentation described in paragraph (3).

''(2) FAILURE TO PROVIDE CERTIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If an applicant or tenant does not provide the documentation requested under paragraph (1) within 14 business days after the tenant receives a request in writing for such certification from a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program, nothing in this chapter may be construed to limit the authority of the public housing agency or owner or manager to—

''(i) deny admission by the applicant or tenant to the covered program;

''(ii) deny assistance under the covered program to the applicant or tenant;

''(iii) terminate the participation of the applicant or tenant in the covered program; or

''(iv) evict the applicant, the tenant, or a lawful occupant that commits violations of a lease.

''(B) EXTENSION.—A public housing agency or owner or manager of housing may extend the 14-day deadline under subparagraph (A) at its discretion.

''(3) FORM OF DOCUMENTATION.—A form of documentation described in this paragraph is—

''(A) a certification form approved by the appropriate agency that—

''(i) states that an applicant or tenant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;

''(ii) states that the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is the ground for protection under subsection (b) meets the requirements under subsection (b); and

''(iii) includes the name of the individual who committed the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the name is known and safe to provide;

''(B) a document that—

''(i) is signed by—

''(I) an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, a medical professional, or a mental health professional from whom an applicant or tenant has sought assistance relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of the abuse; and

''(II) the applicant or tenant; and

''(ii) states under penalty of perjury that the individual described in clause (i)(I) believes that the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is the ground for protection under subsection (b) meets the requirements under subsection (b);

''(C) a record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency; or

''(D) at the discretion of a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program, a statement or other evidence provided by an applicant or tenant.

''(4) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any information submitted to a public housing agency or owner or manager under this subsection, including the fact that an individual is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall be maintained in confidence by the public housing agency or owner or manager and may not be entered into any shared database or disclosed to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that the disclosure is—

''(A) requested or consented to by the individual in writing;

''(B) required for use in an eviction proceeding under subsection (b); or

''(C) otherwise required by applicable law.

''(5) DOCUMENTATION NOT REQUIRED.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program to request that an individual submit documentation of the status of the individual as a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(6) COMPLIANCE NOT SUFFICIENT TO CONSTITUTE EVIDENCE OF UNREASONABLE ACT.—Compliance with subsection (b) by a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program based on documentation received under this subsection, shall not be sufficient to constitute evidence of an unreasonable act or omission by the public housing agency or owner or manager or an employee or agent of the public housing agency or owner or manager. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the liability of a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program for failure to comply with subsection (b).

''(7) RESPONSE TO CONFLICTING CERTIFICATION.—If a public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program receives documentation under this subsection that contains conflicting information, the public housing agency or owner or manager may require an applicant or tenant to submit third-party documentation, as described in subparagraph (B), (C), or (D) of paragraph (3).

''(8) PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to supersede any provision of any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection than this subsection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

''(d) NOTIFICATION.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall develop a notice of the rights of individuals under this section, including the right to confidentiality and the limits thereof.

''(2) PROVISION.—Each public housing agency or owner or manager of housing assisted under a covered housing program shall provide the notice developed under paragraph (1), together with the form described in subsection (c)(3)(A), to an applicant for or tenants of housing assisted under a covered housing program—

''(A) at the time the applicant is denied residency in a dwelling unit assisted under the covered housing program;

''(B) at the time the individual is admitted to a dwelling unit assisted under the covered housing program;

''(C) with any notification of eviction or notification of termination of assistance; and

''(D) in multiple languages, consistent with guidance issued by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in accordance with Executive Order 13166 (42 U.S.C. 2000d–1 note; relating to access to services for persons with limited English proficiency).

''(e) EMERGENCY TRANSFERS.—Each appropriate agency shall adopt a model emergency transfer plan for use by public housing agencies and owners or managers of housing assisted under covered housing programs that—

''(1) allows tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to transfer to another available and safe dwelling unit assisted under a covered housing program if—

''(A) the tenant expressly requests the transfer; and

''(B)(i) the tenant reasonably believes that the tenant is threatened with imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same dwelling unit assisted under a covered housing program; or

''(ii) in the case of a tenant who is a victim of sexual assault, the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90 day period preceding the request for transfer; and

''(2) incorporates reasonable confidentiality measures to ensure that the public housing agency or owner or manager does not disclose the location of the dwelling unit of a tenant to a person that commits an act of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant.

''(f) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY TRANSFER.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall establish policies and procedures under which a victim requesting an emergency transfer under subsection (e) may receive, subject to the availability of tenant protection vouchers, assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).

''(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—The appropriate agency with respect to each covered housing program shall implement this section, as this section applies to the covered housing program.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION 6.—Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking paragraph (3); and

(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(B) in subsection (l)—

(i) in paragraph (5), by striking '', and that an incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be construed as a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence and will not be good cause for terminating the tenancy or occupancy rights of the victim of such violence''; and

(ii) in paragraph (6), by striking ''; except that'' and all that follows through ''stalking.''; and

(C) by striking subsection (u).

(2) SECTION 8.—Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (9);

(B) in subsection (d)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and that an applicant or participant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking is not an appropriate basis for denial of program assistance or for denial of admission if the applicant otherwise qualifies for assistance or admission''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (ii), by striking '', and that an incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be construed as a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence and will not be good cause for terminating the tenancy or occupancy rights of the victim of such violence''; and

(II) in clause (iii), by striking '', except that:'' and all that follows through ''stalking.'';

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) in paragraph (6), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (7), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

(iii) by striking paragraphs (8), (9), (10), and (11);

(D) in subsection (o)—

(i) in paragraph (6)(B), by striking the last sentence;

(ii) in paragraph (7)—

(I) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and that an incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking shall not be construed as a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence and shall not be good cause for terminating the tenancy or occupancy rights of the victim of such violence''; and

(II) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''; except that'' and all that follows through ''stalking.''; and

(iii) by striking paragraph (20); and

(E) by striking subsection (ee).

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed—

(A) to limit the rights or remedies available to any person under section 6 or 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d and 1437f), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) to limit any right, remedy, or procedure otherwise available under any provision of part 5, 91, 880, 882, 883, 884, 886, 891, 903, 960, 966, 982, or 983 of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations, that—

(i) was issued under the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162; 119 Stat. 2960) or an amendment made by that Act; and

(ii) provides greater protection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking than this Act; or

(C) to disqualify an owner, manager, or other individual from participating in or receiving the benefits of the low income housing tax credit program under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 because of noncompliance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 602. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

Chapter 11 of subtitle B of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13975 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in the chapter heading, by striking ''**CHILD VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, OR SEXUAL ASSAULT**'' and inserting ''**VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING**''; and

(2) in section 40299 (42 U.S.C. 13975)—

(A) in the header, by striking ''**CHILD VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, OR SEXUAL ASSAULT**'' and inserting ''**VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING**'';

(B) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''fleeing'';

(C) in subsection (b)(3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking '' and'' at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C);

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) secure employment, including obtaining employment counseling, occupational training, job retention counseling, and counseling concerning re-entry in to the workforce; and''; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated by clause (ii), by striking '' employment counseling,''; and

(D) in subsection (g)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''eligible'' and inserting ''qualified''; and

(II) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) QUALIFIED APPLICATION DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term 'qualified application' means an application that—

''(i) has been submitted by an eligible applicant;

''(ii) does not propose any activities that may compromise victim safety, including—

''(I) background checks of victims; or

''(II) clinical evaluations to determine eligibility for services;

''(iii) reflects an understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and

''(iv) does not propose prohibited activities, including mandatory services for victims.''.

SEC. 603. ADDRESSING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING.

Subtitle N of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 41404(i) (42 U.S.C. 14043e–3(i)), by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''; and

(2) in section 41405(g) (42 U.S.C. 14043e–4(g)), by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

TITLE VII—ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

SEC. 701. NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ON WORKPLACE RESPONSES TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

Section 41501(e) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043f(e)) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

TITLE VIII—PROTECTION OF BATTERED IMMIGRANTS

SEC. 801. U NONIMMIGRANT DEFINITION.

Section 101(a)(15)(U)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii)) is amended by inserting ''stalking;'' after ''sexual exploitation;''.

SEC. 802. ANNUAL REPORT ON IMMIGRATION APPLICATIONS MADE BY VICTIMS OF ABUSE.

Not later than December 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report that includes the following:

(1) The number of aliens who—

(A) submitted an application for nonimmigrant status under paragraph (15)(T)(i), (15)(U)(i), or (51) of section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) during the preceding fiscal year;

(B) were granted such nonimmigrant status during such fiscal year; or

(C) were denied such nonimmigrant status during such fiscal year.

(2) The mean amount of time and median amount of time to adjudicate an application for such nonimmigrant status during such fiscal year.

(3) The mean amount of time and median amount of time between the receipt of an application for such nonimmigrant status and the issuance of work authorization to an eligible applicant during the preceding fiscal year.

(4) The number of aliens granted continued presence in the United States under section 107(c)(3) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(3)) during the preceding fiscal year.

(5) A description of any actions being taken to reduce the adjudication and processing time, while ensuring the safe and competent processing, of an application described in paragraph (1) or a request for continued presence referred to in paragraph (4).

SEC. 803. PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN OF VAWA SELF-PETITIONERS.

Section 204(l)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(l)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

''(F) a child of an alien who filed a pending or approved petition for classification or application for adjustment of status or other benefit specified in section 101(a)(51) as a VAWA self-petitioner; or''.

SEC. 804. PUBLIC CHARGE.

Section 212(a)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(E) SPECIAL RULE FOR QUALIFIED ALIEN VICTIMS.—Subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) shall not apply to an alien who—

''(i) is a VAWA self-petitioner;

''(ii) is an applicant for, or is granted, nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(U); or

''(iii) is a qualified alien described in section 431(c) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1641(c)).''.

SEC. 805. REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO U VISAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(p) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(p)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) AGE DETERMINATIONS.—

''(A) CHILDREN.—An unmarried alien who seeks to accompany, or follow to join, a parent granted status under section 101(a)(15)(U)(i), and who was under 21 years of age on the date on which such parent petitioned for such status, shall continue to be classified as a child for purposes of section 101(a)(15)(U)(ii), if the alien attains 21 years of age after such parent's petition was filed but while it was pending.

''(B) PRINCIPAL ALIENS.—An alien described in clause (i) of section 101(a)(15)(U) shall continue to be treated as an alien described in clause (ii)(I) of such section if the alien attains 21 years of age after the alien's application for status under such clause (i) is filed but while it is pending.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if enacted as part of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386; 114 Stat. 1464).

SEC. 806. HARDSHIP WAIVERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 216(c)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1186a(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''(1), or'' and inserting ''(1); or'';

(3) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon and ''or''; and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

''(D) the alien meets the requirements under section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II)(aa)(BB) and following the marriage ceremony was battered by or subject to extreme cruelty perpetrated by the alien's intended spouse and was not at fault in failing to meet the requirements of paragraph (1).''.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 216(c)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1186a(c)(4)), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''The Attorney General, in the Attorney General's'' and inserting ''The Secretary of Homeland Security, in the Secretary's''; and

(2) in the undesignated paragraph at the end—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''Attorney General'' and inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security'';

(B) in the second sentence, by striking ''Attorney General'' and inserting ''Secretary'';

(C) in the third sentence, by striking ''Attorney General.'' and inserting ''Secretary.''; and

(D) in the fourth sentence, by striking ''Attorney General'' and inserting ''Secretary''.

SEC. 807. PROTECTIONS FOR A FIANCÉE OR FIANCÉ OF A CITIZEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''crime.'' and inserting ''crime described in paragraph (3)(B) and information on any permanent protection or restraining order issued against the petitioner related to any specified crime described in paragraph (3)(B)(i).'';

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(i) by striking ''a consular officer'' and inserting ''the Secretary of Homeland Security''; and

(ii) by striking ''the officer'' and inserting ''the Secretary''; and

(C) in paragraph (3)(B)(i), by striking ''abuse, and stalking.'' and inserting ''abuse, stalking, or an attempt to commit any such crime.''; and

(2) in subsection (r)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''crime.'' and inserting ''crime described in paragraph (5)(B) and information on any permanent protection or restraining order issued against the petitioner related to any specified crime described in subsection (5)(B)(i).''; and

(B) by amending paragraph (4)(B)(ii) to read as follows:

''(ii) To notify the beneficiary as required by clause (i), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide such notice to the Secretary of State for inclusion in the mailing to the beneficiary described in section 833(a)(5)(A)(i) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(a)(5)(A)(i)).''; and

(3) in paragraph (5)(B)(i), by striking ''abuse, and stalking.'' and inserting ''abuse, stalking, or an attempt to commit any such crime.''.

(b) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO K NONIMMIGRANTS.—Section 833 of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5)(A)—

(A) in clause (iii)—

(i) by striking ''State any'' and inserting ''State, for inclusion in the mailing described in clause (i), any''; and

(ii) by striking the last sentence; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(iv) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct a background check of the National Crime Information Center's Protection Order Database on each petitioner for a visa under subsection (d) or (r) of section 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184). Any appropriate information obtained from such background check—

''(I) shall accompany the criminal background information provided by the Secretary of Homeland Security to the Secretary of State and shared by the Secretary of State with a beneficiary of a petition referred to in clause (iii); and

''(II) shall not be used or disclosed for any other purpose unless expressly authorized by law.

''(v) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall create a cover sheet or other mechanism to accompany the information required to be provided to an applicant for a visa under subsection (d) or (r) of section 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) by clauses (i) through (iv) of this paragraph or by clauses (i) and (ii) of subsection (r)(4)(B) of such section 214, that calls to the applicant's attention—

''(I) whether the petitioner disclosed a protection order, a restraining order, or criminal history information on the visa petition;

''(II) the criminal background information and information about any protection order obtained by the Secretary of Homeland Security regarding the petitioner in the course of adjudicating the petition; and

''(III) whether the information the petitioner disclosed on the visa petition regarding any previous petitions filed under subsection (d) or (r) of such section 214 is consistent with the information in the multiple visa tracking database of the Department of Homeland Security, as described in subsection (r)(4)(A) of such section 214.''; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by striking ''or'' after ''orders'' and inserting ''and''.

SEC. 808. REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKERS.

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKER ACT OF 2005.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(A) The International Marriage Broker Act of 2005 (subtitle D of Public Law 109–162; 119 Stat. 3066) has not been fully implemented with regard to investigating and prosecuting violations of the law, and for other purposes.

(B) Six years after Congress enacted the International Marriage Broker Act of 2005 to regulate the activities of the hundreds of for-profit international marriage brokers operating in the United States, the Attorney General has not determined which component of the Department of Justice will investigate and prosecute violations of such Act.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that includes the following:

(A) The name of the component of the Department of Justice responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of the International Marriage Broker Act of 2005 (subtitle D of Public Law 109–162; 119 Stat. 3066) and the amendments made by this Act.

(B) A description of the policies and procedures of the Attorney General for consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State in investigating and prosecuting such violations.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 833(a)(2)(H) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(a)(2)(H)) is amended by striking ''Federal and State sex offender public registries'' and inserting ''the National Sex Offender Public Website''.

(c) REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKERS.—Section 833(d) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(d)) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) PROHIBITION ON MARKETING OF OR TO CHILDREN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An international marriage broker shall not provide any individual or entity with the personal contact information, photograph, or general information about the background or interests of any individual under the age of 18.

''(B) COMPLIANCE.—To comply with the requirements of subparagraph (A), an international marriage broker shall—

''(i) obtain a valid copy of each foreign national client's birth certificate or other

proof of age document issued by an appropriate government entity;

''(ii) indicate on such certificate or document the date it was received by the international marriage broker;

''(iii) retain the original of such certificate or document for 7 years after such date of receipt; and

''(iv) produce such certificate or document upon request to an appropriate authority charged with the enforcement of this paragraph.'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

(i) in the heading, by striking ''REGISTRIES.—'' and inserting ''WEBSITE.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''Registry or State sex offender public registry,'' and inserting ''Website,''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''or stalking.'' and inserting ''stalking, or an attempt to commit any such crime.'';

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''Registry, or of the relevant State sex offender public registry for any State not yet participating in the National Sex Offender Public Registry, in which the United States client has resided during the previous 20 years,'' and inserting ''Website''; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(II), by striking ''background information collected by the international marriage broker under paragraph (2)(B);'' and inserting ''signed certification and accompanying documentation or attestation regarding the background information collected under paragraph (2)(B);''; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (C);

(4) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking ''A penalty may be imposed under clause (i) by the Attorney General only'' and inserting ''At the discretion of the Attorney General, a penalty may be imposed under clause (i) either by a Federal judge, or by the Attorney General'';

(B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

''(B) FEDERAL CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—

''(i) FAILURE OF INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKERS TO COMPLY WITH OBLIGATIONS.—Except as provided in clause (ii), an international marriage broker that, in circumstances in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States—

''(I) except as provided in subclause (II), violates (or attempts to violate) paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both; or

''(II) knowingly violates or attempts to violate paragraphs (1), (2), (3), or (4) shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

''(ii) MISUSE OF INFORMATION.—A person who knowingly discloses, uses, or causes to be used any information obtained by an international marriage broker as a result of a requirement under paragraph (2) or (3) for any purpose other than the disclosures required under paragraph (3) shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

''(iii) FRAUDULENT FAILURES OF UNITED STATES CLIENTS TO MAKE REQUIRED SELF-DISCLOSURES.—A person who knowingly and with intent to defraud another person outside the United States in order to recruit, solicit, entice, or induce that other person into entering a dating or matrimonial relationship, makes false or fraudulent representations regarding the disclosures described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subsection (d)(2)(B), including by failing to make any such disclosures, shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

''(iv) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PENALTIES.—The penalties provided in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) are in addition to any other civil or criminal liability under Federal or State law to which a person may be subject for the misuse of information, including misuse to threaten, intimidate, or harass any individual.

''(v) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph or paragraph (3) or (4) may be construed to prevent the disclosure of information to law enforcement or pursuant to a court order.''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''including equitable remedies.'';

(5) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and

(6) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) ENFORCEMENT.—

''(A) AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General shall be responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this section, including the prosecution of civil and criminal penalties provided for by this section.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—The Attorney General shall consult with the Director of the Office on Violence Against Women of the Department of Justice to develop policies and public education designed to promote enforcement of this section.''.

(d) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—Section 833(f) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(f)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''STUDY AND REPORT.—'' and inserting ''STUDIES AND REPORTS.—''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) CONTINUING IMPACT STUDY AND REPORT.—

''(A) STUDY.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the continuing impact of the implementation of this section and of section of 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) on the process for granting K nonimmigrant visas, including specifically a study of the items described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (1).

''(B) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report setting forth the results of the study conducted under subparagraph (A).

''(C) DATA COLLECTION.—The Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State shall collect and maintain the data necessary for the Comptroller General to conduct the study required by paragraph (1)(A).''.

SEC. 809. ELIGIBILITY OF CRIME AND TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS TO ADJUST STATUS.

Section 705(c) of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–229; 48 U.S.C. 1806 note), is amended by striking ''except that,'' and all that follows through the end, and inserting the following: ''except that—

''(1) for the purpose of determining whether an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20)) has abandoned or lost such status by reason of absence from the United States, such alien's presence in the Commonwealth, before, on or after November 28, 2009, shall be considered to be presence in the United States; and

''(2) for the purpose of determining whether an alien whose application for status under subparagraph (T) or (U) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) was granted is subsequently eligible for adjustment under subsection (l) or (m) of section 245 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1255), such alien's physical presence in the Commonwealth before, on, or after November 28, 2009, and subsequent to the grant of the application, shall be considered as equivalent to presence in the United States pursuant to a nonimmigrant admission in such status.''.

SEC. 810. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION FOR NATIONAL SECURITY PURPOSES.

(a) INFORMATION SHARING.—Section 384(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1367(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security or the'' before ''Attorney General may''; and

(B) by inserting ''Secretary's or the'' before ''Attorney General's discretion'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security or the'' before ''Attorney General may'';

(B) by inserting ''Secretary or the'' before ''Attorney General for''; and

(C) by inserting ''in a manner that protects the confidentiality of such information'' after ''law enforcement purpose'';

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking ''Attorney General is'' and inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General are''; and

(4) by adding at the end a new paragraph as follows:

''(8) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State, or the Attorney General may provide in the discretion of either such Secretary or the Attorney General for the disclosure of information to national security officials to be used solely for a national security purpose in a manner that protects the confidentiality of such information.''.

(b) GUIDELINES.—Section 384(d) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1367(d)) is amended—

(1) by inserting '', Secretary of State,'' after ''The Attorney General'';

(2) by inserting '', Department of State,'' after ''Department of Justice''; and

(3) by inserting ''and severe forms of trafficking in persons or criminal activity listed in section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(u))'' after ''domestic violence''.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide the guidance required by section 384(d) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1367(d)), consistent with the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b).

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 384(a)(1) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1986 is amended by striking ''241(a)(2)'' in the matter following subparagraph (F) and inserting ''237(a)(2)''.

TITLE IX—SAFETY FOR INDIAN WOMEN

SEC. 901. GRANTS TO INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.

Section 2015(a) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–10(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''sex trafficking,'' after ''sexual assault,'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''sex trafficking,'' after ''sexual assault,'';

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and stalking'' and all that follows and inserting ''sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking;'';

(4) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by inserting ''sex trafficking,'' after ''sexual assault,'' each place it appears; and

(B) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(5) in paragraph (8)—

(A) by inserting ''sex trafficking,'' after ''stalking,''; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(9) provide services to address the needs of youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, or stalking and the needs of youth and children exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including support for the nonabusing parent or the caretaker of the youth or child; and

''(10) develop and promote legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to violent crimes against Indian women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking.''.

SEC. 902. GRANTS TO INDIAN TRIBAL COALITIONS.

Section 2001 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) TRIBAL COALITION GRANTS.—

''(1) PURPOSE.—The Attorney General shall award a grant to tribal coalitions for purposes of—

''(A) increasing awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault against Indian women;

''(B) enhancing the response to violence against Indian women at the Federal, State, and tribal levels;

''(C) identifying and providing technical assistance to coalition membership and tribal communities to enhance access to essential services to Indian women victimized by domestic and sexual violence, including sex trafficking; and

''(D) assisting Indian tribes in developing and promoting State, local, and tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to violent crimes against Indian women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking.

''(2) GRANTS.—The Attorney General shall award grants on an annual basis under paragraph (1) to—

''(A) each tribal coalition that—

''(i) meets the criteria of a tribal coalition under section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

''(ii) is recognized by the Office on Violence Against Women; and

''(iii) provides services to Indian tribes; and

''(B) organizations that propose to incorporate and operate a tribal coalition in areas where Indian tribes are located but no tribal coalition exists.

''(3) USE OF AMOUNTS.—For each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018, of the amounts appropriated to carry out this subsection—

''(A) not more than 10 percent shall be made available to organizations described in paragraph (2)(B), provided that 1 or more organizations determined by the Attorney General to be qualified apply;

''(B) not less than 90 percent shall be made available to tribal coalitions described in paragraph (2)(A), which amounts shall be distributed equally among each eligible tribal coalition for the applicable fiscal year.

''(4) ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER GRANTS.—Receipt of an award under this subsection by a tribal coalition shall not preclude the tribal coalition from receiving additional grants under this title to carry out the purposes described in paragraph (1).

''(5) MULTIPLE PURPOSE APPLICATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection prohibits any tribal coalition or organization described in paragraph (2) from applying for funding to address sexual assault or domestic violence needs in the same application.''.

SEC. 903. CONSULTATION.

Section 903 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14045d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''and the Violence Against Women Act of 2000'' and inserting '', the Violence Against Women Act of 2000''; and

(B) by inserting '', and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013'' before the period at the end;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services'' and inserting ''Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Interior,''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and stalking'' and inserting ''stalking, and sex trafficking''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Attorney General shall submit to Congress an annual report on the annual consultations required under subsection (a) that—

''(1) contains the recommendations made under subsection (b) by Indian tribes during the year covered by the report;

''(2) describes actions taken during the year covered by the report to respond to recommendations made under subsection (b) during the year or a previous year; and

''(3) describes how the Attorney General will work in coordination and collaboration with Indian tribes, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of the Interior to address the recommendations made under subsection (b).

''(d) NOTICE.—Not later than 120 days before the date of a consultation under subsection (a), the Attorney General shall notify tribal leaders of the date, time, and location of the consultation.''.

SEC. 904. TRIBAL JURISDICTION OVER CRIMES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Title II of Public Law 90–284 (25 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) (commonly known as the ''Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968'') is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 204. TRIBAL JURISDICTION OVER CRIMES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) DATING VIOLENCE.—The term 'dating violence' means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

''(2) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term 'domestic violence' means violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic- or family- violence laws of an Indian tribe that has jurisdiction over the Indian country where the violence occurs.

''(3) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term 'Indian country' has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

''(4) PARTICIPATING TRIBE.—The term 'participating tribe' means an Indian tribe that elects to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over the Indian country of that Indian tribe.

''(5) PROTECTION ORDER.—The term 'protection order'—

''(A) means any injunction, restraining order, or other order issued by a civil or criminal court for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts or harassment against, sexual violence against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person; and

''(B) includes any temporary or final order issued by a civil or criminal court, whether obtained by filing an independent action or as a pendent lite order in another proceeding, if the civil or criminal order was issued in response to a complaint, petition, or motion filed by or on behalf of a person seeking protection.

''(6) SPECIAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.—The term 'special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction' means the criminal jurisdiction that a participating tribe may exercise under this section but could not otherwise exercise.

''(7) SPOUSE OR INTIMATE PARTNER.—The term 'spouse or intimate partner' has the meaning given the term in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code.

''(b) NATURE OF THE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in addition to all powers of self-government recognized and affirmed by sections 201 and 203, the powers of self-government of a participating tribe include the inherent power of that tribe, which is hereby recognized and affirmed, to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over all persons.

''(2) CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.—The exercise of special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction by a participating tribe shall be concurrent with the jurisdiction of the United States, of a State, or of both.

''(3) APPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this section—

''(A) creates or eliminates any Federal or State criminal jurisdiction over Indian country; or

''(B) affects the authority of the United States or any State government that has been delegated authority by the United States to investigate and prosecute a criminal violation in Indian country.

''(4) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(A) VICTIM AND DEFENDANT ARE BOTH NONINDIANS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A participating tribe may not exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over an alleged offense if neither the defendant nor the alleged victim is an Indian.

''(ii) DEFINITION OF VICTIM.—In this subparagraph and with respect to a criminal proceeding in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction based on a violation of a protection order, the term 'victim' means a person specifically protected by a protection order that the defendant allegedly violated.

''(B) DEFENDANT LACKS TIES TO THE INDIAN TRIBE.—A participating tribe may exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over a defendant only if the defendant—

''(i) resides in the Indian country of the participating tribe;

''(ii) is employed in the Indian country of the participating tribe; or

''(iii) is a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner of—

''(I) a member of the participating tribe; or

''(II) an Indian who resides in the Indian country of the participating tribe.

''(c) CRIMINAL CONDUCT.—A participating tribe may exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over a defendant for criminal conduct that falls into one or more of the following categories:

''(1) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND DATING VIOLENCE.—An act of domestic violence or dating violence that occurs in the Indian country of the participating tribe.

''(2) VIOLATIONS OF PROTECTION ORDERS.—An act that—

''(A) occurs in the Indian country of the participating tribe; and

''(B) violates the portion of a protection order that—

''(i) prohibits or provides protection against violent or threatening acts or harassment against, sexual violence against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person;

''(ii) was issued against the defendant;

''(iii) is enforceable by the participating tribe; and

''(iv) is consistent with section 2265(b) of title 18, United States Code.

''(d) RIGHTS OF DEFENDANTS.—In a criminal proceeding in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, the participating tribe shall provide to the defendant—

''(1) all applicable rights under this Act;

''(2) if a term of imprisonment of any length may be imposed, all rights described in section 202(c);

''(3) the right to a trial by an impartial jury that is drawn from sources that—

''(A) reflect a fair cross section of the community; and

''(B) do not systematically exclude any distinctive group in the community, including non-Indians; and

''(4) all other rights whose protection is necessary under the Constitution of the United States in order for Congress to recognize and affirm the inherent power of the participating tribe to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over the defendant.

''(e) PETITIONS TO STAY DETENTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A person who has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in a court of the United States under section 203 may petition that court to stay further detention of that person by the participating tribe.

''(2) GRANT OF STAY.—A court shall grant a stay described in paragraph (1) if the court—

''(A) finds that there is a substantial likelihood that the habeas corpus petition will be granted; and

''(B) after giving each alleged victim in the matter an opportunity to be heard, finds by clear and convincing evidence that under conditions imposed by the court, the petitioner is not likely to flee or pose a danger to any person or the community if released.

''(3) NOTICE.—An Indian tribe that has ordered the detention of any person has a duty to timely notify such person of his rights and privileges under this subsection and under section 203.

''(f) GRANTS TO TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Attorney General may award grants to the governments of Indian tribes (or to authorized designees of those governments)—

''(1) to strengthen tribal criminal justice systems to assist Indian tribes in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, including—

''(A) law enforcement (including the capacity of law enforcement or court personnel to enter information into and obtain information from national crime information databases);

''(B) prosecution;

''(C) trial and appellate courts;

''(D) probation systems;

''(E) detention and correctional facilities;

''(F) alternative rehabilitation centers;

''(G) culturally appropriate services and assistance for victims and their families; and

''(H) criminal codes and rules of criminal procedure, appellate procedure, and evidence;

''(2) to provide indigent criminal defendants with the effective assistance of licensed defense counsel, at no cost to the defendant, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe prosecutes a crime of domestic violence or dating violence or a criminal violation of a protection order;

''(3) to ensure that, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, jurors are summoned, selected, and instructed in a manner consistent with all applicable requirements; and

''(4) to accord victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders rights that are similar to the rights of a crime victim described in section 3771(a) of title 18, United States Code, consistent with tribal law and custom.

''(g) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts made available under this section shall supplement and not supplant any other Federal, State, tribal, or local government amounts made available to carry out activities described in this section.

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018 to carry out subsection (f) and to provide training, technical assistance, data collection, and evaluation of the criminal justice systems of participating tribes.''.

SEC. 905. TRIBAL PROTECTION ORDERS.

Section 2265 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) TRIBAL COURT JURISDICTION.—For purposes of this section, a court of an Indian tribe shall have full civil jurisdiction to issue and enforce protection orders involving any person, including the authority to enforce any orders through civil contempt proceedings, to exclude violators from Indian land, and to use other appropriate mechanisms, in matters arising anywhere in the Indian country of the Indian tribe (as defined in section 1151) or otherwise within the authority of the Indian tribe.''.

SEC. 906. AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL ASSAULT STATUTE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 113 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) Assault with intent to commit murder or a violation of section 2241 or 2242, by a fine under this title, imprisonment for not more than 20 years, or both.'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''felony under chapter 109A'' and inserting ''violation of section 2241 or 2242'';

(C) in paragraph (3) by striking ''and without just cause or excuse,'';

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking ''six months'' and inserting ''1 year'';

(E) in paragraph (7)—

(i) by striking ''substantial bodily injury to an individual who has not attained the age of 16 years'' and inserting ''substantial bodily injury to a spouse or intimate partner, a dating partner, or an individual who has not attained the age of 16 years''; and

(ii) by striking ''fine'' and inserting ''a fine''; and

(F) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Assault of a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner by strangling, suffocating, or attempting to strangle or suffocate, by a fine under this title, imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both.''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''(b) As used in this subsection—'' and inserting the following:

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—'';

(B) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

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

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) the terms 'dating partner' and 'spouse or intimate partner' have the meanings given those terms in section 2266;

''(4) the term 'strangling' means intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of a person by applying pressure to the throat or neck, regardless of whether that conduct results in any visible injury or whether there is any intent to kill or protractedly injure the victim; and

''(5) the term 'suffocating' means intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing of a person by covering the mouth of the person, the nose of the person, or both, regardless of whether that conduct results in any visible injury or whether there is any intent to kill or protractedly injure the victim.''.

(b) INDIAN MAJOR CRIMES.—Section 1153(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365 of this title)'' and inserting ''a felony assault under section 113''.

(c) REPEAT OFFENDERS.—Section 2265A(b)(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''or tribal'' after ''State''.

SEC. 907. ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN WOMEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 904(a) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–10 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''The National'' and inserting ''Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the National''; and

(B) by inserting ''and in Native villages (as defined in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602))'' before the period at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(A) in clause (iv), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in clause (v), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(vi) sex trafficking.'';

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking ''this Act'' and inserting ''the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013''; and

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking ''this section $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 and 2008'' and inserting ''this subsection $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 and 2015''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 905(b)(2) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 534 note) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 908. EFFECTIVE DATES; PILOT PROJECT.

(a) GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in section 4 and subsection (b) of this section, the amendments made by this title shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE FOR SPECIAL DOMESTIC-VIOLENCE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), subsections (b) through (d) of section 204 of Public Law 90–284 (as added by

section 904) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) PILOT PROJECT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—At any time during the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, an Indian tribe may ask the Attorney General to designate the tribe as a participating tribe under section 204(a) of Public Law 90–284 on an accelerated basis.

(B) PROCEDURE.—The Attorney General may grant a request under subparagraph (A) after coordinating with the Secretary of the Interior, consulting with affected Indian tribes, and concluding that the criminal justice system of the requesting tribe has adequate safeguards in place to protect defendants' rights, consistent with section 204 of Public Law 90–284.

(C) EFFECTIVE DATES FOR PILOT PROJECTS.—An Indian tribe designated as a participating tribe under this paragraph may commence exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction pursuant to subsections (b) through (d) of section 204 of Public Law 90–284 on a date established by the Attorney General, after consultation with that Indian tribe, but in no event later than the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 909. INDIAN LAW AND ORDER COMMISSION; REPORT ON THE ALASKA RURAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 15(f) of the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2812(f)) is amended by striking ''2 years'' and inserting ''3 years''.

(b) REPORT.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Attorney General of the State of Alaska, the Commissioner of Public Safety of the State of Alaska, the Alaska Federation of Natives and Federally recognized Indian tribes in the State of Alaska, shall report to Congress not later than one year after enactment of this Act with respect to whether the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission established under Section 112(a)(1) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 should be continued and appropriations authorized for the continued work of the commission. The report may contain recommendations for legislation with respect to the scope of work and composition of the commission.

SEC. 910. SPECIAL RULE FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA.

(a) EXPANDED JURISDICTION.—In the State of Alaska, the amendments made by sections 904 and 905 shall only apply to the Indian country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code) of the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve.

(b) RETAINED JURISDICTION.—The jurisdiction and authority of each Indian tribe in the State of Alaska under section 2265(e) of title 18, United States Code (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)—

(1) shall remain in full force and effect; and

(2) are not limited or diminished by this Act or any amendment made by this Act.

(c) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act limits or diminishes the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska, any subdivision of the State of Alaska, or any Indian tribe in the State of Alaska.

TITLE X—SAFER ACT

SEC. 1001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act of 2013'' or the ''SAFER Act of 2013''.

SEC. 1002. DEBBIE SMITH GRANTS FOR AUDITING SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE BACKLOGS.

Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) To conduct an audit consistent with subsection (n) of the samples of sexual assault evidence that are in the possession of the State or unit of local government and are awaiting testing.

''(8) To ensure that the collection and processing of DNA evidence by law enforcement agencies from crimes, including sexual assault and other violent crimes against persons, is carried out in an appropriate and timely manner and in accordance with the protocols and practices developed under subsection (o)(1).'';

(2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) ALLOCATION OF GRANT AWARDS FOR AUDITS.—For each of fiscal years 2014 through 2017, not less than 5 percent, but not more than 7 percent, of the grant amounts distributed under paragraph (1) shall, if sufficient applications to justify such amounts are received by the Attorney General, be awarded for purposes described in subsection (a)(7), provided that none of the funds required to be distributed under this paragraph shall decrease or otherwise limit the availability of funds required to be awarded to States or units of local government under paragraph (3).''; and

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

''(n) USE OF FUNDS FOR AUDITING SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE BACKLOGS.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—The Attorney General may award a grant under this section to a State or unit of local government for the purpose described in subsection (a)(7) only if the State or unit of local government—

''(A) submits a plan for performing the audit of samples described in such subsection; and

''(B) includes in such plan a good-faith estimate of the number of such samples.

''(2) GRANT CONDITIONS.—A State or unit of local government receiving a grant for the purpose described in subsection (a)(7)—

''(A) may not enter into any contract or agreement with any non-governmental vendor laboratory to conduct an audit described in subsection (a)(7); and

''(B) shall—

''(i) not later than 1 year after receiving the grant, complete the audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A) in accordance with the plan submitted under such paragraph;

''(ii) not later than 60 days after receiving possession of a sample of sexual assault evidence that was not in the possession of the State or unit of local government at the time of the initiation of an audit under paragraph (1)(A), subject to paragraph (4)(F), include in any required reports under clause (v), the information listed under paragraph (4)(B);

''(iii) for each sample of sexual assault evidence that is identified as awaiting testing as part of the audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A)—

''(I) assign a unique numeric or alphanumeric identifier to each sample of sexual assault evidence that is in the possession of the State or unit of local government and is awaiting testing; and

''(II) identify the date or dates after which the State or unit of local government would be barred by any applicable statutes of limitations from prosecuting a perpetrator of the sexual assault to which the sample relates;

''(iv) provide that—

''(I) the chief law enforcement officer of the State or unit of local government, respectively, is the individual responsible for the compliance of the State or unit of local government, respectively, with the reporting requirements described in clause (v); or

''(II) the designee of such officer may fulfill the responsibility described in subclause (I) so long as such designee is an employee of the State or unit of local government, respectively, and is not an employee of any governmental laboratory or non-governmental vendor laboratory; and

''(v) comply with all grantee reporting requirements described in paragraph (4).

''(3) EXTENSION OF INITIAL DEADLINE.—The Attorney General may grant an extension of the deadline under paragraph (2)(B)(i) to a State or unit of local government that demonstrates that more time is required for compliance with such paragraph.

''(4) SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EVIDENCE REPORTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For not less than 12 months after the completion of an initial count of sexual assault evidence that is awaiting testing during an audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A), a State or unit of local government that receives a grant award under subsection (a)(7) shall, not less than every 60 days, submit a report to the Department of Justice, on a form prescribed by the Attorney General, which shall contain the information required under subparagraph (B).

''(B) CONTENTS OF REPORTS.—A report under this paragraph shall contain the following information:

''(i) The name of the State or unit of local government filing the report.

''(ii) The period of dates covered by the report.

''(iii) The cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence that, at the end of the reporting period—

''(I) are in the possession of the State or unit of local government at the reporting period;

''(II) are awaiting testing; and

''(III) the State or unit of local government has determined should undergo DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses.

''(iv) The cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence in the possession of the State or unit of local government that, at the end of the reporting period, the State or unit of local government has determined should not undergo DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses, provided that the reporting form shall allow for the State or unit of local government, at its sole discretion, to explain the reasoning for this determination in some or all cases.

''(v) The cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence in a total under clause (iii) that have been submitted to a laboratory for DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses.

''(vi) The cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence identified by an audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A) or under paragraph (2)(B)(ii) for which DNA or other appropriate forensic analysis has been completed at the end of the reporting period.

''(vii) The total number of samples of sexual assault evidence identified by the State or unit of local government under paragraph (2)(B)(ii), since the previous reporting period.

''(viii) The cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence described under clause (iii) for which the State or unit of local government will be barred within 12 months by any applicable statute of limitations from prosecuting a perpetrator of the sexual assault to which the sample relates.

''(C) PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.—Not later than 7 days after the submission of a report under this paragraph by a State or unit of local government, the Attorney General shall, subject to subparagraph (D), publish and disseminate a facsimile of the full contents of such report on an appropriate internet website.

''(D) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The Attorney General shall ensure that any information published and disseminated as part of a report under this paragraph, which reports information under this subsection, does not include personally identifiable information or details about a sexual assault that might lead to the identification of the individuals involved.

''(E) OPTIONAL REPORTING.—The Attorney General shall—

''(i) at the discretion of a State or unit of local government required to file a report under subparagraph (A), allow such State or unit of local government, at their sole discretion, to submit such reports on a more frequent basis; and

''(ii) make available to all States and units of local government the reporting form created pursuant to subparagraph (A), whether or not they are required to submit such reports, and allow such States or units of local government, at their sole discretion, to submit such reports for publication.

''(F) SAMPLES EXEMPT FROM REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The reporting requirements described in paragraph (2) shall not apply to a sample of sexual assault evidence that—

''(i) is not considered criminal evidence (such as a sample collected anonymously from a victim who is unwilling to make a criminal complaint); or

''(ii) relates to a sexual assault for which the prosecution of each perpetrator is barred by a statute of limitations.

''(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) AWAITING TESTING.—The term 'awaiting testing' means, with respect to a sample of sexual assault evidence, that—

''(i) the sample has been collected and is in the possession of a State or unit of local government;

''(ii) DNA and other appropriate forensic analyses have not been performed on such sample; and

''(iii) the sample is related to a criminal case or investigation in which final disposition has not yet been reached.

''(B) FINAL DISPOSITION.—The term 'final disposition' means, with respect to a criminal case or investigation to which a sample of sexual assault evidence relates—

''(i) the conviction or acquittal of all suspected perpetrators of the crime involved;

''(ii) a determination by the State or unit of local government in possession of the sample that the case is unfounded; or

''(iii) a declaration by the victim of the crime involved that the act constituting the basis of the crime was not committed.

''(C) POSSESSION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'possession', used with respect to possession of a sample of sexual assault evidence by a State or unit of local government, includes possession by an individual who is acting as an agent of the State or unit of local government for the collection of the sample.

''(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to create or amend any Federal rights or privileges for non-governmental vendor laboratories described in regulations promulgated under section 210303 of the DNA Identification Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14131).

''(o) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTOCOLS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND DEFINITIONS.—

''(1) PROTOCOLS AND PRACTICES.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the SAFER Act of 2013, the Director, in consultation with Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and government laboratories, shall develop and publish a description of protocols and practices the Director considers appropriate for the accurate, timely, and effective collection and processing of DNA evidence, including protocols and practices specific to sexual assault cases, which shall address appropriate steps in the investigation of cases that might involve DNA evidence, including—

''(A) how to determine—

''(i) which evidence is to be collected by law enforcement personnel and forwarded for testing;

''(ii) the preferred order in which evidence from the same case is to be tested; and

''(iii) what information to take into account when establishing the order in which evidence from different cases is to be tested;

''(B) the establishment of a reasonable period of time in which evidence is to be forwarded by emergency response providers, law enforcement personnel, and prosecutors to a laboratory for testing;

''(C) the establishment of reasonable periods of time in which each stage of analytical laboratory testing is to be completed;

''(D) systems to encourage communication within a State or unit of local government among emergency response providers, law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, courts, defense counsel, crime laboratory personnel, and crime victims regarding the status of crime scene evidence to be tested; and

''(E) standards for conducting the audit of the backlog for DNA case work in sexual assault cases required under subsection (n).

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—The Director shall make available technical assistance and training to support States and units of local government in adopting and implementing the protocols and practices developed under paragraph (1) on and after the date on which the protocols and practices are published.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms 'awaiting testing' and 'possession' have the meanings given those terms in subsection (n).''.

SEC. 1003. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year for which a grant is made for the purpose described in section 2(a)(7) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, as amended by section 1002, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) lists the States and units of local government that have been awarded such grants and the amount of the grant received by each such State or unit of local government;

(2) states the number of extensions granted by the Attorney General under section 2(n)(3) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, as added by section 1002; and

(3) summarizes the processing status of the samples of sexual assault evidence identified in Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reports established under section 2(n)(4) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, including the number of samples that have not been tested.

SEC. 1004. REDUCING THE RAPE KIT BACKLOG.

Section 2(c)(3) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(c)(3)) is amended—

(a) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2018''; and

(b) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) For each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018, not less than 75 percent of the total grant amounts shall be awarded for a combination of purposes under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).''.

SEC. 1005. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

All grants awarded by the Department of Justice that are authorized under this title shall be subject to the following:

(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—Beginning in fiscal year 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this title to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(2) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this title that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this title during the 2 fiscal years beginning after the 12-month period described in paragraph (5).

(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this title, the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible entities that, during the 3 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this title, did not have an unresolved audit finding showing a violation in the terms or conditions of a Department of Justice grant program.

(4) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this Act during the 2-fiscal-year period in which the entity is barred from receiving grants under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall—

(A) deposit an amount equal to the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(B) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(5) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ''unresolved audit finding'' means an audit report finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within a 12-month period beginning on the date when the final audit report is issued.

(6) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section and the grant programs described in this title, the term ''nonprofit organization'' means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General shall not award a grant under any grant program described in this title to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under a grant program described in this title and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subsection available for public inspection.

(7) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Unless otherwise explicitly provided in authorizing legislation, not more than 7.5 percent of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under this title may be used by the Attorney General for salaries and administrative expenses of the Department of Justice.

(8) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this title may be used by the Attorney General or by any individual or organization

awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this Act, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than $20,000 in Department funds, unless the Deputy Attorney General or the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Director, or principal deputy as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food and beverages, audio/visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and any entertainment.

(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved by operation of this paragraph.

(9) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under this title may not be utilized by any grant recipient to—

(i) lobby any representative of the Department of Justice regarding the award of grant funding; or

(ii) lobby any representative of a Federal, state, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

(B) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General determines that any recipient of a grant under this title has violated subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall—

(i) require the grant recipient to repay the grant in full; and

(ii) prohibit the grant recipient from receiving another grant under this title for not less than 5 years.

SEC. 1006. SUNSET.

Effective on December 31, 2018, subsections (a)(6) and (n) of section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(a)(6) and (n)) are repealed.

TITLE XI—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 1101. SEXUAL ABUSE IN CUSTODIAL SETTINGS.

(a) SUITS BY PRISONERS.—Section 7(e) of the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (42 U.S.C. 1997e(e)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''or the commission of a sexual act (as defined in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code)''.

(b) UNITED STATES AS DEFENDANT.—Section 1346(b)(2) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''or the commission of a sexual act (as defined in section 2246 of title 18)''.

(c) ADOPTION AND EFFECT OF NATIONAL STANDARDS.—Section 8 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15607) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) APPLICABILITY TO DETENTION FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall publish a final rule adopting national standards for the detection, prevention, reduction, and punishment of rape and sexual assault in facilities that maintain custody of aliens detained for a violation of the immigrations laws of the United States.

''(2) APPLICABILITY.—The standards adopted under paragraph (1) shall apply to detention facilities operated by the Department of Homeland Security and to detention facilities operated under contract with the Department.

''(3) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

''(A) assess compliance with the standards adopted under paragraph (1) on a regular basis; and

''(B) include the results of the assessments in performance evaluations of facilities completed by the Department of Homeland Security.

''(4) CONSIDERATIONS.—In adopting standards under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall give due consideration to the recommended national standards provided by the Commission under section 7(e).

''(5) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term 'detention facilities operated under contract with the Department' includes, but is not limited to contract detention facilities and detention facilities operated through an intergovernmental service agreement with the Department of Homeland Security.

''(d) APPLICABILITY TO CUSTODIAL FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall publish a final rule adopting national standards for the detection, prevention, reduction, and punishment of rape and sexual assault in facilities that maintain custody of unaccompanied alien children (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))).

''(2) APPLICABILITY.—The standards adopted under paragraph (1) shall apply to facilities operated by the Department of Health and Human Services and to facilities operated under contract with the Department.

''(3) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

''(A) assess compliance with the standards adopted under paragraph (1) on a regular basis; and

''(B) include the results of the assessments in performance evaluations of facilities completed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

''(4) CONSIDERATIONS.—In adopting standards under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall give due consideration to the recommended national standards provided by the Commission under section 7(e).''.

SEC. 1102. ANONYMOUS ONLINE HARASSMENT.

Section 223(a)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), in the undesignated matter following clause (ii), by striking ''annoy,'';

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking ''annoy,''; and

(B) by striking ''harass any person at the called number or who receives the communication'' and inserting ''harass any specific person''; and

(3) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''harass any person at the called number or who receives the communication'' and inserting ''harass any specific person''.

SEC. 1103. STALKER DATABASE.

Section 40603 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14032) is amended by striking ''$3,000,000'' and all that follows and inserting ''$3,000,000 for fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

SEC. 1104. FEDERAL VICTIM ASSISTANTS REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 40114 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322; 108 Stat. 1910) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2007 through 2011'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2014 through 2018''.

SEC. 1105. CHILD ABUSE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL AND PRACTITIONERS REAUTHORIZATION.

Subtitle C of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13024) is amended in subsection (a) by striking ''$2,300,000'' and all that follows and inserting ''$2,300,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.''.

TITLE XII—TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION

Subtitle A—Combating International Trafficking in Persons

SEC. 1201. REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Section 105 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(7)(J), by striking ''section 105(f) of this division'' and inserting ''subsection (g)'';

(2) in subsection (e)(2)—

(A) by striking ''(2) **COORDINATION OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES**.—'' and all that follows through ''exploitation.'';

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as paragraph (2), and moving such paragraph, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the left; and

(C) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the left;

(3) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Each regional bureau in the Department of State shall contribute to the realization of the anti-trafficking goals and objectives of the Secretary of State. Each year, in cooperation with the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, each regional bureau shall submit a list of anti-trafficking goals and objectives to the Secretary of State for each country in the geographic area of responsibilities of the regional bureau. Host governments shall be informed of the goals and objectives for their particular country and, to the extent possible, host government officials should be consulted regarding the goals and objectives.''.

SEC. 1202. PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST SIGNIFICANT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 is amended by inserting after section 105 (22 U.S.C. 7103) the following:

''SEC. 105A. CREATING, BUILDING, AND STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST SIGNIFICANT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

''(a) DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to promote collaboration and cooperation—

''(1) between the United States Government and governments listed on the annual Trafficking in Persons Report;

''(2) between foreign governments and civil society actors; and

''(3) between the United States Government and private sector entities.

''(b) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Director of the office established pursuant to section 105(e)(1) of this Act, in coordination and cooperation with other officials at the Department of State, officials at the Department of Labor, and other relevant officials of the United States Government, shall promote, build, and sustain partnerships between the United States Government and private entities, including foundations, universities, corporations, community-based organizations, and other nongovernmental organizations, to ensure that—

''(1) United States citizens do not use any item, product, or material produced or extracted with the use and labor from victims of severe forms of trafficking; and

''(2) such entities do not contribute to trafficking in persons involving sexual exploitation.

''(c) PROGRAM TO ADDRESS EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—The Secretary of State, acting through the Director established pursuant to section 105(e)(1) of this Act, is authorized to establish a fund to assist foreign governments in meeting unexpected, urgent needs in prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of victims, and prosecution of trafficking offenders.

''(d) CHILD PROTECTION COMPACTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Secretary of Labor, and the heads of other relevant agencies, is authorized to provide assistance under this section for each country that enters into a child protection compact with the United States to support policies and programs that—

''(A) prevent and respond to violence, exploitation, and abuse against children; and

''(B) measurably reduce the trafficking of minors by building sustainable and effective systems of justice, prevention, and protection.

''(2) ELEMENTS.—A child protection compact under this subsection shall establish a multi-year plan for achieving shared objectives in furtherance of the purposes of this Act. The compact should take into account, if applicable, the national child protection strategies and national action plans for human trafficking of a country, and shall describe—

''(A) the specific objectives the foreign government and the United States Government expect to achieve during the term of the compact;

''(B) the responsibilities of the foreign government and the United States Government in the achievement of such objectives;

''(C) the particular programs or initiatives to be undertaken in the achievement of such objectives and the amount of funding to be allocated to each program or initiative by both countries;

''(D) regular outcome indicators to monitor and measure progress toward achieving such objectives;

''(E) a multi-year financial plan, including the estimated amount of contributions by the United States Government and the foreign government, and proposed mechanisms to implement the plan and provide oversight;

''(F) how a country strategy will be developed to sustain progress made toward achieving such objectives after expiration of the compact; and

''(G) how child protection data will be collected, tracked, and managed to provide strengthened case management and policy planning.

''(3) FORM OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance under this subsection may be provided in the form of grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts to or with national governments, regional or local governmental units, or nongovernmental organizations or private entities with expertise in the protection of victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.

''(4) ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the agencies set forth in paragraph (1) and relevant officers of the Department of Justice, shall select countries with which to enter into child protection compacts. The selection of countries under this paragraph shall be based on—

''(A) the selection criteria set forth in paragraph (5); and

''(B) objective, documented, and quantifiable indicators, to the maximum extent possible.

''(5) SELECTION CRITERIA.—A country shall be selected under paragraph (4) on the basis of criteria developed by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Labor. Such criteria shall include—

''(A) a documented high prevalence of trafficking in persons within the country; and

''(B) demonstrated political motivation and sustained commitment by the government of such country to undertake meaningful measures to address severe forms of trafficking in persons, including prevention, protection of victims, and the enactment and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws against perpetrators.

''(6) SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may suspend or terminate assistance provided under this subsection in whole or in part for a country or entity if the Secretary determines that—

''(i) the country or entity is engaged in activities that are contrary to the national security interests of the United States;

''(ii) the country or entity has engaged in a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine the eligibility of the country or entity, as the case may be; or

''(iii) the country or entity has failed to adhere to its responsibilities under the Compact.

''(B) REINSTATEMENT.—The Secretary may reinstate assistance for a country or entity suspended or terminated under this paragraph only if the Secretary determines that the country or entity has demonstrated a commitment to correcting each condition for which assistance was suspended or terminated under subparagraph (A).''.

SEC. 1203. PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

(a) TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES.—Section 105(d)(6) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(6)) is amended by inserting '', and make reasonable efforts to distribute information to enable all relevant Federal Government agencies to publicize the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline on their websites, in all headquarters offices, and in all field offices throughout the United States'' before the period at the end.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Section 107(a)(2) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(a)(2)) is amended by inserting ''and shall brief Congress annually on such efforts'' before the period at the end.

SEC. 1204. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 108(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''peacekeeping'' and inserting ''diplomatic, peacekeeping,'';

(B) by striking '', and measures'' and inserting '', a transparent system for remediating or punishing such public officials as a deterrent, measures''; and

(C) by inserting '', effective bilateral, multilateral, or regional information sharing and cooperation arrangements with other countries, and effective policies or laws regulating foreign labor recruiters and holding them civilly and criminally liable for fraudulent recruiting'' before the period at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''and has entered into bilateral, multilateral, or regional law enforcement cooperation and coordination arrangements with other countries'' before the period at the end;

(3) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by inserting '', including diplomats and soldiers,'' after ''public officials'';

(B) by striking ''peacekeeping'' and inserting ''diplomatic, peacekeeping,''; and

(C) by inserting ''A government's failure to appropriately address public allegations against such public officials, especially once such officials have returned to their home countries, shall be considered inaction under these criteria.'' after ''such trafficking.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (11) as paragraphs (10) through (12), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) Whether the government has entered into effective, transparent partnerships, cooperative arrangements, or agreements that have resulted in concrete and measurable outcomes with—

''(A) domestic civil society organizations, private sector entities, or international nongovernmental organizations, or into multilateral or regional arrangements or agreements, to assist the government's efforts to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and punish traffickers; or

''(B) the United States toward agreed goals and objectives in the collective fight against trafficking.''.

SEC. 1205. BEST PRACTICES IN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ERADICATION.

Section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''with respect to the status of severe forms of trafficking in persons that shall include—'' and inserting ''describing the anti-trafficking efforts of the United States and foreign governments according to the minimum standards and criteria enumerated in section 108, and the nature and scope of trafficking in persons in each country and analysis of the trend lines for individual governmental efforts. The report should include—'';

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by inserting at the end the following:

''(G) a section entitled 'Promising Practices in the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons' to highlight effective practices and use of innovation and technology in prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnerships, including by foreign governments, the private sector, and domestic civil society actors.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (2);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(4) in paragraph (2), as redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

''(E) PUBLIC NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after notifying Congress of each country determined to have met the requirements under subclauses (I) through (III) of subparagraph (D)(ii), the Secretary of State shall provide a detailed description of the credible evidence supporting such determination on a publicly available website maintained by the Department of State.''.

SEC. 1206. PROTECTIONS FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS AND OTHER NONIMMIGRANTS.

Section 202 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1375b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND VIDEO FOR CONSULAR WAITING ROOMS'' after ''INFORMATION PAMPHLET''; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''The video shall be distributed and shown in consular waiting rooms in embassies and consulates appropriate to the circumstances that are determined to have the greatest

concentration of employment or education-based non-immigrant visa applicants, and where sufficient video facilities exist in waiting or other rooms where applicants wait or convene. The Secretary of State is authorized to augment video facilities in such consulates or embassies in order to fulfill the purposes of this section.''.

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and produce or dub the video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and the video produced or dubbed'' after ''translated''; and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and video'' after ''information pamphlet''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) DEADLINE FOR VIDEO DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of State shall make available the video developed under subsection (a) produced or dubbed in all the languages referred to in subsection (c).''.

SEC. 1207. PREVENTION OF CHILD MARRIAGE.

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

''(j) PREVENTION OF CHILD TRAFFICKING THROUGH CHILD MARRIAGE.—The Secretary of State shall establish and implement a multi-year, multi-sectoral strategy—

''(1) to prevent child marriage;

''(2) to promote the empowerment of girls at risk of child marriage in developing countries;

''(3) that should address the unique needs, vulnerabilities, and potential of girls younger than 18 years of age in developing countries;

''(4) that targets areas in developing countries with high prevalence of child marriage; and

''(5) that includes diplomatic and programmatic initiatives.''.

(b) INCLUSION OF CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS IN REPORTS.—The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 116 (22 U.S.C. 2151n), by adding at the end the following:

''(g) CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required under subsection (d) shall include, for each country in which child marriage is prevalent, a description of the status of the practice of child marriage in such country.

''(2) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'child marriage' means the marriage of a girl or boy who is—

''(A) younger than the minimum age for marriage under the laws of the country in which such girl or boy is a resident; or

''(B) younger than 18 years of age, if no such law exists.''; and

(2) in section 502B (22 U.S.C. 2304), by adding at the end the following:

''(i) CHILD MARRIAGE STATUS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required under subsection (b) shall include, for each country in which child marriage is prevalent, a description of the status of the practice of child marriage in such country.

''(2) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'child marriage' means the marriage of a girl or boy who is—

''(A) younger than the minimum age for marriage under the laws of the country in which such girl or boy is a resident; or

''(B) younger than 18 years of age, if no such law exists.''.

SEC. 1208. CHILD SOLDIERS.

Section 404 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(b), (c), and (d), the authorities contained in section 516 or 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j or 2347)'' and inserting ''(b) through (f), the authorities contained in sections 516, 541, and 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j, 2347, and 2348)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) EXCEPTION FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.—The limitation set forth in subsection (a) that relates to section 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to programs that support military professionalization, security sector reform, heightened respect for human rights, peacekeeping preparation, or the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers.''.

Subtitle B—Combating Trafficking in Persons in the United States

PART I—PENALTIES AGAINST TRAFFICKERS AND OTHER CRIMES

SEC. 1211. CRIMINAL TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

(a) RICO AMENDMENT.—Section 1961(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''section 1351 (relating to fraud in foreign labor contracting),'' before ''section 1425''.

(b) ENGAGING IN ILLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT IN FOREIGN PLACES.—Section 2423(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''or resides, either temporarily or permanently, in a foreign country'' after ''commerce''.

(c) UNLAWFUL CONDUCT WITH RESPECT TO DOCUMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1597. Unlawful conduct with respect to immigration documents

''(a) DESTRUCTION, CONCEALMENT, REMOVAL, CONFISCATION, OR POSSESSION OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS.—It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or possess, an actual or purported passport or other immigration document of another individual —

''(1) in the course of violating section 1351 of this title or section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324);

''(2) with intent to violate section 1351 of this title or section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324); or

''(3) in order to, without lawful authority, maintain, prevent, or restrict the labor of services of the individual.

''(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

''(c) OBSTRUCTION.—Any person who knowingly obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties described in subsection (b).''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1597. Unlawful conduct with respect to immigration documents.''.

SEC. 1212. CIVIL REMEDIES; CLARIFYING DEFINITION.

(a) CIVIL REMEDY FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.—Section 2255 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 2241(c)'' and inserting ''section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c)''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''six years'' and inserting ''10 years''.

(b) DEFINITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (14) as paragraphs (2) through (15), respectively;

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

''(1) ABUSE OR THREATENED ABUSE OF LAW OR LEGAL PROCESS.—The term 'abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process' means the use or threatened use of a law or legal process, whether administrative, civil, or criminal, in any manner or for any purpose for which the law was not designed, in order to exert pressure on another person to cause that person to take some action or refrain from taking some action.'';

(C) in paragraph (14), as redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (8)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9)''; and

(D) in paragraph (15), as redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (8) or (9)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9) or (10)''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT OF 2000.—The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et eq.) is amended—

(i) in section 110(e) (22 U.S.C. 7107(e))—

(I) by striking ''section 103(7)(A)'' and inserting ''section 103(8)(A)''; and

(II) by striking ''section 103(7)(B)'' and inserting ''section 103(8)(B)''; and

(ii) in section 113(g)(2) (22 U.S.C. 7110(g)(2)), by striking ''section 103(8)(A)'' and inserting ''section 103(9)(A)''.

(B) NORTH KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2004.—Section 203(b)(2) of the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 (22 U.S.C. 7833(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''section 103(14)'' and inserting ''section 103(15)''.

(C) TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.—Section 207 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044e) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section 103(8)'' and inserting ''section 103(9)'';

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 103(9)'' and inserting ''section 103(10)''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking ''section 103(3)'' and inserting ''section 103(4)''.

(D) VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.—Section 111(a)(1) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044f(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''paragraph (8)'' and inserting ''paragraph (9)''.

PART II—ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF POSSIBLE WITNESSES AND INFORMANTS

SEC. 1221. PROTECTIONS FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS WHO COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Section 101(a)(15)(T)(ii)(III) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(ii)(III) is amended by inserting '', or any adult or minor children of a derivative beneficiary of the alien, as'' after ''age''.

SEC. 1222. PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUD IN FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING.

Section 101(a)(15)(U)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii)) is amended by inserting ''fraud in foreign labor contracting (as defined in section 1351 of title 18, United States Code);'' after ''perjury;''.

PART III—ENSURING INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND EXPANDED REPORTING

SEC. 1231. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Section 105(d)(7) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(7)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (J) as subparagraphs (I) through (O);

(2) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

''(B) the number of persons who have been granted continued presence in the United States under section 107(c)(3) during the preceding fiscal year and the mean and median time taken to adjudicate applications submitted under such section, including the time from the receipt of an application by law enforcement to the issuance of continued presence, and a description of any efforts being taken to reduce the adjudication and processing time while ensuring the safe and competent processing of the applications;

''(C) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or otherwise provided status under subparagraph (T)(i) or (U)(i) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) during the preceding fiscal year;

''(D) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or status under clause (ii) of section 101(a)(15)(T) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)) during the preceding fiscal year, broken down by the number of such persons described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of such clause (ii);

''(E) the amount of Federal funds expended in direct benefits paid to individuals described in subparagraph (D) in conjunction with T visa status;

''(F) the number of persons who have applied for, been granted, or been denied a visa or status under section 101(a)(15)(U)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(i)) during the preceding fiscal year;

''(G) the mean and median time in which it takes to adjudicate applications submitted under the provisions of law set forth in subparagraph (C), including the time between the receipt of an application and the issuance of a visa and work authorization;

''(H) any efforts being taken to reduce the adjudication and processing time, while ensuring the safe and competent processing of the applications;'';

(3) in subparagraph (N)(iii), as redesignated, by striking ''and'' at the end;

(4) in subparagraph (O), as redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(P) the activities undertaken by Federal agencies to train appropriate State, tribal, and local government and law enforcement officials to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking, including both sex and labor trafficking;

''(Q) the activities undertaken by Federal agencies in cooperation with State, tribal, and local law enforcement officials to identify, investigate, and prosecute offenses under sections 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, 1592, and 1594 of title 18, United States Code, or equivalent State offenses, including, in each fiscal year—

''(i) the number, age, gender, country of origin, and citizenship status of victims identified for each offense;

''(ii) the number of individuals charged, and the number of individuals convicted, under each offense;

''(iii) the number of individuals referred for prosecution for State offenses, including offenses relating to the purchasing of commercial sex acts;

''(iv) the number of victims granted continued presence in the United States under section 107(c)(3); and

''(v) the number of victims granted a visa or otherwise provided status under subparagraph (T)(i) or (U)(i) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)); and

''(R) the activities undertaken by the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services to meet the specific needs of minor victims of domestic trafficking, including actions taken pursuant to subsection (f) and section 202(a) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044(a)), and the steps taken to increase cooperation among Federal agencies to ensure the effective and efficient use of programs for which the victims are eligible.''.

SEC. 1232. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

Section 105(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C. 7112(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than December 1, 2014, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of Labor shall submit the list developed under paragraph (2)(C) to Congress.''.

SEC. 1233. INFORMATION SHARING TO COMBAT CHILD LABOR AND SLAVE LABOR.

Section 105(a) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C. 7112(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Secretary of State shall, on a regular basis, provide information relating to child labor and forced labor in the production of goods in violation of international standards to the Department of Labor to be used in developing the list described in subsection (b)(2)(C).''.

SEC. 1234. GOVERNMENT TRAINING EFFORTS TO INCLUDE THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Section 107(c)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting ''the Department of Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission,'' before ''and the Department''; and

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting '', in consultation with the Secretary of Labor,'' before ''shall provide''.

SEC. 1235. GAO REPORT ON THE USE OF FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report on the use of foreign labor contractors to—

(1) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a) should, to the extent possible—

(1) address the role and practices of United States employers in—

(A) the use of labor recruiters or brokers; or

(B) directly recruiting foreign workers;

(2) analyze the laws that protect such workers, both overseas and domestically;

(3) describe the oversight and enforcement mechanisms in Federal departments and agencies for such laws; and

(4) identify any gaps that may exist in these protections; and

(5) recommend possible actions for Federal departments and agencies to combat any abuses.

(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall—

(1) describe the role of labor recruiters or brokers working in countries that are sending workers and receiving funds, including any identified involvement in labor abuses;

(2) describe the role and practices of employers in the United States that commission labor recruiters or brokers or directly recruit foreign workers;

(3) describe the role of Federal departments and agencies in overseeing and regulating the foreign labor recruitment process, including certifying and enforcing under existing regulations;

(4) describe the type of jobs and the numbers of positions in the United States that have been filled through foreign workers during each of the last 8 years, including positions within the Federal Government;

(5) describe any efforts or programs undertaken by Federal, State and local government entities to encourage employers, directly or indirectly, to use foreign workers or to reward employers for using foreign workers; and

(6) based on the information required under paragraphs (1) through (3), identify any common abuses of foreign workers and the employment system, including the use of fees and debts, and recommendations of actions that could be taken by Federal departments and agencies to combat any identified abuses.

SEC. 1236. ACCOUNTABILITY.

All grants awarded by the Attorney General under this title or an Act amended by this title shall be subject to the following accountability provisions:

(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ''unresolved audit finding'' means an audit report finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the grantee has used grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved during the 12-month period beginning on the date on which the final audit report is issued

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this title or an Act amended by this title to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after the end of the 12-month period described in subparagraph (A).

(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this title or an Act amended by this title, the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible applicants that did not have an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title.

(E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this title or an Act amended by this title during the 2-fiscal-year period during which the entity is barred from receiving grants under subparagraph (C), the Attorney General shall—

(i) deposit an amount equal to the amount of the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph and the grant programs under this

title or an Act amended by this title, the term ''nonprofit organization'' means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General may not award a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under this title or an Act amended by this title and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subparagraph available for public inspection.

(3) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this title or an Act amended by this title may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or entity awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this title or an Act amended by this title, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than $20,000 in funds made available to the Department of Justice, unless the Deputy Attorney General or the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Director, or principal deputy (as designated by the Deputy Attorney General) provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host the conference.

(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food, beverages, audio-visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and entertainment.

(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved under this paragraph.

(4) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, an annual certification indicating whether—

(A) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General under paragraph (1) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

(B) all mandatory exclusions required under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued;

(C) all reimbursements required under paragraph (1)(E) have been made; and

(D) includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under paragraph (1) from the previous year.

PART IV—ENHANCING STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

SEC. 1241. ASSISTANCE FOR DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044a) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO DEVELOP, EXPAND, AND STRENGTHEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR CERTAIN PERSONS SUBJECT TO TRAFFICKING.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term 'Assistant Secretary' means the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services.

''(2) ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The term 'Assistant Attorney General' means the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice.

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a State or unit of local government that—

''(A) has significant criminal activity involving sex trafficking of minors;

''(B) has demonstrated cooperation between Federal, State, local, and, where applicable, tribal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and social service providers in addressing sex trafficking of minors;

''(C) has developed a workable, multi-disciplinary plan to combat sex trafficking of minors, including—

''(i) building or establishing a residential care facility for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(ii) the provision of rehabilitative care to minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(iii) the provision of specialized training for law enforcement officers and social service providers for all forms of sex trafficking, with a focus on sex trafficking of minors;

''(iv) prevention, deterrence, and prosecution of offenses involving sex trafficking of minors;

''(v) cooperation or referral agreements with organizations providing outreach or other related services to runaway and homeless youth; and

''(vi) law enforcement protocols or procedures to screen all individuals arrested for prostitution, whether adult or minor, for victimization by sex trafficking and by other crimes, such as sexual assault and domestic violence; and

''(D) provides assurance that a minor victim of sex trafficking shall not be required to collaborate with law enforcement to have access to residential care or services provided with a grant under this section.

''(4) MINOR VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING.—The term 'minor victim of sex trafficking' means an individual who—

''(A) is younger than 18 years of age, and is a victim of an offense described in section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, or a comparable State law; or

''(B)(i) is not younger than 18 years of age nor older than 20 years of age;

''(ii) before the individual reached 18 years of age, was described in subparagraph (A); and

''(iii) was receiving shelter or services as a minor victim of sex trafficking.

''(5) QUALIFIED NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.—The term 'qualified nongovernmental organization' means an organization that—

''(A) is not a State or unit of local government, or an agency of a State or unit of local government;

''(B) has demonstrated experience providing services to victims of sex trafficking or related populations (such as runaway and homeless youth), or employs staff specialized in the treatment of sex trafficking victims; and

''(C) demonstrates a plan to sustain the provision of services beyond the period of a grant awarded under this section.

''(6) SEX TRAFFICKING OF A MINOR.—The term 'sex trafficking of a minor' means an offense described in section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, or a comparable State law, against a minor.

''(b) SEX TRAFFICKING BLOCK GRANTS.—

''(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Attorney General, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary, may make block grants to 4 eligible entities located in different regions of the United States to combat sex trafficking of minors.

''(B) REQUIREMENT.—Not fewer than 1 of the block grants made under subparagraph (A) shall be awarded to an eligible entity with a State population of less than 5,000,000.

''(C) GRANT AMOUNT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations under subsection (g) to carry out this section, each grant made under this section shall be for an amount not less than $1,500,000 and not greater than $2,000,000.

''(D) DURATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A grant made under this section shall be for a period of 1 year.

''(ii) RENEWAL.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Attorney General may renew a grant under this section for up to 3 1-year periods.

''(II) PRIORITY.—In making grants in any fiscal year after the first fiscal year in which grants are made under this section, the Assistant Attorney General shall give priority to an eligible entity that received a grant in the preceding fiscal year and is eligible for renewal under this subparagraph, taking into account any evaluation of the eligible entity conducted under paragraph (4), if available.

''(E) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Assistant Attorney General shall consult with the Assistant Secretary with respect to—

''(i) evaluations of grant recipients under paragraph (4);

''(ii) avoiding unintentional duplication of grants; and

''(iii) any other areas of shared concern.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) ALLOCATION.—Not less than 67 percent of each grant made under paragraph (1) shall be used by the eligible entity to provide residential care and services (as described in clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (B)) to minor victims of sex trafficking through qualified nongovernmental organizations.

''(B) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded pursuant to paragraph (2) may be used for—

''(i) providing residential care to minor victims of sex trafficking, including temporary or long-term placement as appropriate;

''(ii) providing 24-hour emergency social services response for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(iii) providing minor victims of sex trafficking with clothing and other daily necessities needed to keep such victims from returning to living on the street;

''(iv) case management services for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(v) mental health counseling for minor victims of sex trafficking, including specialized counseling and substance abuse treatment;

''(vi) legal services for minor victims of sex trafficking;

''(vii) specialized training for social service providers, public sector personnel, and private sector personnel likely to encounter sex

trafficking victims on issues related to the sex trafficking of minors and severe forms of trafficking in persons;

''(viii) outreach and education programs to provide information about deterrence and prevention of sex trafficking of minors;

''(ix) programs to provide treatment to individuals charged or cited with purchasing or attempting to purchase sex acts in cases where—

''(I) a treatment program can be mandated as a condition of a sentence, fine, suspended sentence, or probation, or is an appropriate alternative to criminal prosecution; and

''(II) the individual was not charged with purchasing or attempting to purchase sex acts with a minor; and

''(x) screening and referral of minor victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.

''(3) APPLICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Assistant Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Assistant Attorney General may reasonably require.

''(B) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought; and

''(ii) provide such additional assurances as the Assistant Attorney General determines to be essential to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

''(4) EVALUATION.—The Assistant Attorney General shall enter into a contract with an academic or non-profit organization that has experience in issues related to sex trafficking of minors and evaluation of grant programs to conduct an annual evaluation of each grant made under this section to determine the impact and effectiveness of programs funded with the grant.

''(c) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section that is found to have utilized grant funds for any unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost shall not be eligible for any grant funds awarded under the grant for 2 fiscal years following the year in which the unauthorized expenditure or unallowable cost is reported.

''(d) COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity shall not be eligible to receive a grant under this section if, during the 5 fiscal years before the eligible entity submits an application for the grant, the eligible entity has been found to have violated the terms or conditions of a Government grant program by utilizing grant funds for unauthorized expenditures or otherwise unallowable costs.

''(e) ADMINISTRATIVE CAP.—The cost of administering the grants authorized by this section shall not exceed 3 percent of the total amount appropriated to carry out this section.

''(f) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—For fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct an audit of all 4 eligible entities that receive block grants under this section.

''(g) MATCH REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section shall provide a non-Federal match in an amount equal to not less than—

''(1) 15 percent of the grant during the first year;

''(2) 25 percent of the grant during the first renewal period;

''(3) 40 percent of the grant during the second renewal period; and

''(4) 50 percent of the grant during the third renewal period.

''(h) NO LIMITATION ON SECTION 204 GRANTS.—An entity that applies for a grant under section 204 is not prohibited from also applying for a grant under this section.

''(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated $8,000,000 to the Attorney General for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017 to carry out this section.

''(j) GAO EVALUATION.—Not later than 30 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that contains—

''(1) an evaluation of the impact of this section in aiding minor victims of sex trafficking in the jurisdiction of the entity receiving the grant; and

''(2) recommendations, if any, regarding any legislative or administrative action the Comptroller General determines appropriate.''.

(b) SUNSET PROVISION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be effective during the 4-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1242. EXPANDING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking '', which involve United States citizens, or aliens admitted for permanent residence, and'';

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) as subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) to train law enforcement personnel how to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons and related offenses;'';

and

(D) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated, by inserting ''and prioritize the investigations and prosecutions of those cases involving minor victims'' after ''sex acts'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) NO LIMITATION ON SECTION 202 GRANT APPLICATIONS.—An entity that applies for a grant under section 202 is not prohibited from also applying for a grant under this section.'';

(4) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by striking ''$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) GAO EVALUATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of and submit to Congress a report evaluating the impact of this section on—

''(1) the ability of law enforcement personnel to identify victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons and investigate and prosecute cases against offenders, including offenders who engage in the purchasing of commercial sex acts with a minor; and

''(2) recommendations, if any, regarding any legislative or administrative action the Comptroller General determines appropriate to improve the ability described in paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 1243. MODEL STATE CRIMINAL LAW PROTECTION FOR CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS.

Section 225(b) of the Trafficking Victims Reauthorization Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 7101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) protects children exploited through prostitution by including safe harbor provisions that—

''(A) treat an individual under 18 years of age who has been arrested for engaging in, or attempting to engage in, a sexual act with another person in exchange for monetary compensation as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons;

''(B) prohibit the charging or prosecution of an individual described in subparagraph (A) for a prostitution offense;

''(C) require the referral of an individual described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate service providers, including comprehensive service or community-based programs that provide assistance to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation; and

''(D) provide that an individual described in subparagraph (A) shall not be required to prove fraud, force, or coercion in order to receive the protections described under this paragraph;''.

Subtitle C—Authorization of Appropriations

SEC. 1251. ADJUSTMENT OF AUTHORIZATION LEVELS FOR THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT OF 2000.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 112A(b)(4) (22 U.S.C. 7109a(b)(4))—

(A) by striking ''$2,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000''; and

(B) by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017''; and

(2) in section 113 (22 U.S.C. 7110)—

(A) subsection (a)—

(i) by striking ''$5,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' each place it appears and inserting ''$2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017'';

(ii) by inserting '', including regional trafficking in persons officers,'' after ''for additional personnel,''; and

(iii) by striking '', and $3,000 for official reception and representation expenses'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$12,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$14,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''to the Secretary of Health and Human Services'' and all that follows and inserting ''$8,000,000 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017.'';

(C) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''2008 through 2011'' each place it appears and inserting ''2014 through 2017'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 and $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(II) by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''2014 through 2017'';

(D) in subsection (d)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively, and moving such paragraphs 2 ems to the left;

(ii) in the paragraph (1), as redesignated, by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$11,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by striking ''to the Attorney General'' and all

that follows and inserting ''$11,000,000 to the Attorney General for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017.'';

(E) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$7,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$7,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017'';

(F) in subsection (f), by striking ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''; and

(G) in subsection (i), by striking ''$18,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''.

SEC. 1252. ADJUSTMENT OF AUTHORIZATION LEVELS FOR THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–164) is amended—

(1) by striking section 102(b)(7); and

(2) in section 201(c)(2), by striking ''$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011'' and inserting ''$250,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017''.

Subtitle D—Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1261. APPROPRIATE CUSTODIAL SETTINGS FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS WHO REACH THE AGE OF MAJORITY WHILE IN FEDERAL CUSTODY.

Section 235(c)(2) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Subject to'' and inserting the following:

''(A) MINORS IN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CUSTODY.—Subject to''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ALIENS TRANSFERRED FROM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUSTODY.—If a minor described in subparagraph (A) reaches 18 years of age and is transferred to the custody of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary shall consider placement in the least restrictive setting available after taking into account the alien's danger to self, danger to the community, and risk of flight. Such aliens shall be eligible to participate in alternative to detention programs, utilizing a continuum of alternatives based on the alien's need for supervision, which may include placement of the alien with an individual or an organizational sponsor, or in a supervised group home.''.

SEC. 1262. APPOINTMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATES FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS.

Section 235(c)(6) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(6)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(2) by striking ''and criminal''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) APPOINTMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATES.—

''(i) INITIAL SITES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall appoint child advocates at 3 new immigration detention sites to provide independent child advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied alien children.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL SITES.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Secretary shall appoint child advocates at not more than 3 additional immigration detention sites.

''(iii) SELECTION OF SITES.—Sites at which child advocate programs will be established under this subparagraph shall be located at immigration detention sites at which more than 50 children are held in immigration custody, and shall be selected sequentially, with priority given to locations with—

''(I) the largest number of unaccompanied alien children; and

''(II) the most vulnerable populations of unaccompanied children.

''(C) RESTRICTIONS.—

''(i) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A child advocate program may not use more that 10 percent of the Federal funds received under this section for administrative expenses.

''(ii) NONEXCLUSIVITY.—Nothing in this section may be construed to restrict the ability of a child advocate program under this section to apply for or obtain funding from any other source to carry out the programs described in this section.

''(iii) CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—A child advocate program selected under this section shall contribute non-Federal funds, either directly or through in-kind contributions, to the costs of the child advocate program in an amount that is not less than 25 percent of the total amount of Federal funds received by the child advocate program under this section. In-kind contributions may not exceed 40 percent of the matching requirement under this clause.

''(D) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report describing the activities undertaken by the Secretary to authorize the appointment of independent Child Advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied alien children to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

''(E) ASSESSMENT OF CHILD ADVOCATE PROGRAM.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study regarding the effectiveness of the Child Advocate Program operated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

''(ii) MATTERS TO BE STUDIED.—In the study required under clause (i), the Comptroller General shall— collect information and analyze the following:

''(I) analyze the effectiveness of existing child advocate programs in improving outcomes for trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied alien children;

''(II) evaluate the implementation of child advocate programs in new sites pursuant to subparagraph (B);

''(III) evaluate the extent to which eligible trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied children are receiving child advocate services and assess the possible budgetary implications of increased participation in the program;

''(IV) evaluate the barriers to improving outcomes for trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied children; and

''(V) make recommendations on statutory changes to improve the Child Advocate Program in relation to the matters analyzed under subclauses (I) through (IV).

''(iii) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit the results of the study required under this subparagraph to—

''(I) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

''(II) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

''(III) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

''(IV) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

''(F) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary and Human Services to carry out this subsection—

''(i) $1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 and 2015; and

''(ii) $2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2016 and 2017.''.

SEC. 1263. ACCESS TO FEDERAL FOSTER CARE AND UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINOR PROTECTIONS FOR CERTAIN U VISA RECIPIENTS.

Section 235(d)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A),

(A) by striking ''either'';

(B) by striking ''or who'' and inserting a comma; and

(C) by inserting '', or has been granted status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)),'' before '', shall be eligible''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', or status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)),'' after ''(8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J))''.

SEC. 1264. GAO STUDY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BORDER SCREENINGS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the effectiveness of screenings conducted by Department of Homeland Security personnel in carrying out section 235(a)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(4)).

(2) STUDY.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall take into account—

(A) the degree to which Department of Homeland Security personnel are adequately ensuring that—

(i) all children are being screened to determine whether they are described in section 235(a)(2)(A) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act;

(ii) appropriate and reliable determinations are being made about whether children are described in section 235(a)(2)(A) of such Act, including determinations of the age of such children;

(iii) children are repatriated in an appropriate manner, consistent with clauses (i) through (iii) of section 235(a)(2)(C) of such Act;

(iv) children are appropriately being permitted to withdraw their applications for admission, in accordance with section 235(a)(2)(B)(i) of such Act;

(v) children are being properly cared for while they are in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security and awaiting repatriation or transfer to the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(vi) children are being transferred to the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services in a manner that is consistent with such Act; and

(B) the number of such children that have been transferred to the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services, the

Federal funds expended to maintain custody of such children, and the Federal benefits available to such children, if any.

(3) ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OPERATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), for the purposes of conducting the study described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide the Comptroller General with unrestricted access to all stages of screenings and other interactions between Department of Homeland Security personnel and children encountered by the Comptroller General.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary shall not permit unrestricted access under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that the security of a particular interaction would be threatened by such access.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the commencement of the study described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that contains the Commission's findings and recommendations.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I move to lay that motion upon the table.

The motion to lay upon the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I wanted to thank all my fellow Senators, from both parties, who voted for this bill. If you are someone who has seen firsthand the results of violence against women, it would be almost impossible to vote no on this bill. Will this stop all violence? No. But will it stop a lot of it? Yes; and it will also make possible for those who are caught in violence a chance for support, a chance for someplace to go, a chance to be protected from future attacks.

This is the kind of legislation that speaks to the conscience of our Nation. It speaks to the conscience of the Senate. It tells everybody, usually the most defenseless in our society, this body stands with you. I would urge our friends on the other side of the Capitol to move quickly with similar legislation. This is something we should not hold up. This is a way we can say: We oppose violence against women. We oppose it today. We oppose it tomorrow. We will oppose it forever.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill 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.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORDRAY NOMINATION

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I was concerned when I saw a number of my colleagues are again trying to block the appointment of Ohioan Richard Cordray to the consumer agency. That agency has already played a significant role in saving tens of millions of dollars for consumers who have been wronged in a checking account transaction, who have been nickel-and-dimed, and then some by bank fees.

Former Ohio Attorney General Cordray has done an excellent job as the Director of that consumer bureau. But what troubles me is this is only the second time in the history of the Senate, at least as far as the Senate Historian can figure, when a group of Senators from one party has blocked the nomination of a Presidential appointee because they do not like the agency, because they oppose the construct of the agency itself.

The first time that ever happened was just a couple of years ago with Richard Cordray in this position. The creation of the consumer bureau went through regular order. It was passed by the Senate Banking Committee, on which I sit. It was part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform bill, and it went to the House of Representatives. It went to conference committee. All that happened was regular order to create this agency.

Many people didn't like the agency. I submit I agree with that. I understand that. I don't agree that it is not a good agency. They don't like the agency in large part because it stood up to Wall Street, and it stood up to some of the bank abuses that put us in this financial situation as a country with the damage it did to our economy.

Even with that, if you don't like the agency, as I said, never before in history except these two times—with the same appointment process, the same appointee, the same designee, the same nominee of the President—has this happened whereby my colleagues said: Even though he is qualified, we are not going to vote to confirm Richard Cordray because we don't like the agency. If you are not willing to change the agency, we are not willing to support a director.

Imagine the kind of precedent that sets where if you don't like an agency, you are never going to let the President confirm a leader of that agency—in any agency of the Federal Government. If you don't like food safety, then you are going to block the appointment. If you don't like transportation, something in the Transportation Department, you don't like something else, you are going to vote against somebody taking the job to run the agency.

Government can't run that way. The government will be dysfunctional if this precedent is set and is ongoing, in addition to the fact that Cordray is right for the job. Also, this agency is important for the middle class, for working-class people, and for low-income people who need these consumer protections.

It sets a very bad precedent for this body. I am hopeful some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will think clearly about this and move ahead on the nomination and confirmation process.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS MEYERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I stand before you today to honor and recognize a man whose legacy of service to the community, both as a physician and a citizen, is completely deserving of such recognition. I am speaking of Mr. Dennis Meyers of Clay County, KY. The Clay County Days Hall of Fame has chosen to induct Mr. Meyers for his excellent leadership of Manchester Memorial Hospital over the past 12 years.

Mr. Meyers' record of service can be traced back to 1969, when he served as a pastor in the Nebraska and Illinois conferences. After close to two decades of pastoral service, he pursued an occupational change that allowed him to aid others in the field of recreational therapy. He continued to pursue opportunities in medicine, moving into a registered nurse position at Hanford Hospital in 1986. Mr. Meyers then accepted the role of vice president of nursing at San Joaquin Community Hospital in 1990 and continued success brought him to Manchester Memorial, where he eventually served as president and chief executive officer.

Dennis Meyers' involvement in and care for his community have been immeasurable, especially when one considers the many community outreach initiatives he fostered. He helped the community by initiating Mission in Motion, public health screenings, Live It UP, and mission outreach programs.

Mr. Meyers' family shares his devotion to helping others, as his wife Susan also works for the hospital and his three children hold nursing degrees. He has recently retired from his lead role at Manchester Memorial Hospital but plans to stay involved through outreach and church programs.

At this time, I would like to ask my fellow Senators to join me in honoring Mr. Dennis Meyers for his induction into the Clay County Days Hall of Fame. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is all the richer because of his tireless spirit and his willingness to work, heal, and serve.

I also ask unanimous consent that an article in praise of Mr. Meyers that appeared in the Bell County-area publication The Manchester Enterprise be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Manchester Enterprise, August 30, 2012]

DENNIS MEYERS LED MANCHESTER MEMORIAL TO GROWTH

Clay County Days Hall of Fame inductee Dennis Meyers retired from the lead role of Manchester Memorial Hospital recently after 12 years in the position.

Meyers began as a pastor in 1969 in Nebraska and Illinois. In 1980, his career took a dramatic shift when he began working as a recreational therapist at the Battle Creek Sanitarium. In 1986 he transitioned to Hanford Hospital, where he worked as a registered nurse.

Four years later, Meyers accepted a position as vice president of nursing at San Joaquin Community Hospital.

From there, he became chief operating officer and vice president of nursing at Manchester Memorial, and then president and chief executive officer.

Several community outreach initiatives began under Meyer's direction, including Mission in Motion, public health screenings, Live It UP, and mission outreach programs that enrich the community.

Meyers holds a bachelor of arts in religion, a bachelor of science in nursing, and a master of divinity from Andrews University.

He is married to Susan Meyers, who works for the hospital, and all three of his children hold nursing degrees.

Meyers plans to continue helping the community that the hospital serves through community outreach and church programs.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit the rules governing the procedure of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, as supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. (a) The Committee shall meet on the third Thursday of each month while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless, for the convenience of Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary.

(b) Hearings of any Subcommittee may be called by the Chairman of such Subcommittee, Provided, That no Subcommittee hearing other than a field hearing, shall be scheduled or held concurrently with a full Committee meeting or hearing, unless a majority of the Committee concurs in such concurrent hearing.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3. (a) All hearings and business meetings of the Committee and all the hearings of any of its Subcommittees shall be open to the public unless the Committee or Subcommittee involved, by majority vote of all the Members of the Committee or such Subcommittee, orders the hearing or meeting to be closed in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) A transcript shall be kept of each hearing of the Committee or any Subcommittee.

(c) A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting of the Committee unless a majority of all the Members of the Committee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

HEARING PROCEDURE

Rule 4. (a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee or any Subcommittee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full Committee or the Subcommittee involved determines that the hearing is noncontroversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of all the Members of the Committee or the Subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than twenty-four hours notice. Any document or report that is the subject of a hearing shall be provided to every Member of the Committee or Subcommittee involved at least 72 hours before the hearing unless the Chairman and Ranking Member determine otherwise.

(b) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Committee or Subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

(c) Each Member shall be limited to five minutes in the questioning of any witness until such time as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness.

(d) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee or the Ranking Majority and Minority Members present at the hearing may each appoint one Committee staff member to question each witness. Such staff member may question the witness only after all Members present have completed their questioning of the witness or at such other time as the Chairman and the Ranking Majority and Minority Members present may agree. No staff member may question a witness in the absence of a quorum for the taking of testimony.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Rule 5. (a) A legislative measure, nomination, or other matter shall be included on the agenda of the next following business meeting of the full Committee if a written request by a Member of the Committee for such inclusion has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include a legislative measure, nomination, or other matter on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b) The agenda for any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least three days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is so published except by the approval of a majority of all the Members of the Committee on matters not included on the public agenda. The Staff Director shall promptly notify absent Members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included on the published agenda.

QUORUMS

Rule 6. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), eight Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee.

(b) No measure or matter shall be ordered reported from the Committee unless twelve Members of the Committee are actually present at the time such action is taken.

(c) One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure or matter before the Committee or any Subcommittee.

VOTING

Rule 7. (a) A rollcall of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member. Any Member who does not vote on any rollcall at the time the roll is called, may vote (in person or by proxy) on that rollcall at any later time during the same business meeting.

(b) Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only upon the date for which it is given and upon the items published in the agenda for that date.

(c) Each Committee report shall set forth the vote on the motion to report the measure or matter involved. Unless the Committee directs otherwise, the report will not set out any votes on amendments offered during Committee consideration. Any Member who did not vote on any rollcall shall have the opportunity to have his position recorded in the appropriate Committee record or Committee report.

(d) The Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the staff of the Committee to make necessary technical and clerical corrections in the measure.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Rule 8. (a) The number of Members assigned to each Subcommittee and the division between Majority and Minority Members shall be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

(b) Assignment of Members to Subcommittees shall, insofar as possible, reflect the preferences of the Members. No Member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no Member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

(c) Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during its hearings but shall not have the authority to vote on any matters before the Subcommittee unless he is a Member of such Subcommittee.

NOMINATIONS

Rule 9. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any other witness shall be under oath. Every nominee shall submit the financial disclosure report filed pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. Such report shall be made available to the public pursuant to the provisions of that Act or other applicable law.

INVESTIGATIONS

Rule 10. (a) Neither the Committee nor any of its Subcommittees may undertake an investigation unless specifically authorized by the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of all the Members of the Committee.

(b) A witness called to testify in an investigation shall be informed of the matter or

matters under investigation, given a copy of these rules, given the opportunity to make a brief and relevant oral statement before or after questioning, and be permitted to have counsel of his or her choosing present during his or her testimony at any public or closed hearing, or at any unsworn interview, to advise the witness of his or her legal rights.

(c) For purposes of this rule, the terms ''investigation'' shall not include a review or study undertaken pursuant to paragraph 8 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate or an initial review of any allegation of wrongdoing intended to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence that would warrant an investigation.

SWORN TESTIMONY

Rule 11. Witnesses in Committee or Subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee deems such to be necessary. If one or more witnesses at a hearing are required to testify under oath, all witnesses at such hearing shall be required to testify under oath.

SUBPOENAS

Rule 12. The Chairman shall have authority to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials (1) with the agreement of the Ranking Minority Member, (2) when authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee, or (3) when within the scope of an investigation authorized under Rule 10(a).

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 13. No confidential testimony taken by or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee or Subcommittee meeting shall be made public, in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 14. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee or Subcommittee hearing tends to defame him or otherwise adversely affect his reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 15. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee or any Subcommittee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by television broadcast, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the seating, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 16. These rules may be amended only by vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee: Provided, That no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least three days in advance of such meeting.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY SHEEHY

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mrs. Sandy Sheehy of Oregon, OH upon her retirement from the Rossford Public Library after 40 years of public service as a children's librarian.

Mrs. Sheehy was raised in Ida, MI and received her master's degree at Western Michigan University. Shortly after graduating, she began working at the Oregon Branch Library, a branch location of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library system. Mrs. Sheehy worked for the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library for her first 10 years of service as the children's librarian and then spent the next 30 years as the children's librarian at the Rossford Public Library, where she helped plan and operate children's programs. In addition, she was responsible for purchasing children's books and multimedia collections as well as purchasing other services for the library.

Over the years, Mrs. Sheehy discovered and developed many trends at the library that sparked excitement and interest in children and their parents. Her dedication to her profession is shown by the respect she has earned from her coworkers and from the Rossford community.

Throughout her career, Sandy Sheehy has made many contributions through her civic involvement throughout the Toledo, OH area. Upon her retirement, Mrs. Sheehy plans to spend time with her family and friends and travel with her husband, Mike Sheehy.

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Sandy Sheehy of Oregon, OH on her 40 years of service to the children of Northwest Ohio and recognize her for developing a positive atmosphere of learning for the many children and families she has assisted and inspired during her career.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP PAUL A. BOWERS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Bishop Paul Alexander Bowers, who has served as the presiding Bishop of Greater Emanuel Apostolic Temple since 1957. Bishop Bowers celebrated his 55th pastoral anniversary on February 1, 2013, in my hometown of Cincinnati, OH.

Bishop Bowers was born and raised in Oxford, PA. After his high school graduation he moved to Columbus, OH, where he attended Aenon Bible College. He graduated in 1951 with a bachelor of theology and later received a bachelor of science from the University of Cincinnati in 1964. Bowers also taught in the Cincinnati public school system for 5 years and retired in 1968 before dedicating his life to ministry.

Bishop Bowers served as chairman of the Ohio District Council of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc., PAW, from 1976 to 1992. During his tenure, he built a 100-bed nursing home, a 1,200 seat worship center with a fully-equipped cafeteria which seats 500 people, and a dormitory that has the capacity to house over 100 people at the ODC Campground in Zanesville, OH.

Bishop Bowers also served as the diocesan of the Carolina State Council, assistant general secretary, general secretary, and assistant presiding Bishop of PAW. In 1992, he was promoted to the Office of the Presiding Bishop, where he served for 6 years. While in this position, Bishop Bowers was responsible for leading a $2.2 million project to renovate PAW's international headquarters located in Indianapolis, IN.

Today, Bishop Bowers serves as the diocesan bishop of the Ohio District Council, where he has had the opportunity to further develop the campground in Zanesville, OH.

Bishop Bowers has made many contributions through his civic involvement throughout the southwestern region of Ohio, but I would like to highlight his outreach in prison ministries and his recent partnership with reentry organizations in Cincinnati, OH.

In August 2011, Bishop Bowers graciously opened the doors of Greater Emanuel Apostolic Temple to host my first reentry summit, following my election to the U.S. Senate. While there, I was greeted by many kind faces and witnessed people come in from off the street to take a moment to pray in the beautiful sanctuary.

Over the years, I have spoken many times about the importance of reducing recidivism in our communities and the need for faith-based leaders to continue their engagement with those reentering society from jails and prisons. I first got involved with prisoner reentry issues through my work on drug prevention and treatment more than 10 years ago, when I came to understand the close connection between substance abuse and recidivism, considering three quarters of those returning from prison have a history of substance abuse.

Faith-based groups are the first line of defense, as well as service, to vulnerable and high-risk populations. Faith leaders can use their influence as an opportunity to direct those in need to proper programming, and I commend the Greater Emanuel congregation for playing an active role in the community and continuing their work to reduce recidivism and change the lives of those in need. Houses of worship serve as beacons of hope to guide the lost and help restore their lives, which is why I believe the ecumenical community can play an important role as a partner in recidivism reduction.

Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Bishop Bowers on his 55th anniversary of pastoral service and recognize him for his continued work on recidivism reduction.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the 50th anniversary of the Alaska Marine Highway System. Alaskans celebrate this critical and necessary water transportation system

which links rural and urban hub communities along the coast of our vast State. Unlike the lower 48, many of our communities are not accessible by road, so in many areas the primary means of travel is by air or sea. Therefore, the Alaska Marine Highway makes up a large part of our highway system and is a route so special it has been designated a National Scenic Byway and an All American Road, the only marine route in the United States with this designation.

My family and I share special memories of taking the ferries to many communities throughout Alaska. The Marine Highway was even part of our trip here to Washington for my first year in the Senate. A ferry ride brings Alaskans together while on their way to visit family, play in basketball tournaments, or bring new cars and boats home from the lower 48.

Although the 50-year anniversary commemorates the formal establishment of the Alaska Division of Marine Transportation in 1963, the Alaska Marine Highway System was begun in 1948, initiated by three men with a dream to provide dependable marine transportation among Alaska's coastal communities. Haines resident Steve Homer joined forces with brothers Ray and Gustav Gelotte to purchase the M/V Chilkoot and set up Chilkoot Motorship Lines. The vessel, formerly a U.S. Navy landing craft, required work to remove its military features and ensure it could pass U.S. Coast Guard inspection, but within a few months of its purchase, it was deemed ready for service as a civilian passenger vessel. The M/V Chilkoot could carry a maximum of only 14 cars and by all accounts had ''poor accommodations'' due to retaining many of its original Navy features. No matter the M/V Chilkoot ferried its first two cars from Haines to Juneau in August of 1948.

As fate would have it, one of those cars belonged to Ernest Gruening, then the Territorial Governor of Alaska. Governor Gruening became an ardent supporter of the new transportation system and with two other commissioners from the Board of Roads authorized the construction of ferry ramps in Juneau, Haines, and Skagway. Thus, service to these three small southeast communities was born.

In 1988 Steve Homer wrote a letter about his experience starting the Alaska Marine Highway System. In that letter he wrote that his initial idea of bringing a landing craft to Southeast Alaska was spawned in 1944 when he commanded such a craft in World War II. He said he signed partnership papers to form Chilkoot Motorship Lines in 1949 and that the total required equity capital was $9,177 in 1948 dollars. A few years later the business ran into financial difficulties, and the Alaska Territorial Government offered to purchase it. Ownership transferred to the territory in 1951.

By 1957 the M/V Chilkoot was too small to meet demand and was replaced by the M/V Chilkat. The M/V Chilkat could carry 59 passengers and 15 vehicles. It began daily service between Juneau, Haines, and Skagway in April of that year.

Two years later, on January 3, 1959, Alaska became the 49th State and the M/V Chilkat became the first State-owned ferry. That same year, the First Alaska Legislature approved the Alaska Ferry Transportation Act, and voters approved bond issues totaling $18 million to expand the ferry fleet. These bonds enabled the State to commission four new vessels and build docks throughout southeast Alaska and the Kenai Peninsula. In 1963, with the establishment of the Division of Marine Transportation, the Alaska Marine Highway System was officially launched.

Over the past 50 years the Alaska Marine Highway has grown to include 11 vessels which serve 35 communities. From the southern terminus in Bellingham, WA, the system stretches more than 3,500 miles to Dutch Harbor, AK. It makes port calls in Prince Rupert, BC, and throughout Alaska's Inside Passage. It travels across the Gulf of Alaska to Prince William Sound and along the Aleutian Chain, all to carry the Nation's commerce to distant destinations and Alaska's passengers to home ports. Through this scenic highway, Alaskans share their incredible natural beauty with visitors from around the world and connect with each other through a transportation system which has served safely and reliably for 50 years.

Thank you for allowing me to celebrate this milestone 50th anniversary of the unique Alaska treasure known as the Alaska Marine Highway System.●

OBSERVING ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

● Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, every year on February 16, Alaskans take time to remember and celebrate Elizabeth Peratrovich, a Tlingit woman who demonstrated courage in her convictions—a courage which changed the course of civil rights treatment for Alaska Natives.

Almost 25 years ago, the Alaska State Legislature designated this date as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day to commemorate the signing of the Alaska Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 and to honor Ms. Peratrovich.

Elizabeth Wanamaker was born on July 4, 1911. Her family traveled extensively on missionary trips throughout southeast Alaska, providing Elizabeth with broad educational experiences and connecting her with people throughout the region—an extraordinary opportunity for a Native girl of that era.

After leaving the State to attend Western College in Bellingham, WA, she returned to Alaska with her new husband, Roy Peratrovich, who was half Tlingit, to work in the canneries in Klawock. Both were educated and interested in Native issues, and Roy joined the Alaska Native Brotherhood, ANB, and Elizabeth joined the Alaska Native Sisterhood, ANS. Both ANB and ANS were working to gain land claims and civil rights for Alaska's Native people. Their interests turned to activism, and Elizabeth and Roy began to get more involved in their community. Roy was elected as mayor of Klawock.

Eventually, the couple decided to move to Alaska's territorial capital, Juneau, in search of more opportunities and a better education for their children. Their dreams quickly dissolved when they discovered Natives were not welcome in many places in Juneau. There were signs reading ''No dogs, No Natives or Filipinos'' and others that simply said ''No Natives Allowed.'' They found separate drinking fountains and separate entryways in public buildings for non-Whites. They learned they could only purchase property in Native neighborhoods, could only be seated in a segregated portion of the local theater, and could only send their children to missionary schools—not the public schools for which they paid a school tax.

In 1941, Elizabeth and Roy wrote a joint letter to Territorial Governor Ernest Gruening about their concerns. Many legislators were entrenched with the idea that Alaska Natives were second class citizens and despite the fact they paid taxes and bore arms in defense of the Nation, they were not endowed with the same rights as others.

However, 1945 brought some hope. Antidiscrimination legislation had passed the Alaska State House but was stalled in the Senate. One senator made a speech stating that Natives had only recently emerged from savagery and they were not fit for society. He argued they had not had the experience of 5,000 years of civilization.

With great courage and composure, Elizabeth Peratrovich stood during public testimony and confronted the senator who had just belittled her and her people. Not only was she a Native addressing the mostly White senate, she was also the first woman ever to address the body.

Elizabeth Peratrovich opened her testimony with, ''I would not have expected that I, who am barely out of savagery, would have to remind gentlemen with five thousand years of recorded civilization behind them of our Bill of Rights.''

The senate gallery and floor exploded in applause. The opposition that had been so absolute and emphatic shrank to a mere whisper.

On February 8, 1945, a bill to end discrimination in Alaska passed the senate by a vote of 11 to 5. The bill was signed into law on February 16—the day we celebrate Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

Elizabeth Peratrovich was instrumental in making Alaska the first organized government under the U.S. flag to condemn discrimination. Today in Alaska, we celebrate Elizabeth

Peratrovich Day and affirm our beliefs in equality.

Thank you for allowing me to embrace the memory of one woman who fought for equality for all, Alaskan Elizabeth Peratrovich.●

REMEMBERING KEVIN TONN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Kevin Tonn, a loving son, devoted friend, and respected law enforcement official. Officer Tonn lost his life serving the Galt Police Department on January 15, 2013. He was 35 years old.

Kevin Tonn was raised in the Sacramento region. He graduated from Roseville High School and the Roseville Police Explorers program before serving in the U.S. Army as a military police officer at Fort Drum and later as a firefighter in New York. In January 2009, he returned home to California and graduated from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Academy.

For the past 3½ years, Officer Kevin Tonn was a member of the Galt Police Department, where he was known for his hard work, sense of humor, and dedication to the community and its people. In his short time with the department, he was promoted to the K–9 unit, where he proudly served with his devoted German Shepherd partner, Yaro.

Officer Kevin Tonn, like all those who serve in law enforcement, put his life on the line to protect and serve his community. His commitment to public safety and to the citizens he served will never be forgotten.

On behalf of the people of California, whom he served so well, I send my gratitude and deep sympathy to his friends and family, including his beloved parents Will and Mary Ann Tonn. We are forever indebted to Officer Tonn for his courage, service, and sacrifice.●

HONORING GORDON H. MANSFIELD

● Mr. BURR. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator SANDERS and myself, as the ranking member and chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I wish to pay tribute to Gordon H. Mansfield, a great American hero, a distinguished public servant, and a boundless advocate and friend of veterans, who died on January 29, 2013, concluding a life of exceptional service to America.

On February 4, 1968, Gordon, then a young Army captain, was leading troops in battle in Quang Tri province, Vietnam, during the Tet Offensive when he was shot twice in the spine by the enemy.

Without the use of his legs, he made sure all his men were safe and all other wounded troops were evacuated before he allowed himself to be medevac'd. Gordon received the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions on that day—a day that marked a new beginning, not an end, to his service to our Nation.

The wounds Gordon suffered required him to use a wheelchair for mobility for the remainder of his life, but after 5 years of rehabilitation and thanks to his amazing determination, he graduated from law school and started a new chapter in his life.

In 1981, he joined the staff of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and he later became its executive director. His passion for public service led him to become the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. And in 2001, he joined the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, first as Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs, then as Deputy Secretary, and briefly, in 2007, as Acting Secretary.

At VA, Gordon brought his unique perspective on the needs of paralyzed veterans to the day-to-day management of the Department. He spoke out regularly on the need to improve access for paralyzed veterans to VA services; to ensure that disabled veterans were properly compensated for their services; and to provide opportunity for every paralyzed veteran to live a full, barrier-free, and productive life.

In 2009, Gordon retired from VA, but he did not conclude his service to veterans and their families. He became a member of the board of directors of the Wounded Warrior Project, serving a new generation of veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. He also joined the board of directors of the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation.

Gordon's lifetime contributions to our country and its citizens were well recognized. In addition to the Distinguished Service Cross, his military decorations included the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Presidential Unit Citation. He was inducted into the Army Ranger Hall of Fame in 2007 and the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame in 1997.

He received the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the Robert Dole Service to Our Nation Award, the Disabled American Veterans Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year Award, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America Outstanding Service to Veterans Award.

We offer his wife Linda; his children, Gordon and Leon; and his entire family our deepest condolences. They, and all Americans, have lost a remarkable leader, a courageous hero, and a role model to all individuals with disabilities. He will be sorely missed.●

VERMONT ESSAY WINNERS

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD winning essays written by Vermont High School students as part of the Third Annual ''What is the State of the Union?'' Essay contest conducted by my office.

The essays follow.

CAROLINE BRAUN, CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL (WINNER)

There is no simple cure for the abundant issues plaguing our nation. Not only are we recovering from a recession, but we also are confronting challenges related to climate change, healthcare, and education. While our efforts to address these issues are noble, our failure to solve them reflects a more concerning societal problem.

On December 14, 2012, twenty children and six faculty members were fatally shot in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Not only did this devastating tragedy leave close friends, family, and the local community in shock, but also the nation. Though it is remarkable that our country embraced the friends and families of those killed, we only seem to value such a strong sense of community after a crisis. The dramatic increase in violence in the past decade raises new questions about our current societal values and priorities: have we forgotten what's truly important in this new age? While we enjoy the many luxuries that accompany technology and contemporary life, has the lure of modern convenience eclipsed our fundamental human need to take care of and support each other, our families, and our communities?

Perhaps it is time we recalibrate who we are and who we want to be as a country so that the fundamental values on which our country was founded can once again flourish. How can one pursue happiness without access to basic healthcare, food, or the ability to spend time with the ones we love? Certainly when our forefathers declared our right to bear arms, their intent was not for corporations and special interest groups to profit from its citizens being armed with assault weapons intended for war. Instead of unbridled greed and big business dominating our economy, it is imperative we support small businesses so they can thrive once again. Environmentally, we have yet to replace our dependence on oil with renewable energy resources and reduce our effects on climate change. And while we all agree educating our children is a requisite investment in our future, teachers continue to earn, on average, 12 percent less than other workers with similar education and work experience.

As a world leader and role model for democracy and peace, we need initiatives that not only connect people and communities, but also ones that will act as catalysts for change. Increasing awareness of issues related to social justice will spark larger movements for societal change; whether it is reducing community violence, practicing business ethics, implementing renewable energy sources, advocating for mental health care, or investing in our teachers and schools. Instead of businesses and special interest groups being the sole influence on policies and the direction of our country, now is the time, once again, for all citizens to be heard, cared for, and respected. Although as a nation we have made and continue to make advances that were inconceivable just a century ago, our penchant for the new shouldn't trump our commitment to older values and fundamental human rights.

EMILY ELLSWORTH, COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL (2ND PLACE)

Social mobility is essential to the development of the American character. The ability to overcome class distinctions and succeed economically through hard work equates to opportunity. Yet current U.S. taxation policies are harming the middle-class and widening the gaps of income inequality, thus narrowing the window of opportunity for Americans. Federally enforced legislation such as the Bush Tax Cuts and the income

tax on capital gains provide a disproportionate amount of benefits to the wealthiest Americans. This leaves a majority of citizens possessing less means to increase their income, obtain education for higher paying occupations and provisions for the next generation.

It is necessary to consider the purchasing function and the insurance function of wealth. The quality of a child's education and neighborhood is dependent upon the volume of wealth the parent has access to. Children also receive a very different set of choices and opportunities upon entering the adult world depending on their family's economic status. To combat the further detriment to future generations, taxes must be raised in areas which will inflict minimal harm, and produce the most beneficial results. America is experiencing the largest disproportion of wealth since 1928, and current taxation policy not only aids in widening the income gap, but harms the accumulation of government tax revenue.

The sale of stocks and bonds are called ''capital gains.'' Until the 1990's, the capital gains tax was at 28%. Today its current level is 15% which enables less revenue gained from any individuals whose main source of income comes from stocks and bonds, such as wealthy businessmen. In 2006, for instance, Warren Buffett paid 17.7 percent in taxes on the $46 million he booked that year, while his secretary paid 30 percent of her $60,000 salary to the government. Simple practices such as restoring tax rates to past levels are essential to the aid of our country's recovery and to improve the state of the Union.

GENA CHIOLA, MOUNT ABRAHAM UNION HIGH SCHOOL (3RD PLACE)

Today, we face problems concerning the environment, war and conflict, as well as lack of resources. In these times, more than ever before, the solution to these problems lies in global communication. If we put our heads together, and help each other, we can create a plan to reduce climate change. If we increase our efforts to work out conflicts between countries, through effective communication, less people will lose their lives through unnecessary wars. Sharing of resources can occur when we effectively communicate between countries, which will reduce poverty worldwide. All it takes is effective global communication to resolve global issues.

One major global problem is conflict between nations. There will always be conflicts between people, it is part of being human, but how we deal with these conflicts is what makes the difference. Today, approximately 60 countries are involved in a war. Millions of people die each year from these conflicts. This fighting and killing is indeed a form of communication, but it is not effective in solving world problems. We accomplish nothing by killing people. We need to stop thinking of ourselves as being separated by national boundaries and focus on how to break down these walls. By communicating and working towards the same common goal, we will improve the planet. If we think globally, we will have more of a chance of communicating globally, and resolving conflicts through peaceful means, rather than war.

Enter Climate Change conundrum. Climate Change is the increased temperature of the atmosphere due to human carbon emissions. Our use of gasoline to run cars, and oil to heat our homes contributes to the heating of the climate. We are slowly destroying our environment, and creating an increasingly dangerous habitat for all living thing. It is no question that this is a dangerous issue that needs addressing. And in order to address it, we must work together. Bill Mckibben, of Vermont, helps us do this. He organized 350.org, which is a global campaign to solve climate change. The mission of 350.org is ''building a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis.'' He organizes global rallies and projects to bring the world together in the face of this crisis. He helps us communicate as a world to get the job done, since it can be done no other way.

Earth's lack of resources needs to be addressed and solved through global communication. 25,000 people die from hunger every day. Other poverty induced diseases, like AIDs, cause millions of deaths worldwide. However, by globally communicating, we can reduce poverty. Global communication can help us redistribute the resources. Some places are brimming over with resources, such as fresh food, water, and technology while others suffer. The U.S.A. has an abundance of resources. If we use global communication to be at peace with one another, we can share what we have, so that less people suffer. If the United States were to share resources with poverty stricken countries of Africa, people in Africa would have happier lives, while people in the United States would still have enough to live comfortably. This can all be achieved through effective global communication.

Global communication is the answer. If we all put our hearts and heads together, and forget our differences, we can change the world for the better, which is always the ultimate goal. Whether it's to prevent wars, bring the temperature of the atmosphere down, or to redistribute resources, it's undebatable that communication is what we need. Let us come together, and work together and never forget the importance of global communication.

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TRIBUTE TO JIM WILLIS

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, on March 1, 2013, one of Oregon's most dedicated leaders will retire. I want to take a few minutes to pay tribute to a public servant and one of Oregon's foremost advocates for veterans, Jim Willis.

Jim has worked selflessly to better the State and the nation. For 48 years, he has been helping others, from his two enlistments in the U.S. Air Force, including a tour of wartime service in South Vietnam, to a career with the Oregon State Police, to his time with the American Legion, and finally his leadership at the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs, ODVA.

After his service in Vietnam, Jim knew what it felt like to return home to a country where veterans were not always welcomed and at times forgotten. He understood the words of George Washington when he said, ''The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, is directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.''

This is why Jim championed funding for the Oregon Veterans' Home, pressed for veteran health care funding under the Federal VA system, increased financing limits on veterans' home loans, supported the construction of the Oregon Medal of Honor Memorial and Afghan-Iraqi Freedom Memorial, and initiated the construction of a second veterans home in Lebanon, Oregon.

I cannot say enough about the distinguished efforts Jim has made over the last 23 years at ODVA on behalf of servicemembers and their families. With his direction, our heroes knew there were trained service officers in their county ready to assist them with benefits, home loans, and countless other issues. The trained professionals and the team he built at ODVA were always willing to help a veteran in a time of need. As President of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Jim coordinated these efforts nationally to assure veterans received what they worked so hard for.

I am grateful to have had Jim as a partner in several endeavors at the Federal level, including the effort to put a halt to pension poachers who were stealing money and benefits from veterans under the guise of veterans' assistance.

Even in retirement, Jim will continue to find ways to give back to the community. He will continue to serve on the American Legion National Cemetery Committee, on the Veteran of Foreign Wars National Resolutions Committee, and as Vice President of the Oregon World War II Memorial Foundation.

I could not be prouder of Jim and his life's work. He embodies the best of Oregon and the best of a grateful nation. As our servicemembers continue to come home and reintegrate into society, I am confident the benefits and services they have earned will be available to them because of Jim and people like him. His dedication to veterans will continue to have a lasting impact on ODVA for years to come.

Mr. President, I know Senator MERKLEY will be speaking after me to express his gratitude for Jim's many years of hard work. I'm proud to join my fellow Oregonians in recognizing the great service of Jim Willis and wishing him the best as he begins this new chapter in his life.●

● Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to echo what my colleague Senator WYDEN said in recognition of Jim Willis, a native Oregonian and one of Oregon's greatest champions for veterans and their families.

As an airman during the Vietnam War, and as an officer for the Oregon State Police, Jim has dedicated his life to serving and protecting the citizens of the United States and the State of Oregon.

Jim saw his work as fulfilling a sacred obligation: we all have the responsibility to honor and care for our veterans. For the past decade, under Jim's leadership, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, ODVA, has stayed true to its mission and recognized and honored Oregon's veterans and their families by providing the highest quality programs, services and benefits.

Jim's dedication to providing quality programs and resources to all veterans and their families has lead ODVA—a relatively small agency—to accomplish a lot during his service. His decision to retire comes on the heels of some major accomplishments over the last few years, including beginning construction of a new veterans' home and the completion of a community center, both to serve Oregon's elderly veterans. Jim's legacy will be the impact that these projects will have on the lives of Oregon's veterans and their families.

With his service to the American Legion National Cemetery Committee and Veterans of Foreign Wars, and his current tenure as President of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Jim works from a national platform to promote and advocate for veterans benefits. For Jim, every day is Veterans Day.

It has been a pleasure to work with Jim, both as a member of the Oregon State Legislature and as a U.S. Senator.

Jim will be retiring to his home in Albany, where he will spend time with his family. He plans to ''continue to be concerned for my fellow veterans as long as I am able to assist in serving them in the future,'' and in that regard will continue to be active in the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and with the committee overseeing Oregon's World War II Memorial, currently under construction on the grounds of the Oregon Capitol.

Oregon is proud of and grateful for all of the hard work and leadership displayed by Jim Willis over his long and decorated career. I am especially proud of his many achievements and I thank him for his many years of outstanding public service. We wish him a happy and healthy retirement, and thank him for his continued dedication to Oregon's veterans.●

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE UNION DELIVERED TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS ON FEBRUARY 12, 2013—PM 2

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to lie on the table:

To The Congress of the United States:

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, fellow citizens:

Fifty-one years ago, John F. Kennedy declared to this Chamber that ''the Constitution makes us not rivals for power but partners for progress. . . It is my task,'' he said, ''to report the State of the Union—to improve it is the task of us all.''

Tonight, thanks to the grit and determination of the American people, there is much progress to report. After a decade of grinding war, our brave men and women in uniform are coming home. After years of grueling recession, our businesses have created over six million new jobs. We buy more American cars than we have in five years, and less foreign oil than we have in twenty. Our housing market is healing, our stock market is rebounding, and consumers, patients, and homeowners enjoy stronger protections than ever before.

Together, we have cleared away the rubble of crisis, and can say with renewed confidence that the State of our Union is stronger.

But we gather here knowing that there are millions of Americans whose hard work and dedication have not yet been rewarded. Our economy is adding jobs—but too many people still can't find full-time employment. Corporate profits have rocketed to all-time highs—but for more than a decade, wages and incomes have barely budged.

It is our generation's task, then, to reignite the true engine of America's economic growth—a rising, thriving middle class.

It is our unfinished task to restore the basic bargain that built this country—the idea that if you work hard and meet your responsibilities, you can get ahead, no matter where you come from, what you look like, or who you love.

It is our unfinished task to make sure that this Government works on behalf of the many, and not just the few; that it encourages free enterprise, rewards individual initiative, and opens the doors of opportunity to every child across this great Nation.

The American people don't expect Government to solve every problem. They don't expect those of us in this chamber to agree on every issue. But they do expect us to put the Nation's interests before party. They do expect us to forge reasonable compromise where we can. For they know that America moves forward only when we do so together; and that the responsibility of improving this Union remains the task of us all.

Our work must begin by making some basic decisions about our budget—decisions that will have a huge impact on the strength of our recovery.

Over the last few years, both parties have worked together to reduce the deficit by more than $2.5 trillion—mostly through spending cuts, but also by raising tax rates on the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. As a result, we are more than halfway towards the goal of $4 trillion in deficit reduction that economists say we need to stabilize our finances.

Now we need to finish the job. And the question is, how?

In 2011, Congress passed a law saying that if both parties couldn't agree on a plan to reach our deficit goal, about a trillion dollars' worth of budget cuts would automatically go into effect this year. These sudden, harsh, arbitrary cuts would jeopardize our military readiness. They'd devastate priorities like education, energy, and medical research. They would certainly slow our recovery, and cost us hundreds of thousands of jobs. That's why Democrats, Republicans, business leaders, and economists have already said that these cuts, known here in Washington as ''the sequester,'' are a really bad idea.

Now, some in this Congress have proposed preventing only the defense cuts by making even bigger cuts to things like education and job training; Medicare and Social Security benefits.

That idea is even worse. Yes, the biggest driver of our long-term debt is the rising cost of health care for an aging population. And those of us who care deeply about programs like Medicare must embrace the need for modest reforms—otherwise, our retirement programs will crowd out the investments we need for our children, and jeopardize the promise of a secure retirement for future generations.

But we can't ask senior citizens and working families to shoulder the entire burden of deficit reduction while asking nothing more from the wealthiest and most powerful. We won't grow the middle class simply by shifting the cost of health care or college onto families that are already struggling, or by forcing communities to lay off more teachers, cops, and firefighters. Most Americans—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents—understand that we can't just cut our way to prosperity. They know that broad-based economic growth requires a balanced approach to deficit reduction, with spending cuts and revenue, and with everybody doing their fair share. And that's the approach I offer tonight.

On Medicare, I'm prepared to enact reforms that will achieve the same amount of health care savings by the beginning of the next decade as the reforms proposed by the bipartisan Simpson-Bowles commission. Already, the Affordable Care Act is helping to slow the growth of health care costs. The reforms I'm proposing go even further. We'll reduce taxpayer subsidies to prescription drug companies and ask more from the wealthiest seniors. We'll bring down costs by changing the way our Government pays for Medicare, because our medical bills shouldn't be based on the number of tests ordered or days spent in the hospital—they should be based on the quality of care that our seniors receive. And I am open to additional reforms from both parties, so

long as they don't violate the guarantee of a secure retirement. Our Government shouldn't make promises we can't keep—but we must keep the promises we've already made.

To hit the rest of our deficit reduction target, we should do what leaders in both parties have already suggested, and save hundreds of billions of dollars by getting rid of tax loopholes and deductions for the well-off and well-connected. After all, why would we choose to make deeper cuts to education and Medicare just to protect special interest tax breaks? How is that fair? How does that promote growth?

Now is our best chance for bipartisan, comprehensive tax reform that encourages job creation and helps bring down the deficit. The American people deserve a tax code that helps small businesses spend less time filling out complicated forms, and more time expanding and hiring; a tax code that ensures billionaires with high-powered accountants can't pay a lower rate than their hard-working secretaries; a tax code that lowers incentives to move jobs overseas, and lowers tax rates for businesses and manufacturers that create jobs right here in America. That's what tax reform can deliver. That's what we can do together.

I realize that tax reform and entitlement reform won't be easy. The politics will be hard for both sides. None of us will get 100 percent of what we want. But the alternative will cost us jobs, hurt our economy, and visit hardship on millions of hardworking Americans. So let's set party interests aside, and work to pass a budget that replaces reckless cuts with smart savings and wise investments in our future. And let's do it without the brinksmanship that stresses consumers and scares off investors. The greatest Nation on Earth cannot keep conducting its business by drifting from one manufactured crisis to the next. Let's agree, right here, right now, to keep the people's Government open, pay our bills on time, and always uphold the full faith and credit of the United States of America. The American people have worked too hard, for too long, rebuilding from one crisis to see their elected officials cause another.

Now, most of us agree that a plan to reduce the deficit must be part of our agenda. But let's be clear: deficit reduction alone is not an economic plan. A growing economy that creates good, middle-class jobs—that must be the North Star that guides our efforts. Every day, we should ask ourselves three questions as a Nation: How do we attract more jobs to our shores? How do we equip our people with the skills needed to do those jobs? And how do we make sure that hard work leads to a decent living?

A year and a half ago, I put forward an American Jobs Act that independent economists said would create more than one million new jobs. I thank the last Congress for passing some of that agenda, and I urge this Congress to pass the rest. Tonight, I'll lay out additional proposals that are fully paid for and fully consistent with the budget framework both parties agreed to just 18 months ago. Let me repeat—nothing I'm proposing tonight should increase our deficit by a single dime. It's not a bigger Government we need, but a smarter Government that sets priorities and invests in broad-based growth.

Our first priority is making America a magnet for new jobs and manufacturing.

After shedding jobs for more than 10 years, our manufacturers have added about 500,000 jobs over the past three. Caterpillar is bringing jobs back from Japan. Ford is bringing jobs back from Mexico. After locating plants in other countries like China, Intel is opening its most advanced plant right here at home. And this year, Apple will start making Macs in America again.

There are things we can do, right now, to accelerate this trend. Last year, we created our first manufacturing innovation institute in Youngstown, Ohio. A once-shuttered warehouse is now a state-of-the art lab where new workers are mastering the 3D printing that has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything. There's no reason this can't happen in other towns. So tonight, I'm announcing the launch of three more of these manufacturing hubs, where businesses will partner with the Departments of Defense and Energy to turn regions left behind by globalization into global centers of high-tech jobs. And I ask this Congress to help create a network of fifteen of these hubs and guarantee that the next revolution in manufacturing is Made in America.

If we want to make the best products, we also have to invest in the best ideas. Every dollar we invested to map the human genome returned $140 to our economy. Today, our scientists are mapping the human brain to unlock the answers to Alzheimer's; developing drugs to regenerate damaged organs; devising new material to make batteries ten times more powerful. Now is not the time to gut these job-creating investments in science and innovation. Now is the time to reach a level of research and development not seen since the height of the Space Race. And today, no area holds more promise than our investments in American energy.

After years of talking about it, we are finally poised to control our own energy future. We produce more oil at home than we have in 15 years. We have doubled the distance our cars will go on a gallon of gas, and the amount of renewable energy we generate from sources like wind and solar—with tens of thousands of good, American jobs to show for it. We produce more natural gas than ever before—and nearly everyone's energy bill is lower because of it. And over the last four years, our emissions of the dangerous carbon pollution that threatens our planet have actually fallen.

But for the sake of our children and our future, we must do more to combat climate change. Yes, it's true that no single event makes a trend. But the fact is, the 12 hottest years on record have all come in the last 15. Heat waves, droughts, wildfires, and floods—all are now more frequent and intense. We can choose to believe that Superstorm Sandy, and the most severe drought in decades, and the worst wildfires some states have ever seen were all just a freak coincidence. Or we can choose to believe in the overwhelming judgment of science—and act before it's too late.

The good news is, we can make meaningful progress on this issue while driving strong economic growth. I urge this Congress to pursue a bipartisan, market-based solution to climate change, like the one JOHN MCCAIN and Joe Lieberman worked on together a few years ago. But if Congress won't act soon to protect future generations, I will. I will direct my Cabinet to come up with executive actions we can take, now and in the future, to reduce pollution, prepare our communities for the consequences of climate change, and speed the transition to more sustainable sources of energy.

Four years ago, other countries dominated the clean energy market and the jobs that came with it. We've begun to change that. Last year, wind energy added nearly half of all new power capacity in America. So let's generate even more. Solar energy gets cheaper by the year—so let's drive costs down even further. As long as countries like China keep going all-in on clean energy, so must we.

In the meantime, the natural gas boom has led to cleaner power and greater energy independence. That's why my Administration will keep cutting red tape and speeding up new oil and gas permits. But I also want to work with this Congress to encourage the research and technology that helps natural gas burn even cleaner and protects our air and water.

Indeed, much of our new-found energy is drawn from lands and waters that we, the public, own together. So tonight, I propose we use some of our oil and gas revenues to fund an Energy Security Trust that will drive new research and technology to shift our cars and trucks off oil for good. If a nonpartisan coalition of CEOs and retired generals and admirals can get behind this idea, then so can we. Let's take their advice and free our families and businesses from the painful spikes in gas prices we've put up with for far too long. I'm also issuing a new goal for America: let's cut in half the energy wasted by our homes and businesses over the next twenty years. The States with the best ideas to create jobs and lower energy bills by constructing more efficient buildings will receive Federal support to help make it happen.

America's energy sector is just one part of an aging infrastructure badly in need of repair. Ask any CEO where they'd rather locate and hire: a country with deteriorating roads and bridges, or one with high-speed rail and internet; high-tech schools and self-healing power grids. The CEO of Siemens America—a company that brought hundreds of new jobs to North Carolina—has said that if we upgrade our infrastructure, they'll bring even more jobs. And I know that you want these job-creating projects in your districts. I've seen you all at the ribbon-cuttings.

Tonight, I propose a ''Fix-It-First'' program to put people to work as soon as possible on our most urgent repairs, like the nearly 70,000 structurally deficient bridges across the country. And to make sure taxpayers don't shoulder the whole burden, I'm also proposing a Partnership to Rebuild America that attracts private capital to upgrade what our businesses need most: modern ports to move our goods; modern pipelines to withstand a storm; modern schools worthy of our children. Let's prove that there is no better place to do business than the United States of America. And let's start right away.

Part of our rebuilding effort must also involve our housing sector. Today, our housing market is finally healing from the collapse of 2007. Home prices are rising at the fastest pace in six years, home purchases are up nearly 50 percent, and construction is expanding again.

But even with mortgage rates near a 50-year low, too many families with solid credit who want to buy a home are being rejected. Too many families who have never missed a payment and want to refinance are being told no. That's holding our entire economy back, and we need to fix it. Right now, there's a bill in this Congress that would give every responsible homeowner in America the chance to save $3,000 a year by refinancing at today's rates. Democrats and Republicans have supported it before. What are we waiting for? Take a vote, and send me that bill. Right now, overlapping regulations keep responsible young families from buying their first home. What's holding us back? Let's streamline the process, and help our economy grow.

These initiatives in manufacturing, energy, infrastructure, and housing will help entrepreneurs and small business owners expand and create new jobs. But none of it will matter unless we also equip our citizens with the skills and training to fill those jobs. And that has to start at the earliest possible age.

Study after study shows that the sooner a child begins learning, the better he or she does down the road. But today, fewer than 3 in 10 four-year-olds are enrolled in a high-quality preschool program. Most middle-class parents can't afford a few hundred bucks a week for private preschool. And for poor kids who need help the most, this lack of access to preschool education can shadow them for the rest of their lives.

Tonight, I propose working with states to make high-quality preschool available to every child in America. Every dollar we invest in high-quality early education can save more than seven dollars later on—by boosting graduation rates, reducing teen pregnancy, even reducing violent crime. In States that make it a priority to educate our youngest children, like Georgia or Oklahoma, studies show students grow up more likely to read and do math at grade level, graduate high school, hold a job, and form more stable families of their own. So let's do what works, and make sure none of our children start the race of life already behind. Let's give our kids that chance.

Let's also make sure that a high school diploma puts our kids on a path to a good job. Right now, countries like Germany focus on graduating their high-school students with the equivalent of a technical degree from one of our community colleges, so that they're ready for a job. At schools like P-Tech in Brooklyn, a collaboration between New York Public Schools, the City University of New York, and IBM, students will graduate with a high school diploma and an associate's degree in computers or engineering.

We need to give every American student opportunities like this. Four years ago, we started Race to the Top—a competition that convinced almost every state to develop smarter curricula and higher standards, for about 1 percent of what we spend on education each year. Tonight, I'm announcing a new challenge to redesign America's high schools so they better equip graduates for the demands of a high-tech economy. We'll reward schools that develop new partnerships with colleges and employers, and create classes that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math—the skills today's employers are looking for to fill jobs right now and in the future.

Now, even with better high schools, most young people will need some higher education. It's a simple fact: the more education you have, the more likely you are to have a job and work your way into the middle class. But today, skyrocketing costs price way too many young people out of a higher education, or saddle them with unsustainable debt.

Through tax credits, grants, and better loans, we have made college more affordable for millions of students and families over the last few years. But taxpayers cannot continue to subsidize the soaring cost of higher education. Colleges must do their part to keep costs down, and it's our job to make sure they do. Tonight, I ask Congress to change the Higher Education Act, so that affordability and value are included in determining which colleges receive certain types of Federal aid. And tomorrow, my Administration will release a new ''College Scorecard'' that parents and students can use to compare schools based on a simple criterion: where you can get the most bang for your educational buck.

To grow our middle class, our citizens must have access to the education and training that today's jobs require. But we also have to make sure that America remains a place where everyone who's willing to work hard has the chance to get ahead.

Our economy is stronger when we harness the talents and ingenuity of striving, hopeful immigrants. And right now, leaders from the business, labor, law enforcement, and faith communities all agree that the time has come to pass immigration reform.

Real reform means strong border security, and we can build on the progress my Administration has already made—putting more boots on the souther border than at any time in our history, and reducing illegal crossings to their lowest levels in 40 years.

Real reform means establishing a responsible pathway to earned citizenship—a path that includes passing a background check, paying taxes and a meaningful penalty, learning English, and going to the back of the line behind the folks trying to come here legally.

And real reform means fixing the legal immigration system to cut waiting periods, reduce bureaucracy, and attract the highly skilled entrepreneurs and engineers that will help create jobs and grow our economy.

In other words, we know what needs to be done. As we speak, bipartisan groups in both chambers and working diligently to draft a bill, and I applaud their efforts. Now let's get this done. Send me a comprehensive immigration reform bill in the next few months, and I will sign it right away.

But we can't stop there. We know our economy is stronger when our wives, mothers, and daughters can live their lives free from discrimination in the workplace, and free from the fear of domestic violence. Today, the Senate passed the Violence Against Women Act that JOE BIDEN originally wrote almost 20 years ago. I urge the House to do the same. And I ask this Congress to declare that women should earn a living equal to their efforts, and finally pass the Paycheck Fairness Act this year.

We know our economy is stronger when we reward an honest day's work with honest wages. But today, a full-time worker making the minimum wage earns $14,500 a year. Even with the tax relief we've put in place, a family with two kids that earns the minimum wage still lives below the poverty line. That's wrong. That's why, since the last time this Congress raised the minimum wage, nineteen states have chosen to bump theirs even higher.

Tonight, let's declare that in the wealthiest Nation on Earth, no one who works full-time should have to live

in poverty, and raise the Federal minimum wage to $9.00 an hour. This single step would raise the incomes of millions of working families. It could mean the difference between groceries or the food bank; rent or eviction; scraping by or finally getting ahead. For businesses across the country, it would mean customers with more money in their pockets. In fact, working folks shouldn't have to wait year after year for the minimum wage to go up while CEO pay has never been higher. So here's an idea that Governor Romney and I actually agreed on last year: let's tie the minimum wage to the cost of living, so that it finally becomes a wage you can live on.

Tonight, let's also recognize that there are communities in this country where no matter how hard you work, it's virtually impossible to get ahead. Factory towns decimated from years of plants packing up. Inescapable pockets of poverty, urban and rural, where young adults are still fighting for their first job. America is not a place where chance of birth or circumstance should decide our destiny. And that is why we need to build new ladders of opportunity into the middle class for all who are willing to climb them.

Let's offer incentives to companies that hire Americans who've got what it takes to fill that job opening, but have been out of work so long that no one will give them a chance. Let's put people back to work rebuilding vacant homes in run-down neighborhoods. And this year, my Administration will begin to partner with 20 of the hardest-hit towns in America to get these communities back on their feet. We'll work with local leaders to target resources at public safety, education, and housing. We'll give new tax credits to businesses that hire and invest. And we'll work to strengthen families by removing the financial deterrents to marriage for low-income couples, and doing more to encourage fatherhood—because what makes you a man isn't the ability to conceive a child; it's having the courage to raise one.

Stronger families. Stronger communities. A stronger America. It is this kind of prosperity—broad, shared, and built on a thriving middle class—that has always been the source of our progress at home. It is also the foundation of our power and influence throughout the world.

Tonight, we stand united in saluting the troops and civilians who sacrifice every day to protect us. Because of them, we can say with confidence that America will complete its mission in Afghanistan, and achieve our objective of defeating the core of al Qaeda. Already, we have brought home 33,000 of our brave servicemen and women. This spring, our forces will move into a support role, while Afghan Security forces take the lead. Tonight, I can announce that over the next year, another 34,000 American troops will come home from Afghanistan. This drawdown will continue. And by the end of next year, our war in Afghanistan will be over.

Beyond 2014, America's commitment to a unified and sovereign Afghanistan will endure, but the nature of our commitment will change. We are negotiating an agreement with the Afghan government that focuses on two missions: training and equipping Afghan forces so that the country does not again slip into chaos, and counter-terrorism efforts that allow us to pursue the remnants of al Qaeda and their affiliates.

Today, the organization that attacked us on 9/11 is a shadow of its former self. Different al Qaeda affiliates and extremist groups have emerged—from the Arabian Peninsula to Africa. The threat these groups pose is evolving. But to meet this threat, we don't need to send tens of thousands of our sons and daughters abroad, or occupy other nations. Instead, we will need to help countries like Yemen, Libya, and Somalia provide for their own security, and help allies who take the fight to terrorists, as we have in Mali. And, where necessary, through a range of capabilities, we will continue to take direct action against those terrorists who pose the gravest threat to Americans.

As we do, we must enlist our values in the fight. That is why my Administration has worked tirelessly to forge a durable legal and policy framework to guide our counterterrorism operations. Throughout, we have kept Congress fully informed of our efforts. I recognize that in our democracy, no one should just take my word that we're doing things the right way. So, in the months ahead, I will continue to engage with Congress to ensure not only that our targeting, detention, and prosecution of terrorists remains consistent with our laws and system of checks and balances, but that our efforts are even more transparent to the American people and to the world.

Of course, our challenges don't end with al Qaeda. America will continue to lead the effort to prevent the spread of the world's most dangerous weapons. The regime in North Korea must know that they will only achieve security and prosperity by meeting their international obligations. Provocations of the sort we saw last night will only isolate them further, as we stand by our allies, strengthen our own missile defense, and lead the world in taking firm action in response to these threats.

Likewise, the leaders of Iran must recognize that now is the time for a diplomatic solution, because a coalition stands united in demanding that they meet their obligations, and we will do what is necessary to prevent them from getting a nuclear weapon. At the same time, we will engage Russia to seek further reductions in our nuclear arsenals, and continue leading the global effort to secure nuclear materials that could fall into the wrong hands—because our ability to influence others depends on our willingness to lead.

America must also face the rapidly growing threat from cyber-attacks. We know hackers steal people's identities and infiltrate private e-mail. We know foreign countries and companies swipe our corporate secrets. Now our enemies are also seeking the ability to sabotage our power grid, our financial institutions, and our air traffic control systems. We cannot look back years from now and wonder why we did nothing in the face of real threats to our security and our economy.

That's why, earlier today, I signed a new Executive Order that will strengthen our cyber defenses by increasing information sharing, and developing standards to protect our national security, our jobs, and our privacy. Now, Congress must act as well, by passing legislation to give our government a greater capacity to secure our networks and deter attacks.

Even as we protect our people, we should remember that today's world presents not only dangers, but opportunities. To boost American exports, support American jobs, and level the playing field in the growing markets of Asia, we intend to complete negotiations on a Trans-Pacific Partnership. And tonight, I am announcing that we will launch talks on a comprehensive Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with the European Union—because trade that is free and fair across the Atlantic supports millions of good-paying American jobs.

We also know that progress in the most impoverished parts of our world enriches us all. In many places, people live on little more than a dollar a day. So the United States will join with our allies to eradicate such extreme poverty in the next two decades: by connecting more people to the global economy and empowering women; by giving our young and brightest minds new opportunities to serve and helping communities to feed, power, and educate themselves; by saving the world's children from preventable deaths; and by realizing the promise of an AIDS-free generation.

Above all America must remain a beacon to all who seek freedom during this period of historic change. I saw the power of hope last year in Rangoon—when Aung San Suu Kyi welcomed an American President into the home where she had been imprisoned for years; when thousands of Burmese lined the streets, waving American flags, including a man who said, ''There is justice and law in the United States. I want our country to be like that.''

In defense of freedom, we will remain the anchor of strong alliances from the Americas to Africa; from Europe to Asia. In the Middle East, we will stand with citizens as they demand their universal rights, and support stable transitions to democracy. The process will be messy, and we cannot presume to dictate the course of change in countries like Egypt; but we can—and will—insist on respect for the fundamental

rights of all people. will keep the pressure on a Syrian regime that has murdered its own people, and support opposition leaders that respect the rights of every Syrian. And we will stand steadfast with Israel in pursuit of security and a lasting peace. These are the messages I will deliver when I travel to the Middle East next month.

All this work depends on the courage and sacrifice of those who serve in dangerous places at great personal risk—our diplomats, our intelligence officers, and the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. As long as I'm Commander in Chief, we will do whatever we must to protect those who serve their country abroad, and we will maintain the best military in the world. We will invest in new capabilities, even as we reduce waste and wartime spending. We will ensure equal treatment for all service members, and equal benefits for their families—gay and straight. We will draw upon the courage and skills of our sisters and daughters, because women have proven under fire that they are ready for combat. We will keep faith with our veterans—investing in world-class care, including mental health care, for our wounded warriors; supporting our military families; and giving our veterans the benefits, education, and job opportunities they have earned. And I want to thank my wife Michelle and Dr. Jill Biden for their continued dedication to serving our military families as well as they serve us.

But defending our freedom is not the job of our military alone. We must all do our part to make sure our God-given rights are protected here at home. That includes our most fundamental right as citizens: the right to vote. When any Americans—no matter where they live or what their party—are denied that right simply because they can't wait for five, six, or seven hours just to cast their ballot, we are betraying our ideals. That's why, tonight, I'm announcing a non-partisan commission to improve the voting experience in America. And I'm asking two long-time experts in the field, who've recently served as the top attorneys for my campaign and for Governor Romney's campaign, to lead it. We can fix this, and we will. The American people demand it. And so does our democracy.

Of course, what I've said tonight matters little if we don't come together to protect our most precious resource—our children.

It has been two months since Newtown. I know this is not the first time this country has debated how to reduce gun violence. But this time is different. Overwhelming majorities of Americans—Americans who believe in the 2nd Amendment—have come together around commonsense reform—like background checks that will make it harder for criminals to get their hands on a gun. Senators of both parties are working together on tough new laws to prevent anyone from buying guns for resale to criminals. Police chiefs are asking our help to get weapons of war and massive ammunition magazines off our streets, because they are tired of being outgunned.

Each of these proposals deserves a vote in Congress. If you want to vote no, that's your choice. But these proposals deserve a vote. Because in the two months since Newtown, more than a thousand birthdays, graduations, and anniversaries have been stolen from our lives by a bullet from a gun.

One of those we lost was a young girl named Hadiya Pendleton. She was 15 years old. She loved Fig Newtons and lip gloss. She was a majorette. She was so good to her friends, they all thought they were her best friend. Just three weeks ago, she was here, in Washington, with her classmates, performing for her country at my inauguration. And a week later, she was shot and killed in a Chicago park after school, just a mile away from my house.

Hadiya's parents, Nate and Cleo, are in this chamber tonight, along with more than two dozen Americans whose lives have been torn apart by gun violence. They deserve a vote.

Gabby Giffords deserves a vote.

The families of Newtown deserve a vote.

The families of Aurora deserve a vote.

The families of Oak Creek, and Tucson, and Blacksburg, and the countless other communities ripped open by gun violence—they deserve a simple vote.

Our actions will not prevent every senseless act of violence in this country. Indeed, no laws, no initiatives, no administrative acts will perfectly solve all the challenges I've outlined tonight. But we were never sent here to be perfect. We were sent here to make what difference we can, to secure this Nation, expand opportunity, and uphold our ideals through the hard, often frustrating, but absolutely necessary work of self-government.

We were sent here to look out for our fellow Americans the same way they look out for one another, every single day, usually without fanfare, all across this country. We should follow their example.

We should follow the example of a New York City nurse named Menchu Sanchez. When Hurricane Sandy plunged her hospital into darkness, her thoughts were not with how her own home was faring—they were with the twenty precious newborns in her care and the rescue plan she devised that kept them all safe.

We should follow the example of a North Miami woman named Desiline Victor. When she arrived at her polling place, she was told the wait to vote might be six hours. And as time ticked by, her concern was not with her tired body or aching feet, but whether folks like her would get to have their say. Hour after hour, a throng of people stayed in line in support of her. Because Desiline is 102 years old. And they erupted in cheers when she finally put on a sticker that read ''I Voted.''

We should follow the example of a police officer named Brian Murphy. When a gunman opened fire on a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, and Brian was the first to arrive, he did not consider his own safety. He fought back until help arrived and ordered his fellow officers to protect the safety of the Americans worshipping inside—even as he lay bleeding from twelve bullet wounds.

When asked how he did that, Brian said, ''That's just the way we're made.''

That's just the way we're made.

We may do different jobs, and wear different uniforms, and hold different views than the person beside us. But as Americans, we all share the same proud title:

We are citizens. It's a word that doesn't just describe our nationality or legal status. It describes the way we're made. It describes what we believe. It captures the enduring idea that this country only works when we accept certain obligations to one another and to future generations; that our rights are wrapped up in the rights of others; and that well into our third century as a Nation, it remains the task of us all, as citizens of these United States, to be the authors of the next great chapter in our American story.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 12, 2013*.

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–331. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Agency's proposed fiscal year 2014 budget; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–332. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9376–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–333. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Glycine max Herbicide-resistant Acetolactate Synthase; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9376–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–334. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Thiacloprid; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9374–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–335. A communication from the Acting Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal

and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Texas (Splenetic) Fever in Cattle'' (Docket No. APHIS–2012–0069) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–336. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Importation of Fresh Bananas From the Philippines into the Continental United States'' ((RIN0579–AD61) (Docket No. APHIS–2011–0028)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–337. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Criteria Used to Order Administrative Detention of Food for Human or Animal Consumption'' ((RIN0910–AG67) (Docket No. FDA–2011–N–0197)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–338. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–339. A joint communication from the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to maintaining the EP–3E Airborne Reconnaissance Integrated Electronic System II and the Special Projects Aircraft platform in a manner that meets the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance requirements of the Commanders of the Combatant Commands; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–340. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael D. Barbero, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–341. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–342. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Designation of Low-Income Status; Acceptance of Secondary Capital Accounts by Low-Income Designated Credit Unions'' (RIN3133–AE09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–343. A communication from the Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC–344. A communication from the Director of Insular Affairs, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''First Five-Year Review of the Compact of Free Association, As Amended, Between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–345. A communication from the Director of Insular Affairs, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''First Five-Year Review of the Compact of Free Association, As Amended, Between the Governments of the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–346. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Annual Charges for Use of Government Lands'' (Docket No. RM11–6–000) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 4, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–347. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Montana Regulatory Program'' (Docket No. MT–032–FOR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–348. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Utah Regulatory Program'' (Docket No. UT–047–FOR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–349. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Tennessee Abandoned Mine Land Program'' (Docket No. TN–001–FOR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–350. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Wyoming Regulatory Program'' (Docket No. WY–040–FOR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–351. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Amendments to Maryland's Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 9777–2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–352. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Jersey and New York Ozone Attainment Demonstrations'' (FRL No. 9778–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–353. A communication from the Chair of the Medicaid and CHIP Payment Access Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Overview of Medicaid and CHIP''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–354. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Recovery Auditing in the Medicare and Medicaid Program''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–355. A joint communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–356. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Programs; Transparency Reports and Reporting of Physician Ownership or Investment Interests'' (RIN0938–AR33) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–357. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates'' (Notice 2013–6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–358. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reconsideration of Tax-Exempt AFR'' (Notice 2013–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–359. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Noncompensatory Partnership Options'' ((RIN1545–BA53) (TD 9612)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–360. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 13–016, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–361. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 13–002, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–362. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the interdiction of aircraft engaged in illicit drug trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–363. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report

relative to Technical Collection for the New START Treaty (OSS–2013–0163); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–364. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Foreign Quarantine; Import Regulations for Infectious Biological Agents, Infectious Substances, and Vectors'' (RIN0920–AA37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 4, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–365. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of User Fees for Filovirus Testing of Nonhuman Primate Liver Samples'' (RIN0920–AA47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–366. A communication from the Director of the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pattern of Violations'' (RIN1219–AB73) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 1, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–367. A communication from the Director of the Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation Division, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''The Family and Medical Leave Act'' (RIN1215–AB76, RIN1235–AA03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–368. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Federal Agency Drug-Free Workplace Programs''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–369. A communication from the Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Managing Public Employees in the Public Interest: Employee Perspectives on Merit Principles in Federal Workplaces''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–370. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to reservations made for internment at Arlington National Cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–371. communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Disclosures to Participate in State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs'' (RIN2900–AO45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2013; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Charles Timothy Hagel, of Nebraska, to be Secretary of Defense.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 280. A bill to ensure effective control over the Congressional budget process; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 281. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to restore integrity to and strengthen payment limitation rules for commodity payments and benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 282. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a new counseling program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 283. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to invest in innovation for education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 284. A bill to transfer certain facilities, easements, and rights-of-way to Fort Sumner Irrigation District, New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 285. A bill to designate the Valles Caldera National Preserve as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 286. A bill to enhance civil penalties under the Federal securities laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 287. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the definition of homeless veteran for purposes of benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 288. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 289. A bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 29. A resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ENZI):

S. Res. 30. A resolution establishing the Committee to Reduce Government Waste; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 22, a bill to establish background check procedures for gun shows.

S. 33

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 33, a bill to prohibit the transfer or possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and for other purposes.

S. 34

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 34, a bill to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny the transfer of firearms or the issuance of firearms and explosives licenses to known or suspected dangerous terrorists.

S. 58

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 58, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to ensure that voters in elections for Federal office do not wait in long lines in order to vote.

S. 84

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 84, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 91

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 91, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify eligibility for the child tax credit.

S. 119

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from California

(Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 119, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 148

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 148, a bill to safeguard America's schools by using community policing strategies to prevent school violence and improve student and school safety.

S. 150

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 150, a bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 168, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes.

S. 174

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 174, a bill to appropriately restrict sales of ammunition.

S. 217

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to collect information from coeducational elementary schools and secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 223

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to amend section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the visa waiver program, and for other purposes.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 234, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 263

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 263, a bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to modify the discretionary spending limits to take into account savings resulting from the reduction in the number of Federal employees.

AMENDMENT NO. 21

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 21 proposed to S. 47, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 281. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to restore integrity to and strengthen payment limitation rules for commodity payments and benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the farm bill and then specifically about reforming payment limits for farm programs.

As one looks back to the fall of 2011 and the failure of what was referred to as the ''supercommittee,'' we saw many committees continue on with business as usual afterwards. However, one committee's members took it upon themselves to continue efforts to tackle spending and propose meaningful cuts—the Senate Agriculture Committee.

For that matter, the House Agriculture Committee worked towards that end as well. I commend Chairman STABENOW and then Ranking Member ROBERTS for corralling the many ideas of the members of the committee to write a bill that cut $23 billion.

We were able to work in committee to get the bill done. We were able to work in a bipartisan manner to get the bill across the Senate floor. It is how legislation is supposed to be considered and debated in the Senate.

One of the measures in last year's farm bill was my proposal reforming payment limitations in the farm program.

Adopting reforms to payment limitations contributed to the $23 billion in savings. Beyond just being a part of saving money, these reforms help ensure farm payments go to those who they were originally intended—small and medium-size farmers.

In addition, the reforms include closing off loopholes so nonfarmers can't game the system. I will come back to my proposed reforms in a minute after I say just a few words about the overall farm bill picture.

As we all know, Congress was not able to complete work on the farm bill last year. But that is not for a lack of desire by either the Senate nor the House Agriculture Committees. There remains a desire to get a 5-year bill passed.

Supporters of the farm bill need to take a hard look at what challenges were presented last year to getting the bill done. We need to forge ahead knowing some tough decisions need to be made.

For the Senate, we need to consider whether it is realistic that we only reduce $4 billion out of the nearly $800 billion nutrition title. More can and should be done. The nutrition title comprised by far and away the largest expenditure in the bill.

There are more reforms we can make to programs such as food stamps, and they are reforms that cut down on waste, fraud, and abuse in the program but also safeguard assistance for people who need it.

There are other programs we need to take a fresh look at. Should we accept the status quo on the sugar program? How do we handle dairy policy? What policy can we implement in the commodity program that won't distort planting decisions but maintains an effective safety net?

These are some of the many issues we need to debate again and decide. I, for one, hope we are able to start soon and work together to get a 5-year bill completed this year. Our farmers and rural communities deserve to have certainty.

When we do move forward on drafting a new farm bill, I will again be pushing for the reforms to payment limitations. That is why today I am introducing the Farm Program Integrity Act of 2013 with Senators JOHNSON of South Dakota, Senator ENZI, and Senator BROWN.

The proposed legislation strikes a needed balance of recognizing the need for a farm safety net while making sure we have a defensible and responsible safety net.

In case there is any doubt, we do need a farm program safety net. For those who argue we do not need a safety net for our farmers, I argue they do not understand the danger of a nation which does not produce its own food.

Take Germany and Japan during World War II, for instance. There came a point where their soldiers had difficulty fighting because they didn't have food to eat. So today their respective governments maintain vigorous support for their farmers.

It is a matter of social cohesion as well. Without a secure source of food, we jeopardize our very way of life. Look around the world where there is hunger and you see rioting, stealing, and other acts of violence. We need our farmers to keep producing our food.

For all the advances in modern agriculture, farmers are still subject to

conditions out of their control. Just look at the drought that still grips much of the U.S.

Without an adequate safety net, some farmers would be left with no ability to make it the following year. That would mean potentially less food being produced for an ever-increasing world population. That is a scary prospect.

While farmers need a safety net, there does come a point where a farmer gets big enough and financially secure so that he can weather tough times without much assistance from the government.

Somehow, though, over the years there has developed this perverse scenario where big farmers are receiving the lion's share of farm program payments. We now have the largest 10 percent of farmers receiving nearly 70 percent of farm payments.

There is nothing wrong with a farmer growing his operation, but the taxpayer should not be subsidizing large farming operations to grow even larger. By having reasonable caps on the amount of farm program payments any one farmer can receive, it helps ensure the program meets the intent of assisting small and medium-size farmers through tough times.

My proposed caps on payments will also help encourage the next generation of rural Americans to take up farming.

I am approached time and again about how to help young people get into farming. When large farmers are able to use farm program payments to drive up the cost of land and rental rates, our farm programs end up hurting those they are meant to help.

It is simply good policy to have a hard cap on the amount a farmer can receive in farm program payments. We will keep in place a much needed safety net for the farmers who need it most. And it will help reduce the negative impact farm payments have on land prices.

Our bill sets the overall cap at $250,000 for a married couple. In my State, many people would say this is still too high.

But I recognize that agriculture can look different around the country, and so this is a compromise.

Just as important to setting a hard cap on payments is closing off loopholes that have allowed nonfarmers to game the farm program.

The bill being introduced today will do this by cutting off the ability of these nonfarmers from abusing what is referred to as the ''actively engaged'' test.

In essence, the law says one has to be actively engaged in farming to qualify for farm payments. However, this has been exploited by people who have virtually nothing to do with the farming operation yet receive payments from the farm program.

Our Nation has over $16 trillion in debt. We cannot afford to simply look the other way and let people abuse the farm program.

The Farm Program Integrity Act of 2013 is the same in purpose as what it states in the name. This is about increasing the integrity of the program.

My colleagues here in the Senate agreed with me last year as we included these pivotal reforms in the farm bill. I am confident these reforms will garner similar approval in the 113th Congress.

I mentioned earlier how we need to assess some of the challenging areas of farm policy as we look to pass a 5-year farm bill, and some tough decisions need to be made.

However, my proposed reforms regarding payment limits do not pose a tough decision. They are common sense and necessary reforms.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I rise today to join with my friend and colleague from Iowa, CHUCK GRASSLEY, in introducing the Farm Program Integrity Act of 2013, which would establish commonsense, meaningful farm program payment limitations. I am pleased that Senator SHERROD BROWN and Senator MIKE ENZI are also joining us in this effort. At a time when our country faces significant budgetary constraints, it is important that we look for bipartisan and commonsense approaches to restructuring programs in such a way that improves their effectiveness while also reducing the deficit. Our legislation will do that, and our approach has already garnered widespread support.

The current structure of our farm support program has, in a number of ways, failed rural America. In 2008, the largest 12.4 percent of farms received 62.4 percent of farm program payments, according to the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, USDA ERS. With such a disproportionate share of the program going to the largest, most capitalized operations, the small and medium-sized family farmers are squeezed out of the business. The farm bill is intended to provide programs that function as a safety net for farmers, but it has instead become a cash cow for the few large producers. We must maintain a safety net for producers, but the system must be targeted to family farmers instead of large agribusinesses.

The 2008 farm bill took some important steps to strengthen the integrity of our farm support system. The bill established an income threshold for program eligibility in which payments are limited to producers with less than $500,000 in non-farm Adjusted Gross Income, AGI, and $750,000 in on-farm AGI, for a total limit of $1.25 million AGI. Additionally, the law eliminated the triple-entity loophole and required that payments go to a specific individual through direct attribution. These were important first steps. However, there is much more we must do to restore integrity to our farm programs.

Under the current law, we have a system of support for producers in the form of direct and counter-cyclical payments. Direct payments are capped at $40,000 and counter-cyclical payments are capped at $65,000; additionally, there is no cap on marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments, and thus, there is effectively no total limitation. This is unacceptable. Without a cap on payments, the Federal Government is subsidizing producers to get bigger, which in turn makes it more difficult for the smaller family farmers, and particularly young and beginning producers, to survive.

Last June, we took some meaningful steps in the Senate to address the structure of our farm support system. Senators from both sides of the aisle came together to pass the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act, S. 3240, commonly referred to as the farm bill, with broad support. The bill, as passed out of the Senate Agriculture Committee, contained a hard cap of $50,000 on payments under the new Agriculture Risk Coverage, ARC, program, a program developed to replace the antiquated direct and counter-cyclical programs.

The committee-reported bill also contained important language to close loopholes that have allowed ''paper-partners,'' or individuals not directly engaged in the farming operation, to receive farm program payments. The bill created an important new standard for determining who qualifies as a farm manager. In addition to the language incorporated into the underlying bill, Senator GRASSLEY and I also offered an amendment during floor consideration to cap marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments at $75,000. Our amendment passed overwhelmingly with 75 votes.

The House Agriculture Committee marked up and reported its own version of the farm bill reauthorization. Unfortunately, the House leadership refused to bring the bill to the floor before the end of 2012. As a result, Congress was left in the position of having to pass an extension of the 2008 farm bill, and push off work on a full reauthorization, including the important reforms we included in the Senate-passed bill, until the 113th Congress.

The legislation we are offering today combines the cap on farm program payments and language to close loopholes from the Senate-passed bill. As Congress proceeds with reauthorizing our farm programs, I will continue pushing to ensure that we finally provide for meaningful payment limitations and target assistance to small and medium-sized family farms.

As the most important industry in South Dakota, agriculture is the economic engine that drives our rural communities. Without viable family farmers and ranchers, our small towns and Main Street businesses would face significant financial hardships. I have worked with Senator GRASSLEY on this issue for a number of years, and I'm proud to once again join with him today to continue this important fight.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 286. A bill to enhance civil penalties under the Federal securities laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am reintroducing the Strengthening Enforcement of Civil Penalties Act or the SEC Penalties Act with my colleague, Senator GRASSLEY. I am pleased that Senator LEAHY has joined us in introducing the bill this year.

The SEC Penalties Act will enhance the ability of securities regulators to protect investors and demand greater accountability from market players. Unfortunately, even after the financial crisis that crippled the economy, some on Wall Street continue to pursue profits at all costs, making the calculated decision to do wrong and move on. Without the consequence of meaningful penalties to impact decision-making, I fear we will continue to witness a disturbing culture of misconduct by some on Wall Street.

The current regime for securities law violations limits by statute the amount of penalties the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC, can fine an institution or individual. During hearings I held in 2011 in the Securities, Insurance, and Investment Banking Subcommittee, I found out how this limitation significantly ties the hands of the SEC in performing its enforcement duties. At that time, the agency had been criticized by a Federal judge for not obtaining a larger settlement against Citigroup, a major player in the financial crisis that ended up settling with the SEC in an amount that was a fraction of the cost the bank had inflicted on investors and the profits the bank had ultimately pocketed. The SEC explained that the low settlement amount was because it was statutorily prohibited from levying a larger penalty.

The bill we are introducing seeks to substantially update and strengthen the SEC's civil penalties statute. This legislation should cause potential and current offenders to think twice before engaging in misconduct by increasing the statutory limits on civil monetary penalties, directly linking the size of these penalties to the scope of harm and associated investor losses, and substantially raising the financial stakes for repeat offenders of our nation's securities laws.

Specifically, our bill would increase the per violation cap for the most egregious securities laws violations to $1 million per offense for individuals and $10 million per offense for entities. This will help ensure that the SEC's most severe, or ''tier three,'' penalties will help deter people from engaging in the most serious offenses, rather than have such wrongdoing be viewed as just the cost of doing business. Under existing law, the SEC can only penalize individual securities law violators a maximum of $150,000 per offense and institutions $725,000 per offense.

Our bill also would allow penalties equal to three times the economic gain of the violator. It provides a new calculation method that includes the amount of associated investor losses as part of the penalty determination. This should allow the SEC to address situations where the actual economic gain to the violator is relatively small compared to the extent of the wrongdoing or the harm caused to investors.

The SEC Penalties Act also addresses the disconcerting trend of repeat offenders on Wall Street. Our bill includes two statutory changes to substantially improve the ability of the SEC's enforcement program to ratchet up penalties for recidivists.

One provision would allow the SEC to triple the applicable penalty cap for recidivists who, within the preceding five years, have been criminally convicted of securities fraud or been the subject of a judgment or order imposing monetary, equitable, or administrative relief in any action alleging SEC fraud.

The other provision would allow the SEC to seek a civil penalty if an individual or entity has violated an existing federal court injunction or bar imposed by the SEC. Many believe this approach would be more efficient, effective, and flexible than the current civil contempt remedy.

Finally, under the SEC Penalties Act, the penalty relief available in administrative proceedings would be the same as it is in district court.

The nearly one-half of all U.S. households that own securities deserve a strong cop on the beat that has the tools it needs to go after fraudsters and the difficult cases arising from our increasingly complex financial markets. The SEC Penalties Act will help by giving the SEC more tools to demand meaningful accountability from Wall Street and protect investors, which in turn will improve transparency and increase confidence in our financial system. I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 289. A bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to discuss the importance of small businesses in the United States. It cannot be stated enough that small businesses are the economic engines of our country. Small businesses also represent the essence of the American Dream. They are creators of new jobs and innovative technologies. In fact, over the last 15 years, businesses employing less than 500 people have created 93 percent of all new jobs and employed 58.6 million workers. Businesses employing less than 20 people alone employed 21.3 million workers. In my home state of Louisiana, small businesses make up about 98 percent of businesses. As Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I remain focused on the needs of these small businesses. That is why I am here today to introduce a bill that I believe will help spur job creation among small businesses.

As you know, right now our country is only slowly recovering from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. This economic downturn disproportionately affected small businesses and, in turn, stifled their ability to generate growth for the country. Sadly, since November 2008, 80 percent of the job losses have come from small businesses. An estimated 2.16 million jobs were lost in the private sector from November 2008 through February 2009—nearly 40 percent from businesses with less than 50 employees. Ten jobs lost here and five jobs there add up. These are the job losses that hurt our economy, our communities and our families.

With this in mind, I was proud to lead Congressional efforts to enact the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, Public Law 111–240. President Obama signed this legislation into law on September 27, 2010. This legislation focused on the three ''C's'' important to small businesses: Capital, Contracting, and Counseling. Today I would like to focus on Capital and more specifically, on the Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Refinancing Program, which unfortunately expired in September 2012.

The 504 loan program is a long-term financing tool for economic development that provides small businesses with long-term, fixed-rate loans to help them acquire major fixed assets and real estate for expansion or modernization. The Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 allowed small businesses to use the 504 loan program to refinance certain qualifying existing debt for 2 years. While loan volumes were relatively low in the program's first year, the SBA made a number of program modifications to encourage and allow more small businesses to take advantage of the long terms and low interest rates offered by the program. In fiscal year 2012, the program's second and final year, the SBA approved over 2,400 refinancings for over $2.2 billion to small businesses.

Unfortunately, on September 27, 2012, the program expired just as it was gaining traction in the small business community. Over the past year, in my conversations with small business owners and in testimonies given in roundtables and hearings before the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I have consistently heard the need to extend this portion of the 504 loan program. The bill that I am introducing today would extend for 5 years the provision allowing small business owners to use Small Business Administration, SBA, 504 loans to refinance existing commercial mortgages. Extending the 504 refinancing program is a commonsense way to help small

businesses and create jobs. By allowing small businesses to refinance qualified commercial real estate debt, this program lowers their monthly mortgage payments at no cost to taxpayers. At a time when we are still facing high unemployment, this extension is one of many things that we should be doing to put more capital in the hands of America's job creators.

I would like to reiterate that this is not a new proposal, and it has consistently received bipartisan support. In total, last year I filed this extension either as a bill or an amendment four times. The 504 refinance provision extension was originally introduced as S. 2364 by Senators SNOWE, LANDRIEU, ISAKSON, and SHAHEEN. Title II of the SUCCESS Act, which I introduced during the 112th Congress, also included the refinance provision. On July 12, 2012, the Senate voted on the SUCCESS Act as part of Senate Amendment 2521 to S. 2237, the Small Business Jobs and Tax Relief Act of 2012. Although the amendment came up short of the 60 votes needed to end debate, the SUCCESS Act amendment received a strong 57 bipartisan votes, including five of my Republican colleagues. Finally, I included the provision in a substitute amendment that I cosponsored to the JOBS Act of 2012 and offered the 504 refinancing language as an amendment to the Veterans Jobs Bill. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together in support of this common-sense, cost effective program.

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. 289

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 ''Commercial Real Estate and Economic Development Act of 2013'' or the ''CREED Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. LOW-INTEREST REFINANCING UNDER THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 1122(b) of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (15 U.S.C. 696 note) is repealed.

(b) RESTORATION OF LOW-INTEREST REFINANCING PROVISION.—Subparagraph (C) of section 502(7) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(7)) (relating to refinancing not involving expansions), as in effect on September 25, 2012, shall be in effect during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending 5 years after that date of enactment.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 29—TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. REID of Nevada submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 29

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY: Ms. Stabenow (Chairman), Mr. Leahy, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Baucus, Mr. Brown, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Bennet, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Donnelly, Ms. Heitkamp, and Mr. Cowan.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Rockefeller (Chairman), Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Nelson, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Pryor, Mrs. McCaskill, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Warner, Mr. Begich, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Schatz, and Mr. Cowan.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE: Mr. Baucus (Chairman), Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Schumer, Ms. Stabenow, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Carper, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Brown, Mr. Bennet, and Mr. Casey.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS: Mr. Menendez (Chairman), Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Casey, Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Coons, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Udall of New Mexico, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Kaine.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Ms. Landrieu (Chairman), Mr. Levin, Mr. Harkin, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Cardin, Mrs. Shaheen, Mrs. Hagan, Ms. Heitkamp, and Mr. Cowan.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE: Ms. Klobuchar (Vice Chairman), Mr. Casey, Mr. Warner, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Heinrich.

SENATE RESOLUTION 30—ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE TO REDUCE GOVERNMENT WASTE

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 30

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT.

There shall be a Senate committee known as the Committee to Reduce Government Waste (referred to in this resolution as the ''committee'').

SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) COMPOSITION.—The committee shall be composed of 12 members as follows:

(1) 4 members from the Committee on Finance, 2 selected by the Majority Leader and 2 selected by the Minority Leader.

(2) 4 members from the Committee on Appropriations, 2 selected by the Majority Leader and 2 selected by the Minority Leader.

(3) 4 members from the Committee on the Budget, 2 selected by the Majority Leader and 2 selected by the Minority Leader.

(b) TENURE OF OFFICE.—

(1) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Members shall be appointed for a period not to exceed 6 years.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—No person shall continue to serve as a member of the committee after that person has ceased to be a member of the Committee from which the member was chosen.

(c) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the committee shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The committee shall select a Chairman and Vice Chairman from among its members.

(e) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings. The powers conferred upon them under section 4 may be exercised by a majority vote.

SEC. 3. DUTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The committee shall have the following duties:

(1) STUDY.—The committee shall—

(A) research, review, and study Federal programs that are underperforming or nonessential; and

(B) determine which Federal programs should be modified or eliminated.

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The committee shall develop recommendations to the Senate for actions designed to modify or eliminate underperforming or nonessential Federal programs.

(3) REPORTS AND LEGISLATION.—The committee shall submit to the Senate—

(A) at least once a year, reports including—

(i) a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the committee; and

(ii) a list of underperforming or nonessential Federal programs; and

(B) such legislation and administrative actions as the committee considers appropriate.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION.—Any legislation submitted to the Senate by the committee shall be considered under the provisions of section 310 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 641).

SEC. 4. POWERS.

(a) HEARINGS.—The committee or, at its direction, any subcommittee or member of the committee, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 3—

(1) sit and act, at any time, during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of congress;

(2) require as the committee considers necessary, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, and documents;

(3) administer oaths and take testimony; and

(4) procure necessary printing and binding.

(b) WITNESS ALLOWANCES AND FEES.—The provisions of section 1821 of title 28, United States Code, shall apply to witnesses requested to appear at any hearing of the committee. The per diem and mileage allowances for witnesses shall be paid from funds available to pay the expenses of the committee.

(c) EXPENDITURES.—The committee, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to make such expenditures as it deems advisable.

SEC. 5. APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION OF STAFF.

Except as otherwise provided by law, the committee shall have the power to appoint and fix the compensation of the Chief of Staff of the committee and such experts and clerical, stenographic, and other assistants as the committee deems advisable.

SEC. 6. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.

The expenses of the committee shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship will meet on February 13, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in room 432 of the Russell Senate Office building to conduct its organizational meeting.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2013, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2013, at 9:45 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on February 12, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., in room SH–216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Proposals to Reduce Gun Violence: Protecting Our Communities While Respecting the Second Amendment.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2013, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Joel Cohen, a Brookings fellow from the Department of Homeland Security, be granted floor privileges through December 31, 2013.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MAJORITY PARTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 29.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 29) to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 29) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF ESCORT COMMITTEE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Presiding Officer of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join a like committee on the part of the House to escort President Obama into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held tonight at 9 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Nevada, Mr. Reid; the Senator from Vermont, Mr. Leahy; the Senator from Illinois, Mr. Durbin; the Senator from New York, Mr. Schumer; the Senator from Washington, Mrs. Murray; the Senator from Colorado, Mr. Bennet; the Senator from Michigan, Ms. Stabenow; the Senator from Alaska, Mr. Begich; the Senator from Kentucky, Mr. McConnell; the Senator from Texas, Mr. Cornyn; the Senator from South Dakota, Mr. Thune; the Senator from Missouri, Mr. Blunt; the Senator from Wyoming, Mr. Barrasso; and the Senator from Kansas, Mr. Moran, as members of the escort committee.

ORDERS FOR RECESS AND FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2013

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess until 8:30 p.m. tonight and proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the joint session of Congress provided under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 11; and that upon dissolution of the joint session, the Senate adjourn until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the second 30 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will gather in the Senate Chamber at 8:20 p.m. this evening to proceed as a body to the House for the State of the Union.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we hope to begin debate on the nomination of Senator Hagel to be Secretary of Defense tomorrow.

RECESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4 p.m., recessed until 8:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. DONNELLY).

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to the Hall of the House of Representatives to receive a message from the President of the United States.

Thereupon, the Senate, preceded by the Sergeant at Arms, Terrance W. Gainer; the Secretary of the Senate, Nancy Erickson; and the Vice President of the United States, JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by the President of the United States, Barack H. Obama.

The address delivered by the President of the United States to the joint session of the two Houses of Congress appears in the proceedings of the House of Representatives in today's RECORD.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

At the conclusion of the joint session of the two Houses; and in accordance with the order previously entered, at 10:24 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SAM JOHNSON

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, our colleague from Texas, SAM JOHNSON, is an American hero. And today I join other colleagues in observing the fortieth anniversary of his release from a North Vietnamese prisoner of war camp.

In seven years of captivity SAM endured physical and mental torture. In fact, SAM was set aside for extra abuse because of his obstinate resistance to his Communist captors. At various points SAM spent 42 straight months in solitary confinement and was forced into leg stocks for more than two years.

But while SAM's jailors punished his body, they could not break his spirit; his love of God and country is a deep wellspring they could never penetrate. His scars bear witness to his tenacity and toughness.

SAM JOHNSON spent a total of 29 years in service to the United States Air Force. He flew combat missions during the Korean War and above Vietnam. He earned two Silver Stars, two Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star, and numerous other awards. Since his election to this body in 1991, SAM has walked the halls of Congress with the highest levels of respect and admiration. He has grown to become this institution's living embodiment of cool-under-fire heroism.

In remembering the anniversary of his release and saying ''thanks'' to SAM JOHNSON, we also remember all those captured and imprisoned defending our liberty. In the Rotunda of Capitol hangs the famous black POW–MIA flag. It hangs there to remind all Americans that freedom is not free and is purchased only at the very highest of costs.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to calculate the value of the sacrifices made by war fighters like SAM JOHNSON. It is equally impossible to adequately repay them. We are simply left with words of gratitude for a job well done. I hope all Members of Congress join me in extending thanks and deep appreciation for our colleague, SAM JOHNSON.

HONORING MR. CEDRIC GEORGE GIVENS

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued achievements of Mr. Cedric George Givens, a native of my hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana. I have the distinct privilege of congratulating Mr. Givens as he is honored with the title of 98th King of Zulu, an organization that he has proudly served for nearly two decades. Mr. Givens has been a continued leader in Zulu, reigning as Zulu Governor in 2005 and serving as a Board Member from 2008 to 2012. He has also served on and chaired several committees, most recently acting as the Chairman of the Zulu Anniversary Committee. Mr. Givens has been a leader in Zulu due to his love of bettering his community, and it is an example that we should all strive to follow.

In addition to his role as an active member and leader of the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club since 1994, Mr. Givens has been a leader in business and in his community. For 17 years, Mr. Givens worked as a Plant Supervisor for Diversified Foods and Seasonings Inc. Currently, he is serving as the Vice-President of Operations of a financial firm, where he manages operations and transportation in over 20 countries. Outside of work, Mr. Givens leads an admirable life in his community, working with social groups like the Big Dawgs and the Go-Getters. His service to his community is an inspiration, and we are deeply grateful to him for his years of commitment.

A New Orleans native, Mr. Givens is the youngest child to Robert and Janice Givens. He is a product of the Orleans Parish Public School System, graduating from Alcee Fortier Senior High School in 1985. He also attended college at Southwestern Louisiana University, where he joined the Beta Phi chapter of the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. Mr. Givens and his wife, Zulu Queen Monica Veal Givens, have three children—Stacey Thomas, Ryan Williams, and Rayna Brantley. I hold Mr. Givens in the highest regard for his dedication to his family and friends. His commitment to the future of New Orleans brings hope and promise to our city. With the tireless work of people like Mr. Givens, New Orleans will continue to be one of the most empowered and unique cities in the world.

I wish to congratulate Mr. Cedric Givens on his coronation on February 8, 2013 as the 98th King of Zulu.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BARBARA JEAN LEVETT

HON. HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself to her family, church, community, and nation; and

Whereas, Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett's good works are present in Conyers, Georgia as an exemplary mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt, neighbor, community worker, business owner and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman, who was raised up in Atlanta, Georgia, was born on January 1, 1933, to the late Mrs. Lillie Frances Bailey Fears; and

Whereas, Barbara Jean Levett (faithfully known as Tootsie) was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and family which in turn uplifted others; and

Whereas, she was an exemplary matriarch, serving as compass and wise counselor and bringing great joy to our district, her family and friends; and

Whereas, Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett loved her family, encouraging all of those around her to make a difference, be it her children, her elected officials, her neighbors and her church members at Rock Temple A.M.E Church in Conyers, Georgia where she was a faithful member; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, never asking for fame or fortune as she became a quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Conyers and the nation;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett of Conyers, Rockdale County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this ''Congressional Recognition'' Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 9th day of November, 2012.

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Marriage Week. I am proud to support this campaign to encourage marriage, reduce divorce rates, curtail poverty, and benefit children.

Marriage is a cornerstone of society and the foundation for happy, healthy homes and families. The proven benefits of marriage include economic stability, positive health and social advantages, emotional well-being and happiness, and children that perform better in schools.

This week celebrates love as well as commitment; it is a time for couples to reflect on their vows to each other and look forward to their future years together. National Marriage Week is celebrated globally, and is supported by private organizations and individuals who believe that marriage brings benefits to all people in society.

National Marriage Week celebrates healthy marriages, and making commitments based on love, trust, and admiration. It is an honor

for me to be able to celebrate this week with my lovely wife, Christy, to whom I have been married to for 22 years.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVARRE HIGH SCHOOL LADY RAIDERS WEIGHLIFTING TEAM AS STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amanda Friar, Alyssa Jones, Chelsea King, Heather Lynch, Kylie Shelley, Morrigan Webb, Praise Pettus, Sarah Cox, Savannah Rodwell, Skye Barberi, Taylor Smith, and Coach Garrett Bagley of the Navarre High School Lady Raiders Weightlifting Team on earning their school's first state title.

On Saturday, February 9, 2013, under the coaching and leadership of Garrett Bagley, the Lady Raiders Weightlifting Team became Florida High School Athletic Association State Champions. After finishing in second place for the past three years, victory for the Lady Raiders was that much sweeter. This season, through the perfect blend of perseverance, discipline, focus, and desire, the Navarre Raiders were ultimately triumphant and defeated two-time defending state champion, Spruce Creak, for the title in a close 24–23 win.

A commendable eleven members of the lady Raiders team performed exceptionally well at the sectional competition and qualified for the State Championship. Of those eleven teammates, six lifters earned themselves individual medals with senior Amanda Friar leading the team as the 110-pound weight class individual gold medalist, followed by Skye Barberi and Praise Pettus finishing with second-place showings, Alyssa Jones and Kylie Shelley finishing fourth, and Chelsea King finishing sixth. I am certain that their impressive victory will continue to be a cherished moment in each of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Navarre High School Lady Raiders Weightlifting Team on their accomplishments and their continuing commitment to excellence at Navarre High School. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating them and everyone who has played a supportive role in guiding their team to victory. We wish them all the best for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO REV. TOMMIE L. LEWIS IN HONOR OF 30TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th pastoral anniversary of Dr. Tommie L. Lewis, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Since 1982, this dedicated servant has led the congregation of Bethel Baptist Church to new horizons in ministry. I am pleased to honor Pastor Lewis and join with his congregation in celebrating 30 years of excellence in leadership and service to the Lord. Pastor Lewis answered his call to minister on January 6, 1973 at the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church. For more than 40 years, Pastor Lewis has been led by his faith to minister and spread his message of service and commitment to mankind. While he has served at other churches, Pastor Lewis is most celebrated for all that he contributed to the Bethel Baptist Church family, affectionately known as ''Bethel Nation''. Under his 30 year leadership, Bethel Nation has grown to a membership of over 5,000 worshippers and currently stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration in the Pratt City community. Pastor Lewis has shaped a legacy defined by numerous ministries that reach far beyond the church sanctuary. In both his professional and spiritual life, his character has been defined by his willingness to serve, his unselfish generosity and his unwaverering commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. He uses his clergy position as a powerful force for good throughout this world.

Pastor Lewis is an accomplished biblical scholar. He attended the Birmingham Easonian Baptist Bible College and the Universal Bible Institute in Brunswick, Georgia. Pastor Lewis is also the recipient of various honorary doctorate degrees as a result of his varied contributions to the ministry and public service. Through the years, in addition to his dedicated service to Birmingham, Pastor Lewis has also sought to share his spiritual teachings all over the world. He has ministered to and delivered sermons throughout the United States, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia. But no matter where his ministry has taken him, Pastor Lewis is forever committed to home. Pastor Lewis has led by example and displayed his commitment to public service through his affiliation with various religious and civic organizations aimed at empowering the lives of those that he serves. His involvement include but are not limited to: the Pratt City Ministerial Alliance, the Birmingham Metropolitan Baptist Ministerial Conference and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Pastor Lewis also worked to transform the trajectory of his community through his service as former Captain for the Bessemer Police and Fire Department Chaplaincy Corps and the former Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Jefferson County Transit Authority. Pastor Lewis currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Jefferson County Commission of Economic Opportunity and State President for the National Rainbow Push Coalition. In 1998, he received one of Birmingham's highest honors when he was inducted into the City of Birmingham Gallery of Distinguished Citizens.

In the aftermath of the April 2011 tornadoes, which completely destroyed Bethel Baptist Church, Pastor Lewis' faith and determination has been unwavering as he continues to minister to his congregation as they rebuild a stronger Bethel Nation. He continues to be grounded in God's mercy and grace giving hope to the hopeless and providing opportunities for the least amongst us.

While his contributions and accolades are large in number, I am especially grateful for the servant leadership that Pastor Lewis has shown to the 7th Congressional District of Alabama. He has made an inedible imprint on the lives of so many of us through his ministries. We are blessed by his visionary leadership. Therefore, it is with pride and a humble heart that I pay tribute to Pastor TL Lewis in recognition and appreciation of his 30th pastoral anniversary at Bethel Baptist Church. And so it shall be transcribed in the annuals of the United States House of Representatives that special recognition be made to Reverend Dr. Tommie L. Lewis on behalf of a grateful nation.

HONORING CHIEF APOSTLE ROBERT L. WILLIAMS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Bishop Robert Lee Williams, Sr., and Straight Life Church of God Pentecostal, Inc., are celebrating the elevating of Bishop Williams to Chief Apostle after years of pastoral and stellar leadership to his church and our community; and

Whereas, Chief Apostle Williams, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Straight Life Church of God Pentecostal, Inc., as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Chief Apostle Williams is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the nation his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and congratulate Chief Apostle Williams as he is elevated to this position of great recognition and great responsibility in pastoral leadership;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim November 11, 2012 as Chief Apostle Robert L. Williams, Sr. Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 11th day of November, 2012.

TRIBUTE TO HADIYA PENDLETON

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable young woman who had really just begun to embark upon her life's journey, but Hadiya Zaymara Pendleton was taken from us too soon on January 29, 2013 as a result of senseless gun violence.

No words can ease the pain of losing a child, Mr. Speaker. To Hadiya's parents and loved ones I can simply offer them a word from scripture. In Luke 18:16 the Bible tells us

"Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, 'Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.'"

Born June 2, 1997, Hadiya was loved by everyone who has encountered her since that summer day. A lover of Chinese food, cheeseburgers, ice cream, and Fig Newtons, Hadiya was active in extracurricular activities such as the CHI–TOWN Cheerleaders, Debate, Volleyball, Basketball, Mentoring Programs, and serving as Band Majorette where she proudly participated in last month's Inaugural Parade. In addition to her extracurricular passions, Hadiya was an honor student who began her academic journey at Small Stride Academy and continued her development at such schools as John D. Shoop Math-Science Technical Academy, Marva Collins School, the Carter G. Woodson School, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. College Prep High School.

These institutions were critical in creating a sound educational foundation for this well-rounded young woman. Hadiya had a high regard for academic success and higher learning. Her favorite class was Latin and she recently expressed how disappointed she was that the language program would end after this school year. Her love of learning drove her ambitions. One of her many aspirations was to major in pharmacology and journalism.

Mr. Speaker, though Hadiya's voice has been silenced far too early her memory and her spirit continue to live on through all of us. It now falls upon us, Hadiya's friends, family, neighbors, and community to speak out in her name, to strive for excellence in her name, and to build a better world in her name. I, Mr. Speaker, am one individual who pledges to do just that.

HONORING THE ''GEMS OF 26'' MAINE MILITARY PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cyndi Robbins and the "Gems of 26" for their outstanding efforts to honor our nation's veterans. Over the last three years, Cyndi Robbins and the staff of the Poland Spring Inn welcomed more than 600 members of military and veteran families for short getaways in scenic Western Maine.

Thanks to a unique partnership formed between a group of unique sites along Route 26 called the "Gems of 26," military and veteran families have been treated to lodging, meals, boat rentals, and free access to a variety of activities and historic sites in Maine's western mountains.

In addition to the Poland Spring Resort, the generous "Gems of 26," include the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray, the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village in New Gloucester, the Poland Spring Preservation Society in Poland Spring, and the grounds of the McLaughlin Garden in South Paris. The Maine Military and Community network has also played an important role in helping eligible families participate in the program.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Cyndi Robbins, the Poland Spring Resort, and these historic Maine attractions for their commitment to serving our veteran and military families.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and its 2013 theme—"At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality." This year's theme reminds us of two very important landmark events in American history, the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 and the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights March on Washington in 1963. This year we recognize the perseverance, sacrifice, and struggle of those who fought for the freedom and equality that has shaped our great nation.

This year's theme," At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality," focuses on our nation's struggle for equality and civil rights, beginning with President Lincoln's issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 and the abolishing of slavery. Some one hundred years later, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led the Civil Rights March on Washington fighting for, amongst other ideals, meaningful civil rights legislation, including better employment opportunities and an end to segregation. These historic events have had an immense impact on our nation's fight for the equal rights of all human beings, regardless of race, gender, or religious, cultural, or social beliefs. Although there is still work to be done, we must take a moment to commend the many Americans who have, against all odds, strengthened our union, fought for our freedoms, and built a better nation. This month and always, it is important to remember the courage of inspirational leaders including President Lincoln, Dr. King, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, W.E.B. Du Bois, and the many others who have played such a critical role in changing the landscape of American society for the better.

I would be remiss if I did not also pay tribute to one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, who passed away only a few weeks ago. As the representative of the First Congressional District of Indiana, I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Quentin Smith. Born in 1918, Mr. Smith saw firsthand the great injustices faced by African Americans throughout our country's history, as well as the courageous strides made toward equality and civil justice. A member of the heroic Tuskegee Airmen, Quentin's service in the 99th Fighter Squadron will forever be remembered in working to conquer America's racial divide. In a time when segregation existed not only in our communities but in the military as well, the Tuskegee Airmen are now rightfully remembered as one of the most successful units in our military's history, not only for their bravery and sacrifice in the air, but for the position they played in the progression of the military and American society as a whole. As a civilian, Mr. Smith continued to serve his community as an educator, counselor, and principal at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, as well as a professor at the collegiate level. Held in extraordinary regard in the educational community, Mr. Smith was able to utilize his vast experiences to positively influence generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who fought, and those who continue to fight, for civil rights. Let us also remember the selfless and brave Quentin Smith. We are forever indebted to him for his contributions toward freedom and equality, and Northwest Indiana is proud to have been his home.

HONORING MR. LEE VAN OLIVER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, One hundred years ago a tenacious man of God was born in Screven County, Georgia on November 8, 1912; and

Whereas, Mr. Lee Van Oliver was blessed to have ten siblings, he grew up in Georgia attending school in the local school system and moved to Savannah, Georgia at an early age; he worked in several industries in Savannah; International Paper, the Shipyard, Sears & Roebuck, Smith & Kelly; and

Whereas, Mr. Oliver has shared his time and talents as a Husband, Long Shore man, Uncle, Brother and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mr. Oliver has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mr. Oliver along with his family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, his 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a man who is a cornerstone in our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Oliver on his birthday and to wish him well and recognize him for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim November 8, 2012 as Mr. Lee Van "L.V." Oliver Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of November, 2012.

AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK TINIAN ANNEX ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the American Memorial Park Tinian Annex Act. This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to develop, maintain, and administer on the island of Tinian in the Northern Mariana Islands an extension of the existing

American Memorial Park on the neighboring island of Saipan.

American Memorial Park was established to honor the 5,204 U.S. military personnel and Northern Mariana Islanders, whose lives were lost during the Marianas Campaign, one of the most strategically significant events of World War II. The Park houses a museum that affords residents and visitors alike an opportunity to learn about the vital role of the Northern Mariana Islands in the United States' successful effort to bring World War II to a close.

The Marianas Campaign was so important because capture of the islands placed U.S. bombers within range of the Japanese homeland. B–29s were deployed from both Saipan and Tinian; and, eventually, the atomic bombs that ended the War in the Pacific were launched from the airfield on Tinian, which was at the time the largest facility in the world.

Despite the critical role of Tinian and its airfields, today there is no repository on the island for artifacts recovered from the vast military sites that were quickly abandoned at the end of the conflict. Nor is there any location at which residents and visitors to Tinian can obtain adequate information about the historically significant events that occurred there.

The proposed Tinian Annex would fill this gap. The Annex would have both a curatorial and an interpretive function. And, as conceived, the Annex would accomplish these purposes by building on National Park Service resources and infrastructure already established to manage the American Memorial Park and largely supported by a trust fund. Although the Department of Defense has said that it will seek additional funding to support a historical center on Tinian, the proposed Act also respects the limitations on federal financial resources by encouraging the use of public lands, provided by the local government, as the site of the Annex.

The need for the Tinian Annex is pressing. For decades after World War II the historically significant areas of the island remained relatively undisturbed. The U.S. military leased two–thirds of Tinian and there were only occasional training exercises on these lands. But more recently, as U.S. forces have begun to be reconfigured and realigned in the Pacific region, the tempo of activity on Tinian has increased. Lands are being developed for firing ranges, encampments sites are being enlarged, and the airfields of the 1940s are being reconstructed as part of the military's on-going readiness exercises.

Although the people of the Northern Mariana Islands certainly support this increased activity and are proud to have a role in our Nation's defense, we are also concerned that historically important artifacts that may be unearthed over the coming decades of stepped-up training will be discarded and lost without a nearby repository for their preservation. We are concerned, too, that because this military activity will at times necessarily limit physical access to large parts of the island Tinian residents and visitors will need some alternative, virtual means of learning about the role of Tinian North Field, where the atomic bomb carrying B–29s, Enola Gay and Bock's Car, lifted off and about other sites of historic significance. We are concerned that we may be losing a little bit of our Nation's and our islands' history, day by day. The purpose of my bill is to remedy this.

This is not solely the concern of those of us who live in the Northern Mariana Islands. I would like to share with you the perspective of U.S. Marine Corps Chaplain Lt. David Jeltema who was on Tinian last September. He accompanied a Marine expeditionary unit training there. Lt. Jeltema said the visiting Marines were in awe to be in such a historically significant location and viewed Tinian as "hallowed ground." Tinian's North Field is one of those places he said he wished more people could see, "so that we can remember the tremendous power the military has and realize what an incredible responsibility it also has."

That is certainly one of the many important lessons that could be drawn by any visitor to the Tinian Annex of the American Memorial Park, which the bill I introduce today would authorize.

I want to thank the House Natural Resources Committee, which favorably reported this same legislation in the 112th Congress. I thank all those Members who are original cosponsors of the measure today. And I ask the House to move quickly to approve the American Memorial Park Tinian Annex Act for the benefit of the future and in honor of the past.

HONORING THE LONG ISLAND REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL WINNERS FROM HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a team of talented and dedicated students from Huntington High School in my Congressional District that recently won the Long Island Regional Science Bowl held at Brookhaven National Laboratory. These students are the future of our nation's excellence in the sciences and I am so proud to recognize them today.

Captain Brian Gilbert and teammates Aron Coraor, Marc Feldman, and Jacob Roday attend Huntington High School in Huntington, NY and on Saturday January 26, 2013 were named the Long Island Regional Science Bowl winners. The young men competed against twenty other teams from high schools around the region in a Jeopardy style contest. These students will compete in the National Finals for the Science Bowl in Washington, DC in April 2013.

This success reflects the hard work of these students, but also of their mentors, Huntington High School teachers, Ms. Dame Forbes and Ms. Lori Kenny. Ms. Forbes and Ms. Kenny coached the team and helped make this success possible. It is dedicated teachers like them that make a difference in lives of students and the well being of this country. I am sure there were many long days and hours of practice that made this all possible so both of these women deserve credit for their contribution to the team as well.

The National Science Bowl is one of the largest science competitions in the country and being recognized as a finalist is an extraordinary honor. I know that Brian, Aron, Marc, and Jacob have a bright future ahead of them and I wish them nothing but success in the National Finals this spring. They should be proud of all they have achieved so far and I know they will continue to excel.

JAMIE STRONG

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jamie Strong for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Young Professional of the Year Award.

Jamie, the Event Designer at Three Tomatoes Steakhouse and Club at Fossil Trace, was elected as Chair of the 2012 Golden Young Professionals and did a superb job in overseeing the development of the organization, particularly focusing on professional development and community service for members. Her dedication and ability to work with Chamber staff was fantastic.

When not at work, you will find Jaime involved with the Golden Chamber, at the Golden Community Center, or enjoying all the local hiking trails.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jamie Strong for her well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING MRS. ERMA MABRY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, eighty years ago a virtuous woman of God was born in Gwinnett County, Georgia on October 29, 1932; and

Whereas, Mrs. Erma Mabry was born Erma Lyons to Mr. Willie Golden and Mrs. Bessie Ragsdale Lyons, she was educated in the local school system in Georgia, married Mr. German William Mabry and through their union was blessed with three children, one daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, and one great grandchild; and

Whereas, this Phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a Wife, Mother and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Mabry has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mrs. Mabry along with her family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 80th birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in our community in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Mabry on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 29th, 2012 as Mrs. Erma Mabry Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 29th day of October, 2012.

CONNIE TYSDAL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Connie Tysdal for receiving the Charlie O'Brien Award from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award goes to members who are well respected within the organization and are motivated by an unselfish desire to contribute to the community for the betterment of greater Golden.

When Connie moved to unincorporated Jefferson County in 1979 she hit the ground running. Among her many accomplishments Connie served on the Colorado PTA Leadership Commission, was elected President of the Leadership Golden Alumni Association, Chair of the Visitors and Convention Council and worked as a philanthropic researcher for the Colorado School of Mines.

I extend my deepest congratulations and gratitude to Connie Tsydal for this well deserved recognition by the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. Your commitment has made our community a better place for all of us to live.

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S NEGLIGENCE OF FORT HOOD VICTIMS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a report that will air on ABC News tonight about the Obama Administration's negligence of the Fort Hood survivors and their families.

This was clearly a terrorist attack and while the administration has designated this attack as "workplace violence," the survivors cannot access assistance. We are not treating these people fairly.

[From ABC News, Feb. 12, 2013]

FORT HOOD HERO SAYS OBAMA 'BETRAYED' HER, OTHER VICTIMS

(By Ned Berkowitz and Brian Ross)

Three years after the White House arranged a hero's welcome at the State of the Union address for the Fort Hood police sergeant and her partner who stopped the deadly shooting there, Kimberly Munley says President Obama broke the promise he made to her that the victims would be well taken care of.

"Betrayed is a good word," former Sgt. Munley told ABC News in a tearful interview to be broadcast tonight on "World News with Diane Sawyer" and "Nightline."

"Not to the least little bit have the victims been taken care of," she said. "In fact they've been neglected."

There was no immediate comment from the White House about Munley's allegations.

Thirteen people were killed, including a pregnant soldier, and 32 others shot in the November 2009 rampage by the accused shooter, Major Nidal Hasan, who now awaits a military trial on charges of premeditated murder and attempted murder.

Tonight's broadcast report also includes dramatic new video, obtained by ABC News, taken in the immediate aftermath of the shooting, capturing the chaos and terror of the day.

Munley, since laid off from her job with the base's civilian police force, was shot three times as she and her partner, Sgt. Mark Todd, confronted Hasan, who witnesses said had shouted "Allahu Akbar" as he opened fire on soldiers being processed for deployment to Afghanistan.

As Munley lay wounded, Todd fired the five bullets credited with bringing Hasan down.

Despite extensive evidence that Hasan was in communication with al Qaeda leader Anwar al-Awlaki prior to the attack, the military has denied the victims a Purple Heart and is treating the incident as "workplace violence" instead of "combat related" or terrorism.

Al-Awlaki has since been killed in a U.S. drone attack in Yemen, in what was termed a major victory in the U.S. efforts against al Qaeda.

Munley and dozens of other victims have now filed a lawsuit against the military alleging the "workplace violence" designation means the Fort Hood victims are receiving lower priority access to medical care as veterans, and a loss of financial benefits available to those who injuries are classified as "combat related."

Some of the victims "had to find civilian doctors to get proper medical treatment" and the military has not assigned liaison officers to help them coordinate their recovery, said the group's lawyer, Reed Rubenstein. "There's a substantial number of very serious, crippling cases of post-traumatic stress disorder exacerbated, frankly, by what the Army and the Defense Department did in this case," said Rubenstein. "We have a couple of cases in which the soldiers' command accused the soldiers of malingering, and would say things to them that Fort Hood really wasn't so bad, it wasn't combat."

A spokesperson for the Army said its policy is not to comment on pending litigation, but that it is "not true" any of the military victims have been neglected and that it has no control over the guidelines of the Veterans Administration. Secretary of the Army John McHugh told ABC News he was unaware of any specific complaints from the Fort Hood victims, even though he is a named defendant in the lawsuit filed last November which specifically details the plight of many of them.

"If a soldier feels ignored, then we need to know about it on a case by case basis," McHugh told ABC News. "It is not our intent to have two levels of care for people who are wounded by whatever means in uniform."

Some of the victims in the lawsuit believe the Army Secretary and others are purposely ignoring their cases out of political correctness.

"These guys play stupid every time they're asked a question about it, they pretend like they have no clue," said Shawn Manning, who was shot six times that day at Fort Hood. Two of the bullets remain in his leg and spine, he said.

"It was no different than an insurgent in Iraq or Afghanistan trying to kill us," said Manning, who was twice deployed to Iraq and had to retire from the military because of his injuries.

An Army review board initially classified Manning's injuries as "combat related," but that finding was later overruled by higher-ups in the Army.

Manning says the "workplace violence" designation has cost him almost $70,000 in benefits that would have been available if his injuries were classified as "combat related."

"Basically, they're treating us like I was downtown and I got hit by a car," he told ABC News.

For Alonzo Lunsford, who was shot seven times at Fort Hood and blinded in one eye, the military's treatment is deeply hurtful.

"It's a slap in the face, not only for me but for all of the 32 that wore the uniform that day," he told ABC News.

Lunsford's medical records show his injuries were determined to be "in the line of duty" but neither he nor any of the other soldiers shot or killed at Fort Hood is eligible for the Purple Heart under the Department of Defense's current policy for decorations and awards.

Army Secretary McHugh says awarding Purple Hearts could adversely affect the trial of Major Hasan.

"To award a Purple Heart, it has to be done by a foreign terrorist element," said McHugh. "So to declare that soldier a foreign terrorist, we are told, I'm not an attorney and I don't run the Justice Department, but we're told would have a profound effect on the ability to conduct the trial."

Members of Congress, including the chairman of the House Homeland Security committee, Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, say they will introduce legislation to force the military and the Obama administration to give the wounded and dead the recognition and honors they deserve.

"It was clearly an act of terrorism that occurred that day, there's no question in my mind," McCaul told ABC News. "I think the victims should be treated as such."

Former Sgt. Munley says she now believes the White House used her for political advantage in arranging for her to sit next to Michelle Obama during the President's State of the Union address in 2010.

Munley says she has no hesitation now speaking out against the President or taking part in the lawsuit, because she wants to help the others who were shot that day and continue to suffer.

"We got tired of being neglected. So this was our last resort and I'm not ashamed of it a bit," she said.

THE LARIAT LOOP

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor The Lariat Loop for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Civic Award.

This award is given each year to an organization or individual that has contributed greatly to the quality of life in Golden.

The Lariat Loop website captures the spirit of this 40-mile route connecting the cities of Golden, Morrison and Evergreen. "You can retrace the motoring adventures of the early 1920s and experience the thrill of foothills exploration at the dawn of the Age of Motorcars. Colorado's first gateways to the mountains still have sharp curves, winding roads, spectacular views, and waysides to refresh and delight the traveler." This byway is a combination of two historic routes: the Lariat Trail Scenic Mountain Drive ascending Lookout Mountain and the Bear Creek Canyon Scenic Mountain Drive. In combination, these routes were part of several of the "scenic circles" developed and promoted by Denver in 1915 to help Coloradans experience the mountains in proximity to the Denver Metropolitan area. These roadways were designated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976."

I extend my deepest congratulations to The Lariat Loop for this well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I am proud to have this historic byway in my community.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DANNIE G. HOLLIS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Ninety years ago a virtuous woman of God was born in rural Georgia on October 24, 1922; and

Whereas, Mrs. Dannie G. Hollis was born to inspire and motivate, she was educated in the local school system in Georgia, obtained secondary educational degrees from West Georgia College, Georgia State University, Piedmont Hospital/Emory University and the University of Georgia; and

Whereas, this Phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Medical Technologist, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Hollis has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to helping others through her service in her community and profession; and

Whereas, Mrs. Hollis along with her family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 90th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in our community in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Hollis on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 24th, 2012 as Mrs. Dannie G. Hollis Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 24th day of October, 2012.

ERA, A WATERS COMPANY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor ERA, A Waters Company, for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Award.

ERA moved into their new facilities in Golden from another metro community in December of 2011, but it didn't take ERA long to get involved in Golden. In addition to contributing a great deal to the overall economic vitality of the Greater Golden Area, ERA has a real passion to help others, and Soles4Souls became a project Carl Craig, ERA President, stepped forward to assist. He offered Soles4Souls, a charity that collects and distributes shoes to people in need, room in their warehouse at ERA to store shoes. Well, 110,000 pairs of shoes later, the offer still stands with great gratitude.

I extend my deepest congratulations to ERA, A Waters Company, for their well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same integrity and dedication in all future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO TONI CHILDRESS

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Toni Childress, a compassionate advocate for children and families in northeast Georgia. For seven years, Ms. Childress has served as executive director for Family Connection and Communities In Schools of Stephens County, Incorporated. The mission of the organization is simple—to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

Under her leadership, Family Connection and Community In Schools, FCCIS, has encouraged children to accomplish more than they ever thought possible through effective literacy and tutoring programs, as well as a powerful mentoring program. Of the latter, one student shared, "My mentor has helped me to follow my dreams and keep my goals high." This sincere expression of one student is reason enough to honor Ms. Childress. However, she is one who goes above and beyond the required assignment.

Where Ms. Childress sees a need, she will rise to the occasion to find a solution. When a social worker approached her about the lack of warm winter clothing for several students, Ms. Childress organized a successful coat drive. Now, in its fourth year, FCCIS distributes more than seven hundred coats to children and adults throughout Stephens County. Similarly, when Ms. Childress learned that there is an alarming rate of child abuse and neglect in her community, she quickly organized monthly workshops with the acknowledgment that change begins with awareness.

For this reason, it is my honor to acknowledge Ms. Toni Childress for the significant contributions she has made to her community. Whether it is providing gift certificates for student vision exams or welcome bags for newborn babies, Ms. Childress is passionate about making a difference. On behalf of the United States Congress, I applaud her great work and wish continued success for Family Connection and Communities In Schools of Stephens County, Incorporated.

CHRIS QUOYESER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Chris Quoyeser for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Year Award.

This award is given each year to an individual who is a member of the Chamber Ambassadors. This individual has been very active in promoting the Chamber in several ways such as attending ribbon cuttings, grand openings, ground breakings, mentoring new Chamber members, attending Chamber functions, helping at the Chamber Back Yard BBQ, and the list goes on. Chris has been a Chamber Ambassador for several years and accepts all challenges with a positive attitude and a can do spirit.

In addition to running a very successful business, Chris is always available when called upon. His dedication to the Golden makes him a real asset to the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chris Quoyeser for his well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHER: MRS. BARBARA JEAN LEVETT

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

One of God's greatest gifts is to know your mother
For she loves you, guides you and molds you like no other
Her wisdom that she bestows on you is that from Heaven above
The serenity you have by being in her presence is that of a dove
Our mother has that joy that touches everyone she meets
Her kindness is so precious and her love is oh so sweet
To hear her voice in a time of need seems to make everything alright
It's nice to know that she has your best interest by sending up prayers at night
Being a mother, grandmother and a great grandmother
Our family was blessed to receive a love like no other
A Proverbs 31 woman best describes our mother to us
Always so giving, always cheerful and never making a fuss
The quality times that she shared with us are priceless moments in time
She will always be in our hearts, near us in spirit and in our thoughts when we reminisce in our mind
The bond that she has with her family is that like no other
We pray for God to comfort us in understanding and peace during the home going of our dear Mother

For the Family of Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett.

For Mrs. Barbara Jean Levett.

Sunrise: January 1, 1933–Sunset: November 3, 2012.

Penned November 4, 2012 by Eric Charles.

DEDICATION OF A PORTION OF INTERSTATE 80 IN MEMORY OF HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER RAYMOND CARPENTER

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the city of Rocklin in dedicating a portion of Interstate 80 in memory of Highway Patrol Officer Raymond Carpenter.

This dedication is meant to pay tribute to Ray's life and his long service to our nation and our community.

His great sense of duty and commitment came as no surprise to those who knew his story; in fact it was a testament to his humble upbringing. He was born in a small cabin and raised on the Sullivan Ranch in Auburn, where he learned the long hours and hard work of a ranch hand. This hardy experience taught him the uniquely American values of hard work and the freedom that self-reliance provides. That same tenacity and perseverance would lead him to later become an Alaskan homesteader while stationed there as a Technical Sergeant with the U.S. Air Force, building his own cabin on the frontier of our nation, like his forebears before him had in the rugged wilderness of northern California.

It was to the blessing of his native state that Ray was called to return home in 1956, where his love of the outdoors, motorcycles, and his passion for service led him to the California Highway Patrol. His kind disposition made him friends easily, and he was always fast in offering a helping hand. Whether in his time with the Air Force or as a Highway Patrol Officer after returning to California, Ray had spent the better part of his life in service to his fellow Americans. It was in that service that Ray surrendered his life when he was shot and killed in the line of duty on February 17, 1970.

Mr. Speaker, while Ray's life was cut short, we must celebrate his contributions, for as General Patton said "it is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." I am proud today to rise to honor his memory and in grateful recognition of his many years of service and sacrifice.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE S. SYKOFF, ED.D.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lawrence S. Sykoff, Ed.D., on his retirement as Head of School of Ranney School in Tinton Falls, NJ. Dr. Sykoff has served as Ranney School's Head of School for 20 years, and his accomplishments are to be celebrated.

Much of Dr. Sykoff's 35 years within the education field have been spent at Ranney School. He has been a dedicated and involved Head of School throughout his tenure. He has been a hands-on administrator, giving lectures; playing guitar along with the music students; and rooting on the athletic teams. His commitment to the families of the school was exemplified in the wake of Superstorm Sandy. Dr. Sykoff ensured that those displaced found places within the community to stay days after the storm hit. The school has also helped support local charities that help the many residents affected by the storm.

In addition to his involvement with Ranney School, Dr. Sykoff is an active member of the community-at-large. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Riverview Medical Center Foundation in Red Bank and the American Cancer Society, where he also serves on the Eastern Division's Board of Directors. He also served on the Board of Trustees of Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank and was recognized for his ongoing support of the arts. Dr. Sykoff has received numerous commendations for his work in the community and his commitment to education. He was honored with the 2012 Quarter Century Award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, CASE, and received the Crystal Star Award from the nonprofit Holiday Express.

During Dr. Sykoff's tenure, Ranney School has expanded enrollment and completed an accreditation process. He has also overseen the expansion of school buildings and modernization of athletic facilities. The improvements to Ranney School have helped highlight the school's merit.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Dr. Lawrence Sykoff on his retirement and thanking him for his service and commitment to education.

REMEMBERING CHARLES "CHUCK" ALBERT POLAND, JR.

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic actions of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Albert Poland, Jr., a school bus driver from Southeast Alabama who died protecting the lives of the children in his care.

Tuesday, January 29, started out just like another day for Mr. Poland, who had worked as a school bus driver for the Dale County Schools system since 2009. However, that afternoon while completing his route, an armed man entered Mr. Poland's school bus and demanded to take children hostage. Faced with this perilous situation, Mr. Poland rushed the children out the bus emergency exit and to safety. Standing between the gunman and the children, Mr. Poland was shot four times and killed. There is little doubt that Mr. Poland's actions saved lives.

This, of course, began the week-long hostage standoff, which, thankfully, ended with the amazing rescue of the child hostage. But who knows how the situation might have ended had Mr. Poland not bravely stood in the gunman's way.

Mr. Speaker, as a mother of two young children, I am particularly moved by the actions Chuck Poland took to protect the children in his care. It is difficult to even imagine our children being in such danger. How heartening to know that—whether in a classroom or on a school bus—people like Mr. Poland are looking out for students and protecting them.

Those who know Chuck Poland best speak to his quiet, humble spirit. They note that he would likely shy away from the attention. Born in Idaho, Mr. Poland made Southeast Alabama his home in the 1960s. He served in the Army before settling down as a diesel mechanic. When he retired, he took up a part-time job as a bus driver. Ultimately, Mr. Poland was asked to become a full-time bus driver in 2009.

Mr. Poland was a beloved husband to Jan, his wife of over 40 years; a loving father to his son, Aaron, and daughter, Lydia; and doting "Paw-Paw" to his three grandsons, Timothy, Ryan, and Blake.

Mr. Poland and his wife shared a favorite Bible verse, which, in this moment seems very fitting. "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."—2 Timothy 1:12

According to his son, Mr. Poland viewed his students as his own children, and he looked after them as though they were his own. Chuck Poland would be proud to watch them grow up; to see the men and women they become.

One of the children might grow up to be a scientist who makes the next big discovery or cures a disease. One might start a major company that employs thousands. One might be a soldier who fights valiantly for our country. One might be a teacher, a nurse or a firefighter who makes a difference in the lives of others. But one thing is for sure—they each have the chance to live a full and happy life because their bus driver, Mr. Poland, was willing to give his life for theirs.

The author Joseph Campbell wrote, "A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself."

Mr. Speaker, today we recognize a true hero. Chuck Poland gave his life so that others may live and, for that, he will always be remembered.

HONORING MR. JOHN OSCAR BOONE, SR.

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our nation is blessed to have this innovator and pioneer touch the lives of thousands through his leadership and service; and

Whereas, Mr. John Oscar Boone, Sr.'s legacy is present throughout the nation and the world for all to see, being the first African American appointed to head a major state prison in the United States, serving many roles in the American Correctional System: Commissioner, Superintendent and Director; he valiantly served our country in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II; and

Whereas, this giant of a man transformed the American Correctional System, he was instrumental in the implementation of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1965 and he represented our nation on an international level, he inspired elected officials, motivated the young and the old, as he accomplished so much during his time on this earth; and

Whereas, this remarkable man gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life; Mr. Boone inspired others to do the same by witnessing him walk the walk and talk the talk, he opened doors for others to enter; and

Whereas, Mr. Boone led by doing behind the scenes and on the front lines for many; Mr. Boone was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a brother and a friend; he was our warrior, our patriarch, a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of the community until his end; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow an honorable distinction and recognition on Mr. John Oscar Boone, Sr., for his leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Georgia and throughout the Nation; as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mr. John Oscar Boone, Sr., of Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honorable Distinction"—Mr. John Oscar Boone, Sr., U.S. Citizen of Distinction, in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of December, 2012.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MICHAEL DAVID VARNER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Michael David Varner, who passed away on February 6, 2013. During his long and distinguished career in education, Mr. Varner served as a mentor and an inspiration to countless individuals throughout Northwest Florida. After an arduous battle with brain cancer, the loss of a great man and unparalleled public servant and educator is felt not only here at home, but across the state of Florida.

Mr. Varner was born on October 8, 1953, in Highland Falls, New York. Upon graduating in 1971 from Niceville High School in Northwest Florida, Mr. Varner attended Okaloosa–Walton Community College, as well as, the University of South Florida. He continued his education at the University of West Florida, where he earned a Bachelors of Science and Masters of Science in Teaching.

Mr. Varner's passion for educating led him to Tate High School, where he taught biology for 35 years. He also served as an adjunct professor at Pensacola State College for ten years. During his years as an educator, his commitment was always to the students and helping them reach their goals, both in and out of the classroom. Mr. Varner coached soccer, sponsored Student Government and Exchange Club, and served as sponsor to both the sophomore and senior classes for students at Tate High School.

Mr. Varner has been widely recognized and honored for his years of teaching and service to the community with "Who's Who Among Teachers," Florida Biology Teacher of the Year, and most recently with the Escambia County Teacher of the Year award in 2011. While the list of Mr. Varner's achievements extends far beyond what is noted here, they all highlight his unwavering devotion to improving the lives of those around him and to bettering his community through service.

In addition to his devotion to his students, Mr. Varner was a man of faith and committed to his parish. For nearly 20 years, he assisted Youth Ministry with planning, organizing, and assisting in many diocesan youth events. He was also a talented musician, who used his gift of music to write and play songs for church services and school functions.

Northwest Florida, Escambia County, Florida, and the many students whose lives were touched by Mr. Varner, mourn the loss of an exceptional man. His contributions and service to the community and this great nation will forever be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the exemplary life of Michael David Varner. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers to his wife Kathleen, his sons Jason and Brian, his parents Richard and Madeleine, his siblings Valarie and Richard, and Mr. Varner's entire family and friends. He will be truly missed by all.

HONORING DAVE OWENS

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dave Owens, a Colorado businessman with a strong commitment to his community. As the owner of FASTSIGNS Greeley, Dave has built a business that has created jobs and provided economic value to Greeley and beyond. Small businesses throughout the area have come to rely on FASTSIGNS and the services it provides.

In addition to growing and managing a successful business, Dave has invested both time and resources into the community.

Dave and his company have sponsored countless events, charities, youth groups, and causes. His support has benefited the children of the Boys and Girls Club of Weld County, the survivors of domestic violence at A Woman's Place, and the countless many who depend on the services of the United Way. And when the men and women of the armed services return home from abroad, they often see a welcome home banner donated by Dave.

On February 7, 2013, Dave was honored at the Greeley Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Awards. He was recognized for his creativity and imagination as a business owner as well as his leadership and involvement in support of his community.

I join the Greeley Chamber of Commerce in congratulating Dave Owens, and I wish him continued success in business and his many civic involvements.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR UNITED WAY OF TUCSON AND SOUTHERN ARIZONA

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, which has been recognized as a leader among its peers.

The United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona is in the top 2 percent of all United Way organizations in the country, according to a new business performance index developed by United Way Worldwide. This special status is based on leadership abilities, engagement in the community and for developing and implementing community strategies that get results.

That means that they are among the top 24 United Ways in the country—and I couldn't be prouder to have them serving Southern Arizona.

The United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona serves a community of more than 1 million residents. Only 55 of the 1,215 United Way organizations in the nation are that large.

The United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona was recognized for its impact promoting early literacy skills, engaging youth in afterschool programs, helping families become more financially stable and helping seniors remain healthy and active.

I especially want to recognize the accomplishments of Tony Penn, president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. As a leader in his field, Mr. Penn and the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona will be asked to share their best practices with other United Way organizations around the country.

Mr. Penn and his organization are deeply committed to getting more children into high-quality childcare, providing mentors for underserved teens, preparing free tax returns for low- to moderate-income families and providing volunteer opportunities to seniors to keep them healthy and engaged in the community.

I know firsthand the impact that the United Way can have on a community, having had the honor to serve on the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona's board. Southern Arizonans are lucky to have the dedicated and talented staff of the United Way helping to strengthen our community each and every day.

I am proud to recognize the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona as well as its board members and its staff under the direction of Tony Penn for their significant contributions to our community.

REMEMBERING EDWARD L. MAXWELL

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn this week of the passing of Edward L. Maxwell, an old friend who was a community

leader in Prince George's County, Maryland. He was 80 years old when he lost his battle to cancer on January 29.

Born in 1932 in Phenix City, Alabama, a stone's throw from Fort Benning, Edward dreamed even as a boy of serving his country in the U.S. Army. At age 13, he rode a freight train to Washington, DC, with his older brother Stephen to chase the dream of a better life, and he attended Spingarn High School. In 1950, at age 18, Edward volunteered for the U.S. Army and was sent to Korea, where he was wounded in both legs and expected to be paralyzed permanently.

With grit and hard work, Edward spent time in rehab at Walter Reed Army hospital and was able to walk again. Following his military service, he studied at the Veterans Vocational Institute, the Cortez Peters Business School, the LaSalle School of Accounting, and the George Washington University. With a penchant for math and a love of learning, Edward embarked on a career in business that would eventually lead him to become a successful small business owner and founder of the Best Value and Allen's Discount retail stores. He started it all by selling encyclopedias, vacuum cleaners, and insurance policies—and working at fast-food restaurants—until he could afford to start his own businesses.

Later, Edward started other successful businesses, including a casino that contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to help individuals in the community afford college and pursue opportunities for their families. He launched a non-profit to help disabled veterans like himself access their earned benefits and find jobs, and he donated so much food to the needy over the holidays that, over the years, he became known locally as the "Turkey Man."

I first came to know Edward in the 1970s, when I was working as a lawyer in Prince George's County. He was a cherished member of the community who was not only a man of business but a man of deep faith in God and faith in his fellow men and women. Edward was also a loving husband, father, grandfather, and uncle.

Edward married his wife Freida in 1962, and after 50 years together, she survives him. So does their daughter Gene and four sons: Kermit, Zach, Edward Jr., and Mike. He was also blessed with six grandchildren.

I join in mourning Edward's passing and in offering my condolences to Freida and their entire family. He will be missed by the entire Prince George's County community, and his generosity, big heart, and warm spirit will be long remembered.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, due to airplane mechanical difficulties, I missed two recorded votes on February 4. I would like the Record to indicate at this point how I would have voted had I been present for those votes.

On Roll Call No. 31, H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013, I would have voted "yea" to allow the National Institutes of Health to establish a national pediatric research network dedicated to finding treatments and cures for pediatric diseases and conditions, especially those that are rare. This legislation will only help to build upon a strong body of existing pediatric research to help our nation's children lead full, healthy lives.

On Roll Call No. 32, H.R. 297, the Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013, I would have voted "yea" to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and reauthorize appropriations to children's hospitals for expenses associated with graduate medical residency training programs. This legislation will help provide ongoing and consistent training of doctors and build our nation's pediatric physician workforce.

HONORING MR. JOHN EVANS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, a tenacious man from Nashville, Tennessee utilizes his gifts, talents and wisdom everyday to ensure that citizens are provided helpful resources in the state of Georgia; and

Whereas, Mr. John Evans is a renowned leader not only for the DeKalb County branch of the NAACP, but as a father and community leader in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mr. John Evans has served in many different roles throughout his life being a former DeKalb County Commissioner, a former Marta Board of Directors, a former player in the Negro Baseball League with the Indianapolis Clowns; he has worked in Corporate America as well as Main Street America being a strong advocate of justice, education, equality and family; and

Whereas, he has shared his time and talents for the betterment of his community and his nation through his tireless works, words of encouragement and inspiration that have and continues to be a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize John Evans for his outstanding leadership and service to the citizens in the state of Georgia, his community temperament is to be acknowledged and his commitment to the citizens throughout the state continues to touch the lives of citizens in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 27, 2012 as John Evans Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of October, 2012.

MARKING ARCHBISHOP COLEMAN CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 15th anniversary of Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School in Miami, Florida. Founded in 1998 and administered by the Carmelite Sisters, Carroll offers its students the opportunity to pursue a rich academic curriculum in an environment that fosters both intellectual and spiritual strength.

Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School has established itself as a school with a challenging and thorough academic program while forming a partnership between students, parents and teachers. This has fostered a family-centered environment that extends beyond the classroom and leads to the success of its students. As such, Carroll's alumni have gone on to some of our nation's most prestigious universities and are leaders in their communities.

Part of what has made Carroll such a successful school is its faculty's focus on ensuring that its students excel both inside and outside of the classroom. In addition to its robust academics, Archbishop Coleman Carroll is home to an outstanding athletic program that has earned the Bulldogs numerous district and regional championships. Moreover, students at Carroll can participate in 18 different extracurricular clubs, nine honor societies and a campus ministry program designed to nurture faith and good values.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored that Florida's 26th Congressional District is home to Archbishop Coleman Carroll, as well as most of its students and ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating its students, faculty and parents on its 15th anniversary.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF RAILWAY HISTORY IN MAGNOLIA

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great community in my district. Magnolia, Texas, is celebrating 150 years of railway history with a new title—Train Town.

This designation from the Union Pacific Railroad will be official on Tuesday, February 12 when Union Pacific officials present the award to the Magnolia Historical Society, the City of Magnolia and the Greater Magnolia Chamber of Commerce.

It's fitting that the presentation will take place at Magnolia's historic Depot. While it may only be 110 years that the town has been officially called Magnolia, this community's rich history dates back to the mid-1800s. By the roaring twenties, Magnolia was a rail shipping center for everything from lumber to livestock and just about anything you could send on the rails.

Thank you, Union Pacific, for your efforts to recognize America's train history and these amazing train towns like Magnolia. Keeping a connection to our past is so important for our future.

Magnolia's historic Depot is located right in the heart of downtown at 426 Melton Street. In 2005, rather than tear it down to make way for a road expansion, it was carefully moved so it can continue to be a tangible link to Magnolia's rich heritage and a big part of the community we love.

Thanks to the Magnolia Historical Society, everyone who comes to the Depot can enjoy what the train city must have looked like and

enjoy getting away from the present and immersed in history. From the solid plank wood floors, exposed wood trusses, and sliding freight doors, the Depot and its adjacent railroad tracks that were such a part of Magnolia's early days are preserved for future generations so they too can enjoy a real Train City. Their efforts to revive a piece of Magnolia's past for all of us to enjoy deserve this honor.

As Magnolia continues to grow, I am confident it will never lose its Train Town heritage and how Magnolia's Depot connected Montgomery county to the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ''END BIG OIL TAX SUBSIDIES ACT''

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in the midst of budget turmoil, the upcoming debt ceiling limit, and looming sequestration cuts, I am introducing legislation that could save American taxpayers almost $40 billion over the next 5 years.

Right now, Americans are subsidizing some of the largest and most profitable companies in the world with their tax dollars. Taxpayers currently subsidize oil injection, extraction, exploration, drilling, injection, manufacturing, pricing, and inventory valuing, by offsetting foreign taxes, providing generous credits and deductions, and offering tax shelters.

The ''End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act,'' would end 10 of the most egregious tax loopholes enjoyed by the oil industry—tax loopholes that have helped BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil and Shell make a combined profit of nearly $1 trillion over the past decade. The legislation is modeled on President Obama's proposal to eliminate oil and gas tax preferences in his FY 2013 Budget.

Extremely profitable, well-established, large corporations do not need enormous subsidies from the government and we simply cannot afford to let them continue. It is well established in a global petroleum market that this subsidy has zero impact on reducing prices for American consumers. Instead of padding the bottom of oil companies, this money could be better spent renewing and rebuilding our nation's infrastructure. It could be used to stave off some of the most draconian cuts that families will face this spring if Congress does not act on sequestration. Finally, the resources could be redirected to level the playing field for emerging technologies like wind and solar.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO P/SGT. WILLIAM P. TUGGLE

HON. HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Eighty years ago on October 31, 1932 a tenacious man of God was born in Monticello, Georgia; and

Whereas, P/Sgt. William P. Tuggle was trained as a Combat/Recon Military Engineer, he served in the United States Army, received numerous Military Citations such as the Combat Service Award, the Bronze Star, the Combat Service Award, the Army Commendation Award and an Appreciation Certificate from President Richard Nixon; and

Whereas, P/Sgt. Tuggle has shared his time and talents as a family man, serviceman and mentor, giving the citizens of the United States a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all advancing the lives of others, through service to our country in the U.S. Army and being the ideal husband, father, church member and grandfather; and

Whereas, P/Sgt. Tuggle has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, P/Sgt. Tuggle along with his family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, his 80th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a man who is a cornerstone in our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside these days to honor and recognize P/Sgt. Tuggle on his birthday and to wish him well and recognize him for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 31, 2012 as P/Sgt. William P. Tuggle Day in Georgia's 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 31st day of October, 2012.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RACHEL CARSON NATURE TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Rachel Carson Nature Trail Designation Act of 2013, to recognize Rachel Carson, an environmental pioneer and inspiration for environmental consciousness best known for her groundbreaking book Silent Spring. In September 2012, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the publication of Silent Spring, which has been translated into more than a dozen languages. The idea for my bill, which designates a National Park Service trail in the District of Columbia in honor of Ms. Carson, was brought to me by Glover Park residents.

Ms. Carson was born on May 27, 1907, on a farm in Springdale, Pennsylvania, graduated magna cum laude with a biology degree from the Pennsylvania College for Women (later Chatham College), and received a full scholarship that enabled her to obtain a master's degree in marine zoology from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. A world-renowned environmental scientist, writer, and educator, Ms. Carson worked as a federal employee for most of her professional life as a writer, editor, and ultimately, Editor-in-Chief for the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Service's publications department.

Ms. Carson accomplished much of her seminal professional work as a federal employee at the U.S. Department of the Interior in the District. She often used Glover Archbold Park in the District as a site from which she drew observations about nature and the environment. She performed research on the dangers of pesticides, and her findings were sustained by the Science Advisory Committee, created during President John F. Kennedy's administration. As a result, federal and state legislatures enacted pesticide legislation. Her work also paved the way for groundbreaking environmental protection legislation throughout the world. Ms. Carson was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters and received many other honors. She died on April 14, 1964, in Silver Spring, Maryland, leaving a rich legacy that will continue to benefit present and future generations well beyond the 50th anniversary of Silent Spring.

Last year, I testified at a meeting of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission on the bill. The commission asked for additional information on Carson's work in the park. We are providing the commission with such information, and would expect its support for the designation at its next meeting.

My bill serves to commemorate Rachel Carson for her tireless efforts to make the District of Columbia, the United States, and, indeed, the world a better and safer place for us all. The trail designated by the bill, located in the NPS's Glover Archbold Park in the District, will be known as the ''Rachel Carson Nature Trail.'' The bill ensures that Rachel Carson's contributions will be remembered and treasured for years to come.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF ARTHUR N. COSENTINO

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief Arthur N. Cosentino on his retirement from the West Long Branch Police Department. Chief Cosentino has dutifully served the Borough of West Long Branch for over 35 years.

Chief Cosentino began his law enforcement career in 1976 when he was hired as a patrolman with the West Long Branch Police Department. He served as a criminal investigator in the Detective Bureau for over 15 years, when he was promoted to Sergeant in 1997. He quickly advanced the ranks, earning promotions to Lieutenant and then Captain in 2004 and finally Chief of Police in 2006.

In addition to his career with the police department, Chief Cosentino was actively involved in the community. He has been involved with the West Long Branch Fire Department, West Long Branch First Aid Squad, West Long Branch Office of Emergency Management, Amerigo Vespucci Society, West Long Branch Lions Club, and the West Long Branch Sports Association. He is also Past President and a current member of the Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 141, a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and a member of the Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association, serving as its President in 2012.

Chief Cosentino earned his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Brookdale Community College in 1991 and later returned to

school at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2010, graduating as a Certified Public Manager. He has also earned several certificates for continuing education classes related to his police work.

Throughout his law enforcement career, Chief Cosentino has been the recipient of various awards and commendations recognizing his dedication and achievements. He has been presented with the Meritorious Service Award for heroic actions during a fire in 2000, the Unit Citation Medal for detection and apprehension of two armed robbers in 2004, and the Outstanding Achievement Medal for substantial burglary clearances in 2004, among many others. A graduate of Shore Regional High School, Chief Cosentino was also inducted into the High School's Hall of Fame in 2006.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Chief Arthur Cosentino on his retirement from the West Long Branch Police Department. His selfless commitment to the community is deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special school in the congressional district that I am honored to represent. For 55 years, Christopher Columbus High School has instilled in its students strong values and served South Florida as an institution of academic excellence and athletic achievement. Columbus has educated thousands of fine young men and community leaders, including my brothers, some of my close friends and members of my staff.

Established in 1958 in the spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers, Columbus' teachers and staff work tirelessly so that its students can achieve their full potential across every facet of their lives.

Columbus Explorers excel both inside and outside of the classroom. The school's award-winning academic curriculum is tailored to meet the individual needs of its students and equips them with the tools they need to lead successful lives. It also boasts an athletic program that competes across 15 different sports and has earned dozens of district and state championships.

Columbus works to develop young men of good social conscience and social responsibility, offering its students daily morning masses, weekly youth group meetings and opportunities for community service.

Among Columbus' alumni are some of America's leading entrepreneurs, elected officials, distinguished scientists and doctors, professional athletes, high ranking officers in our armed forces, a Pulitzer Prize winner, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient and the poet at the 2013 inauguration of President Barack Obama.

Mr. Speaker, for all of the achievements that I have cited and those that time constraints do not allow me to list, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Christopher Columbus High School. It is only fitting that Columbus' motto be Adelante, for this school has certainly been moving South Florida and America forward for over half a century.

TRIBUTE TO SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for the past twenty years; and

Whereas, Pastor Christopher C. Alikah and the members of the Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our county; and

Whereas, the Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our District; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past twenty (20) years; and

Whereas, this Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church family for their leadership and service to our District on this the 20th Anniversary of their founding;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim November 11, 2012 as Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 11th day of November, 2012.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 47, Violence Against Women Act, as amended.

House and Senate met in Joint Session to receive a State of the Union Address from the President of the United States.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S597–S662

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 280–289, and S. Res. 29–30. **Page S657**

Measures Passed:

Violence Against Women Act: By 78 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. 19), Senate passed S. 47, to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S598–S645**

Adopted:

By 93 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 15), Leahy Modified Amendment No. 21, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 through 2017 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons. **Pages S601–10**

By a unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. 16), Portman/Blumenthal Amendment No. 10, to clarify that child victims of sex trafficking are eligible to receive assistance under grants provided to enhance the safety of youth and children. **Pages S610–11**

Leahy (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 11, to improve the bill. **Pages S611–12**

Rejected:

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 17), Coburn Amendment No. 15, to more quickly resolve rape cases and reduce the deficit by consolidating unnecessary duplication within the Department of Justice. **Pages S598, S612–13**

By 43 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 18), Coburn Amendment No. 16, to amend the requirements for speedy notice to victims and to require a report to Congress. **Pages S598, S613–14**

Majority Party's Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 29, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S662**

Escort Committee—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Presiding Officer of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join a like committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m., on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. **Page S662**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the report on the State of the Union delivered to a Joint Session of Congress on February 12, 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table. (PM–2) **Pages S651–55**

Executive Communications: **Pages S655–57**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S657**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S657–58**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S658–61**

Additional Statements: **Pages S647–51**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S662**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S662**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S662**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—19) **Pages S609–11, S613–14, S616**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:24 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S662.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 113th Congress:

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies: Senators Pryor (Chair), Harkin, Feinstein, Johnson (SD), Tester, Udall (NM), Merkley, Blunt, Cochran, McConnell, Collins, Moran, and Hoeven.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: Senators Mikulski (Chair), Leahy, Feinstein, Reed, Lautenberg, Pryor, Landrieu, Shaheen, Merkley, Shelby, McConnell, Alexander, Collins, Murkowski, Graham, Kirk, and Boozman.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense: Senators Durbin (Chair), Leahy, Harkin, Feinstein, Mikulski, Murray, Johnson (SD), Reed, Landrieu, Pryor, Cochran, McConnell, Shelby, Alexander, Collins, Murkowski, Graham, Coats, and Blunt.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development: Senators Feinstein (Chair), Murray, Johnson (SD), Landrieu, Lautenberg, Harkin, Tester, Durbin, Udall (NM), Alexander, Cochran, McConnell, Shelby, Collins, Murkowski, Graham, and Hoeven.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government: Senators Lautenberg (Chair), Durbin, Udall (NM), Johanns, and Moran.

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security: Senators Landrieu (Chair), Leahy, Murray, Lautenberg, Tester, Begich, Coats, Cochran, Shelby, Murkowski, and Moran.

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies: Senators Reed (Chair), Feinstein, Leahy, Johnson (SD), Tester, Udall (NM), Merkley, Begich, Murkowski, Cochran, Alexander, Blunt, Hoeven, and Johanns.

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies: Senators Harkin (Chair), Murray, Landrieu, Durbin, Reed, Pryor, Mikulski, Tester, Shaheen, Merkley, Moran, Cochran, Shelby, Alexander, Graham, Kirk, Johanns, and Boozman.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch: Senators Shaheen (Chair), Merkley, Begich, Hoeven, and Boozman.

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies: Senators Johnson (SD) (Chair), Murray, Reed, Pryor, Tester, Udall (NM), Shaheen, Begich, Kirk, McConnell, Collins, Murkowski, Coats, Hoeven, and Johanns.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs: Senators Leahy (Chair), Harkin, Mikulski, Durbin, Landrieu, Lautenberg, Shaheen, Begich, Graham, McConnell, Kirk, Coats, Blunt, Johanns, and Boozman.

Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies: Senators Murray (Chair), Mikulski, Durbin, Leahy, Harkin, Feinstein, Johnson (SD), Lautenberg, Pryor, Reed, Collins, Shelby, Alexander, Graham, Kirk, Coats, Blunt, Moran, and Boozman.

IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impacts of sequestration and/or a full-year continuing resolution on the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Ashton B. Carter, Deputy Secretary, Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary (Comptroller), General Martin E. Dempsey, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Raymond T. Odierno, Chief of Staff United States Army, Admiral Mark E. Ferguson III, USN, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, General James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Mark A. Welsh III, USAF, Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, and General Frank J. Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau, all of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Charles Timothy Hagel, of Nebraska, to be Secretary of Defense.

BUDGET AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2013–2023, after receiving testimony from Douglas W. Elmendorf, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported its rules of procedure for the 113th Congress, a questionnaire for executive nominations, and announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Energy: Senators Franken (Chair), Johnson (SD), Landrieu, Cantwell, Sanders, Stabenow, Udall (CO), Manchin, Coons, Heinrich, Risch, Heller, Flake, Alexander, Portman, and Hoeven.

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining: Senators Manchin (Chair), Johnson (SD), Landrieu, Cantwell, Udall (CO), Franken, Coons, Schatz, Heinrich, Barrasso, Risch, Lee, Heller, Flake, Scott, Alexander, and Hoeven.

Subcommittee on National Parks: Senators Udall (CO) (Chair), Landrieu, Sanders, Stabenow, Coons, Schatz, Heinrich, Portman, Barrasso, Lee, Alexander, and Hoeven.

Subcommittee on Water and Power: Senators Schatz (Chair), Johnson (SD), Cantwell, Sanders, Stabenow, Manchin, Franken, Lee, Barrasso, Risch, Heller, Flake, and Scott.

Senators Wyden and Murkowski are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

AMERICA'S NATURAL GAS RESOURCES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities and challenges associated with America's natural gas resources, after receiving testimony from Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, Denver; Andrew N. Liveris, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan; Ross Eisenberg, National Association of Manufacturers, and Jack N. Gerard, American Petroleum Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; Frances Beinecke, Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, New York; and Kenneth B. Medlock III, Rice University James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Houston, Texas.

PROPOSALS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights concluded a hearing to examine proposals to reduce gun violence, focusing on protecting our communities while respecting the Second Amendment, including S. 54, to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking, S. 179, to prevent gun trafficking, S. 195, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs, S. 150, to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and S. 174, to appropriately restrict sales of ammunition, after receiving testimony from Timothy J. Heaphy, United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, Department of Justice; Laurence H. Tribe, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Daniel W. Webster, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, Baltimore, Maryland; Charles J. Cooper, Cooper and Kirk PLLC, Washington, D.C.; Sandra J. Wortham, Chicago, Illinois; and Suzanna Gratia Hupp, Lampasas, Texas.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 609–623; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 26; H. Con. Res. 12; and H. Res. 62–63 were introduced. **Pages H454–55**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H455–56**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H437**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act: H.R. 316, to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects; and **Pages H441–42**

Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2013: H.R. 235, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians. **Pages H442–43**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013: H.R. 267, to improve hydropower. **Pages H439–41**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:41 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m. **Page H443**

State of the Union Address: President Barack Obama delivered his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 11. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives Cantor, McCarthy (CA), McMorris Rodgers, Walden, Lankford, Jenkins, Foxx, Pelosi, Hoyer, Clyburn, Becerra, Crowley, Israel, and Duckworth and Senators Reid, Leahy, Durbin, Schumer, Murray, Bennet, Stabenow, Begich, McConnell, Cornyn, Thune, Blunt, Barrasso, and Moran. The President's message was referred to the Committee of

the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 113–1). **Pages H443–49**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H449.

Senate Referral: S. 47 was held at the desk.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Committee Meeting

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a business meeting to complete consideration of the Oversight Plan for the 113th Congress. The Oversight Plan for the 113th Congress was adopted.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, subcommittee assignments, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, subcommittee membership and jurisdiction, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, and S. Res. 12, recognizing the third anniversary of the tragic earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010, honoring those who lost their lives in that earthquake, and expressing continued solidarity with the people of Haiti, 3 p.m., S–116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, committee rules, subcommittee membership and jurisdiction, H.R. 307, to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and S. 252, The Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early (PREEMIE) Act, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine solutions to the crisis facing the United States Postal Service, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Rules and Administration: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress and committee rules, 10 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, 4 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the impact of Federal budget decisions on families and communities, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine comprehensive immigration reform, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kenneth John Gonzales, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Michael J. McShane, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, and Nitza I. Quinones Alejandro, Luis Felipe Restrepo, and Jeffrey L. Schmehl, all to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 3:15 p.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee, business meeting to consider oversight plan of the Committee on Agriculture for the 113th Congress and other organizational matters, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee, hearing entitled "Impacts of a Continuing Resolution and Sequestration on Defense", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Intelligence, Emerging Threats and Capabilities, hearing entitled "Perspectives on the Future National Security Environment: Technological, Geopolitical and Economic Trends Affecting the Defense Strategic Guidance", 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Congressional Budget Office's Budget and Economic Outlook", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions, hearing entitled "The Future of the NLRB: What Noel Canning vs. NLRB Means for Workers, Employers, and Unions", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Influenza: Perspective on Current Season and Update on Preparedness", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Satellite Video 101", 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled "Bailout, Bust, or Much Ado About Nothing?: A Look at the Federal Housing Administration's 2012 Actuarial Report", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee, hearing entitled "A New Perspective on Threats to the Homeland", 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled ''U.S. Direct Assistance in Afghanistan: Ensuring Transparency and Accountability'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules: Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 273, to eliminate the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees; and Proposed Oversight Plan of the Committee on Rules for the 113th Congress.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled ''American Energy Outlook: Technology, Market, and Policy Drivers'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The State of the Small Business Economy'', 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Federal Role in America's Infrastructure'', 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Honoring the Commitment: Overcoming Barriers to Quality Mental Health Care for Veterans'', 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee, business meeting on Committee Organization and Rules, 4 p.m., HVC–304. Portions of this meeting may be closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 13

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 592—Federal Disaster Assistance Nonprofit Fairness Act of 2013, under suspension of the Rules.

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