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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 23, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID KUSTOFF to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS IN UNIVERSITIES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Angie described Amherst College as her dream school. A vibrant American teenager, she couldn't wait to start her new life at the perfect college.

Like all universities, Amherst painted itself in a positive light. It had a good reputation. But Angie had no way of knowing the dark reality hiding behind that facade.

Her initial memories of her freshman year play along a familiar and happy college narrative. Her life was full of new friends, new experiences, and new challenges. But on May 25, everything changed. That happy narrative came to a screeching halt.

An acquaintance of hers invited her over to watch a movie in his campus dorm room. Tired from a long day of classes, Angie finally drifted off to sleep. The next thing she knew, she woke up to find this individual on top of her sexually assaulting her.

The morning after the attack, Angie felt that she was in a daze, and she acted like she was in a daze. The illusion of college life filled with smiling faces and good times had been shattered.

Mr. Speaker, according to the Department of Justice, one in five women are sexually assaulted during college in the United States—one in five. Of those, less than 25 percent report the sexual assault.

So Angie, fearing that she would be ignored, doubted, and dismissed, carried on in hopeless silence. In the 4 months following her rape, she fell deeper and deeper into depression.

Finally, when the burden became too heavy to bear, she summoned all her remaining strength and courage and went to the campus counselor. But she was shocked at the counselor's response.

The counseling center didn't believe she was sexually assaulted. The counseling center said that she should forgive the rapist. They told her there is nothing they could do or would do. There was no point in pressing charges; her rapist was close to graduating anyway.

But she could not forget what had happened to her. She couldn't deal with the sexual assault. Mr. Speaker, a rape victim cannot just forget what has happened to them.

Mr. Speaker, I was a judge for 22 years and a prosecutor for 8 in Texas. I

saw a lot of sexual assault victims, a lot of them. They deal with what happened to them every day, and they feel like the rapist tried to steal the soul of the victim.

A rape victim once told me: "Judge, rape is a fate worse than death." And to a lot of victims, that is exactly the way they feel. It is worse than being murdered.

These sexual assault victims need support, understanding, and care to become survivors. They first need somebody who will listen to them.

Amherst utterly failed Angie, and that failure pushed her deeper and deeper into despair. When she voiced that she had been having suicidal thoughts, university police forcibly escorted her to the emergency room and left her there.

The doctor who examined her had no training on how to deal with traumatized rape victims. Utterly lacking in any kind of compassion for what had happened to her, the doctor told her that she was being irrational and that her story just didn't make any sense to the doctor. He didn't believe a school like Amherst would allow her to be raped, and he thought she just must be crazy. He ordered that she be admitted into a psychiatric ward and washed his hands of the entire situation.

For 5 days, Mr. Speaker, Angie sat shaking in a sterile room behind locked doors. She becomes the prisoner for the sexual assault that happened to her.

A victim's pain and suffering should never be increased because the hospital doesn't have staff trained to provide victim services for sexual assault victims. So to ensure this doesn't happen to more victims like Angie, I have introduced legislation, along with the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), my good friend, that would require a hospital to provide access to a staffer who is properly trained to provide care sensitive to the

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

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



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trauma victim and is concerned about what they have experienced, or have a plan in place to get the victim to a nearby hospital that does. This is called a SAFE.

The law should be changed to require a hospital to have a SAFE or a SANE—that is a sexual assault forensic examiner or a sexual assault nurse examiner—on staff or have one at a nearby hospital.

This bill is named for Megan Rondini. Megan Rondini is another victim of sexual assault on campus. She was from Texas and went to the University of Alabama, and she was denied proper post-sexual assault treatment at a hospital. This will ensure victims get the care that they need. Megan couldn't deal with what happened to her, and she finally committed suicide.

Mr. Speaker, we need to, as a body, be concerned about sexual assault victims and provide this basic legislation so universities are trained or have somebody on staff nearby who can deal with sexual assault victims. That is the least we can do for people like Angie and Megan Rondini.

And that is just the way it is.

NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Co-op Month and the many co-ops of the big First District of Kansas.

With a history spanning back to the 18th century, co-ops shaped the way American producers and consumers do business, and in doing so, these ventures have become an invaluable part of business in our own Nation.

From a personal standpoint, I remember my first adventure to a co-op as a 6- or 7-year-old boy on a wheat farm in Kansas. My uncles would let me tag along, riding in our 1952 Chevy truck, and take that wheat to the Burns Co-op. When I was there, I got to taste my first Orange Crush pop. It was the biggest treat of the whole harvest for me, getting to go to that co-op and getting a little bottle of pop.

Over time, though, co-ops have grown far beyond agriculture. We now have co-ops across our district working in broadband, our electric and gas service, housing needs, and so much more.

Run by the people who run and use them, these co-ops, from Kansas to Kentucky, from Alabama to Arkansas to Alaska, are voluntary and self-directed organizations. The benefits are apparent.

Take, for example, MKC, one of the fastest growing co-ops in my State, which has donated more than \$500,000 to our local communities in the last 5 years. The benefits of user-based economic control are growing each year.

National Co-op Month brings to mind the hard work and dedication that goes into providing you and me with items and services that we take for granted every day.

Going forward, I urge my colleagues and fellow Members to continue to work and support our farmers and ranchers, our co-ops and their vital work for all America.

RECOGNITION OF IMPORTANCE OF TRADE TO KANSAS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of trade to the Kansas manufacturing industry.

I recently had the opportunity to tour a number of local manufacturing companies as part of my Manufacturing Day tour in Kansas and was able to hear how these companies are working to meet both local and global demands for our products.

These companies in Hutchinson, Kansas; McPherson, Kansas; and Moundridge, Kansas, showed me how they partnered with local community colleges to recruit and train employees as well as innovate to improve their own processes. They repeatedly emphasized how important trade is to manufacturing in Kansas.

When it comes to trade, NAFTA remains of critical importance to the Kansas economy. Nearly 40 percent of the manufacturing exports produced in Kansas go to Canada and Mexico. Let me say that again: 40 percent of the goods manufactured in Kansas go to Canada and Mexico, at a value of nearly \$3 billion each year.

As we work through the process of updating and modernizing our free trade agreements, our goal must be to expand and open new markets for American exporters so we can grow our economies and put American-made products at the forefront of the global marketplace.

RECOGNITION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ELLY MCNELIS AND BOBBY HEENAN

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of two amazing Bucks Countians, Elly McNelis and Bobby Heenan.

The Bucks County Central Labor Council has awarded the Trish Coyle Award to Elly McNelis, a member of AFSCME Local 1598, and president of the Neshaminy Bucks Coalition of Labor Union Women. Elly serves as a Bucks County crossing guard and is committed to strengthening the role of women in unions and increasing the involvement of women in the legislative process.

The Bucks County Central Labor Council has also awarded Bobby Heenan with their Man of the Year Award. Bobby serves as the business manager for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 542. Bobby and his team are committed to producing the most skilled and efficient heavy equipment operators in the industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize these distinguished individuals for their service to their fellow working families and to our entire Bucks County community.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as the son and brother of breast cancer survivors, I understand the impact of this disease on families throughout our community. Each year, about 200,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer, and more than 40,000 American women will die of this disease.

It does not have to be this way, Mr. Speaker. This Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I am proud to be working with my colleague Congresswoman DELAURO in advocating for increased access to information about breast cancer that allows women and their doctors to make the best decisions possible.

The fight against cancer is one that transcends politics. By working together, we can pass commonsense legislation that increases the quality of life and care for patients and, ultimately, put an end to this awful disease.

PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATION ABUSE

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, nearly 70 percent of individuals who abuse prescription pain medication get them from their friends or family.

As our community continues to grapple with the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic, it is crucial we take every step possible to stop prescription medications from falling into the wrong hands, including the collecting and safely disposing of unused or expired prescription drugs.

My community in Bucks County has collected over 40 tons of unused medications, the most in Pennsylvania, as part of our successful Prescription Drug Take Back program. This collaborative effort between local government, law enforcement, and community leaders is crucial in the battle against this crisis.

I commend those involved and urge all residents to participate in our next Take Back Day and to utilize the permanent drop boxes that are located throughout our region.

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 13 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. MITCHELL) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

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

As the Members return, we ask Your blessing on all those who are discerning significant options about remaining in the people's House or choosing to run for this office. May a spirit of freedom and public responsibility prevail among all the voices competing for ascendancy in the conversations and debates that ensue.

Bless all Members with wisdom in good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, that the legacy of great legislators of our history might be carried on with integrity for the benefit of all.

May all that is done in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. COMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY), the whole number of the House is 433.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

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, October 19, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
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 October 19, 2017, at 12:11 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2989.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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, October 20, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
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 October 20, 2017, at 3:28 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H. Con. Res. 71.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HOUSTON ASTROS MAKE IT HAPPEN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is the seventh game of the American League Championship Series. After being down three games to two, the Astros, who dedicated their season to the people of Houston, had tied the ALCS three to three against the powerful New York Yankees.

The winner goes to the World Series against the mighty Dodgers.

It is the top of the ninth inning in Houston. The Astros are up 4 to 0. The Astros take the field. Pitcher Lance McCullers is on the mound throwing curveballs. He strikes out Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius. One out.

McCullers attacks the plate with a dirt-diving curveball. Sanchez strikes out. Two down.

The fans are standing. They are screaming. Bases are empty. One out remains. McCullers throws another curveball to batter Greg Bird, and the Yankees, Mr. Speaker, have trouble with the curve. It is a fly ball, center field.

Springer catches the ball. Third out. The fans go wild. Astros win, Astros win, Astros win. The city of Houston starts singing and dancing in the streets. American League Champs.

And that is just the way it is.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(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, last week I traveled the district and heard from constituents who are grateful for the historic progress being made by the Trump administration creating jobs.

President Donald Trump has led a strong pro-business team. The economy has added over 800,000 private sector jobs since January. Consumer confidence is at a 13-year high. The number of unemployment claims has plunged to the lowest level in over 40 years.

I appreciate the President can share the significance of the DOW soaring above 23,000 points, up nearly 5,000 points, or 27 percent, since election day, as you can see in his tweet on Wednesday.

The President's critics will never give him credit for American families. Columnist Clarence Page has described the "anti-Trump derangement syndrome" drives critics to irrational extremes.

But these critics can't dispute the facts. The fresh faces, fresh voices, and fresh ideas that President Donald Trump has brought to Washington is making a difference for American families.

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

RECOGNIZING JANET JOHNSON AS EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Janet Johnson for being named Educator of the Year by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Janet Johnson has worked tirelessly for the citizens of Allen County as an agent for the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. She dedicates her time to extending UK's research knowledge to help Kentuckians build strong families.

Much of Johnson's work revolves around community and economic development. In fact, she helped secure nearly \$20 million in renovation and beautification funding for Allen County.

Johnson was an integral part of "Plate It Up Kentucky Proud," which encourages consumers to purchase and eat local produce. Regionally, she was extremely influential in connecting producers and consumers in south central Kentucky through the Farm to Table program. These accomplishments only scratch the surface of Johnson's contribution to outreach and engagement for communities and families in Kentucky.

Simply put, Janet Johnson is an outstanding professional in family and consumer sciences who has paved the way for many transformative programs in Kentucky. I am proud to recognize her as Extension Educator of the Year and as a distinguished teacher and colleague.

CONGRATULATING MICHELLE BAUER ON WINNING FIRST PLACE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE'S ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a St. Marys Area High School student for winning first place in the Pennsylvania Municipal League's annual essay contest.

Michelle Bauer, a senior at St. Marys Area High School, is the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship for taking home the top prize at the Pennsylvania Municipal League's 118th annual summit, which took place earlier this month at Erie's Bayfront Convention Center.

This year's essay theme was: Civics and you.

Contest participants were asked to elaborate on this theme by writing about opportunities in their community that allows for civic engagement and encourage citizens to volunteer locally.

Mr. Speaker, I know that civic involvement is something that we can all agree is important to the quality of life in all of our communities.

The mission of the Pennsylvania Municipal League is to strengthen, empower, and advocate for effective local government. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that was established in 1900 to advocate for Pennsylvania's third class cities.

I congratulate Michelle Bauer on her first place finish and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

VOTERS BELIEVE MEDIA FABRICATES NEWS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a recent Morning Consult poll found that nearly half of all voters—46 percent—"believe the media fabricates news stories about President Donald Trump and his administration."

It is not surprising that the American people feel this way. Each day they wake up to another barrage of negative reporting about a President they elected.

In fact, a recent Harvard University study found that news coverage of President Trump's first 100 days was 80 percent negative, a record high for any recent President.

The news media used anonymous sources to report illegitimate claims that intentionally placed the President and his administration in a bad light. This is borderline malicious.

The liberal media frequently rushed to print stories with one single biased source. Often, the stories turn out to be false. This is the current state of journalism by the liberal media.

The media should report on the topics of the day in a fair and balanced manner; otherwise, the American people will continue to consider the media's coverage to be fabricated news.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 115-72)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days of the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, is to continue in effect beyond October 27, 2017.

The situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has been marked by widespread violence and atrocities that continue to threaten regional stability, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency de-

clared in Executive Order 13413 with respect to the situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 23, 2017.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1631

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BACON) at 4 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

DHS ACCOUNTABILITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4038) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reassert article I authorities over the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4038

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 "DHS Accountability Enhancement Act".

SEC. 2. REPEAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 452) is repealed and the item relating to such section in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is struck.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended—

(1) in section 506 (6 U.S.C. 316)—

(A) by striking subsection (b); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(2) in section 702(b) (6 U.S.C. 342(b)), by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

“(4) REORGANIZATION.—The Secretary may allocate or reallocate the functions of the Office, or discontinue the Office.”; and

(3) in paragraph (3) of section 2006(b) (6 U.S.C. 607(b)), by striking “sections 506(c)(2)” and inserting “sections 506(b)(2)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Texas (Mr. McCAUL) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VELA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL).

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the bipartisan DHS Accountability Enhancement Act.

Mr. Speaker, the current threats confronting our homeland continue to evolve each and every day. They come from international terrorists, drug smugglers, human traffickers, hackers engaged in cyber warfare, transnational gangs like MS-13, and natural disasters.

To best address these threats, the American people need a Department of Homeland Security that is effective and accountable to the people it protects.

The Founding Fathers gave Congress the authority to write laws and give direction to the executive branch under Article I of our Constitution. Today, we have an important opportunity to reassert that constitutional authority.

The legislation before us eliminates an outdated provision that gives DHS overly broad authority to act on its own and reorganize without congressional approval. It is authority that was well-intentioned when it was first provided right after 9/11, but the time has come to rebalance this legislative equation.

Mr. Speaker, as you may be aware, it is the only authority of its kind in the entire executive branch. As Members of Congress, we have a solemn obligation to help protect the American people from anyone who wishes to bring us harm.

In the wake of 9/11, we reached across the aisle and worked together to create the Department of Homeland Security and demonstrated that the security of our homeland is not a partisan issue.

This is not just an academic exercise. On October 6 of this year, DHS used this authority for the first time in many years. We also want to work with DHS to support them, but continued use of this authority is not the best way to make the Department stronger.

I am proud to say that the Committee on Homeland Security, which I chair, has a strong bipartisan track record. This year we came together as Republicans and Democrats and passed the first-ever comprehensive reauthorization of DHS through the House with an overwhelming majority support.

Let's continue that progress today and pass this legislation. I also call on

the Senate to pass our reauthorization of DHS as soon as possible so our country can be more secure.

I would like to thank Ranking Member BENNIE THOMPSON, Congressman VELA, and all of the staff on the committee for their hard work on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4038, the DHS Accountability Enhancement Act. H.R. 4038, or the DHS Accountability Enhancement Act, strikes section 872 of the Homeland Security Act. Section 872 grants the Secretary of Homeland Security unilateral authority to reorganize the Department as long as the Secretary notifies Congress 60 days in advance.

H.R. 4038, this bill, rescinds this unilateral authority. As authorizers of the Department of Homeland Security, the Committee on Homeland Security is ultimately responsible for reorganization of the Department. H.R. 4038 reinforces this responsibility.

The separation of powers doctrine compels the elimination of the provision, which gives the Department of Homeland Security unilateral decision-making authority to reorganize the department.

Moreover, it should be noted that this bill is not without precedent.

While considering H.R. 2825, the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2017, in June, the Committee on Homeland Security unanimously approved eliminating the language found in section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

I believe that this legislation not only ensures this committee's involvement in reorganizations at DHS, but affirms the responsibility of Congress as authorizers.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge support of this bipartisan legislation. H.R. 4038 is necessary, commonsense legislation. An action as significant as the reorganization of an entire department and its components should be subject to the appropriate vetting and approval measures of this Congress.

I thank Chairman McCAUL for working with Ranking Member THOMPSON on this issue both during the consideration of the DHS Authorization Act and now on this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 4038, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4038.

I will say that this committee has passed over 50 bills out of the House that are currently sitting in the Senate waiting action. I urge the Senate to take action on this important legislation, all 50-plus bills, that will help better protect the American people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4038.

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.

CUBAN AIRPORT SECURITY ACT OF 2017

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3328) to require a study regarding security measures and equipment at Cuba's airports, require the standardization of Federal Air Marshal Service agreements, require efforts to raise international aviation security standards, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3328

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 "Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall brief the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Comptroller General of the United States on the following aspects of security measures at each of Cuba's ten international airports:

(1) Details about the type of equipment used at screening checkpoints and an analysis of such equipment's capabilities and weaknesses.

(2) Information about each such airport's canine program, if used.

(3) The frequency of training for screening and security personnel.

(4) Access controls in place to ensure only credentialed personnel have access to the secure and sterile areas of such airports.

(5) An assessment of the ability of known or suspected terrorists to use Cuba as a gateway to entering the United States.

(6) Security of such airports' perimeters.

(7) A mitigation assessment regarding Man Portable Air Defense Systems.

(8) The vetting practices and procedures for airport employees.

(9) Any other information determined relevant to the security practices, procedures, and equipment in place at such airports.

(b) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN AGREEMENTS.—

(1) DISCLOSURE REQUIRED.—No United States air carrier that has entered into a covered agreement may employ a Cuban national pursuant to 31 CFR 515.573 after the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act unless the air carrier has publicly disclosed the full text of the covered agreement.

(2) HIRING AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, to the extent practicable, Cuban nationals referred to in paragraph (1) shall not have been recruited, hired, or trained by entities that are owned, operated, or controlled, in whole or in part, by Cuba's

Council of State, Council of Ministers, Communist Party, Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or Ministry of the Interior.

(3) COVERED AGREEMENT.—In this subsection, the term “covered agreement” means a formal agreement between a United States air carrier with passenger air service between any location in Cuba and any location in the United States and the Empresa Cubana de Aeropuertos y Servicios Aeronauticos or any other entity associated with the Government of Cuba.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL AIR MARSHAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS.

(a) STANDARDIZATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of the Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall develop a standard working document to serve as the basis for all negotiations and agreements that begin after such date between the United States and foreign governments or partners regarding Federal Air Marshal coverage of flights to and from the United States.

(b) WRITTEN AGREEMENTS.—All agreements between the United States and foreign governments or partners regarding the presence of Federal Air Marshals on flights to and from the United States pursuant to subsection (a) shall be written and signed by the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Secretary's designee.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate any agreement entered into under this section within 30 days of such agreement being signed.

SEC. 4. INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Ambassador or the Chargé d'Affaires to the United States Mission to the International Civil Aviation Organization shall pursue improvements to airport security, including if practicable, introducing a resolution to raise minimum standards for airport security.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Ambassador or the Chargé d'Affaires to the United States Mission to the International Civil Aviation Organization shall report to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the implementation of subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VELA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that will address the critical need to enhance security at airports in Cuba and across the globe.

Last week, I had the privilege to lead a congressional delegation overseas to see firsthand investments our foreign partners in Europe and the Middle East have made to enhance aviation security. We face an unprecedented threat landscape, and they are clearly responding to it.

In order to keep Americans safe, we must advance collaborative counterterrorism efforts with our allies and take a more stringent and risk-based approach with countries that are more hostile to the United States.

In leading this delegation to examine aviation security at international airports, I had the opportunity to meet with many members of our Foreign Service and military, who all work tirelessly on behalf of all of us to advance America's interests abroad.

Unfortunately, it has recently come to light that more than 20 of our American diplomats who were working at the United States Embassy in Havana were the victims of a sonic attack. As a result, many of these members of our Foreign Service have been diagnosed with serious injuries and dangerous symptoms, and, in some cases, even permanent brain damage.

Reports indicate that these attacks started as early as May of 2016, exactly one year after the previous administration removed Cuba's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism. Our government told our diplomats Cuba was safe. The reality was quite the opposite, and, because of that mistake, some of our diplomats will pay a permanent price.

These horrific attacks on members of our dedicated Foreign Service raise numerous questions about how much trust and, indeed, how much confidence we can have in the Cuban Government.

We have to ask ourselves: If Cuba is unable to ensure the safety and security of foreign diplomats working in the embassies there, how can it possibly prevent terrorists and other nefarious actors from accessing its airports and infiltrating flights bound for the United States?

I recall last year when the Obama administration entered into opening up flights to Cuba, they ceded so much of the authority to the Cuban Government, the communist Cuban Government, over who they are going to hire, who is going to work with the American agencies, and who is going to be in charge of security; and we have very little control and, indeed, very little oversight over anything to do with those airports, yet American citizens are going to be going there and possibly facing danger. That is a real concern.

The legislation we are considering today requires that Cuba's airports be subjected to additional security to en-

sure that inbound flights to the United States are secure.

I am not here today to relitigate the wider policy towards Cuba or the Cuban Government, but I am here to ensure that Cuba and the rest of the global aviation community are held to security standards that are sufficient in these modern times to respond to the evolving and sometimes grave threats that the aviation sector faces on a regular basis.

The International Civil Aviation Organization standards, which currently serve as the benchmark minimum requirements for all airports with flights to the United States, are simply too weak; and I would submit that they are becoming outdated, given the fact that terrorism aspects nationwide and, indeed, worldwide routinely are adapting, and these standards are not.

This legislation we are considering today requires the Trump administration to take steps to raise minimum standards which will elevate American aviation security around the globe.

No matter how strong our domestic airport and aircraft security is, we must continue to raise the standard of global aviation security for foreign countries and last-point-of-departure airports. It is imperative that aviation security standards are robust and that these standards are commonplace in foreign countries, especially those with flights to the United States.

It is also imperative that these countries meet these standards; not just say they are going to meet these standards, but that they are, in fact, meeting the standards, something we found out recently is not always the case.

Confidence in aviation security at home begins with the assurance that our global partners are enforcing security standards abroad. By passing this bill today, we can demonstrate to the global community that the United States sees international aviation security as critical, because raising the aviation security standard abroad will obviously and ultimately keep us safe at home.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman MCCAUL and Chairman SIREs for joining me in championing this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank all the members of the Homeland Security Committee and their staffs for putting politics aside, as we often do on this great committee, and supporting this bill unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation to enhance our national security.

Mr. Speaker, before I close, I would like to note and echo the sentiments of my colleague and leader of this committee, Mr. MCCAUL. There are more than 50 bills now sitting over in the Senate that have passed the House from the Homeland Security Committee. The very words “homeland security” should not be of question, and they should not be something to serve

as an impediment to keeping our country safe; it should be just the opposite. Therefore, I join Mr. MCCAUL and urge my colleagues in the Senate to move swiftly on the passage of these bills to keep our country safe.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, August 30, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 3328, the Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017.

I agree that the Foreign Affairs Committee may be discharged from further action on this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the Floor, subject to the understanding that this waiver does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Foreign Affairs Committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. The Committee also reserves the right to seek an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this bill, and would appreciate your support for any such request.

I ask that you place our exchange of letters into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2017.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3328—the “Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017.” I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Foreign Affairs will forego further consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of this bill at this time, the Committee on Foreign Affairs does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee represented on the conference committee.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the report on the bill and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write concerning H.R. 3328, the Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017. This legislation includes

matters that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forego action on the bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that foregoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. Further, this is conditional on our understanding that mutually agreed upon changes to the legislation will be incorporated into the bill prior to floor consideration. Lastly, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I request your support for the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure during any House-Senate conference convened on this or related legislation.

Finally, I would ask that a copy this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest be included in the bill report filed by the Committee on Homeland Security, as well as in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor, to memorialize our understanding. I look forward to working with the Committee on Homeland Security as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2017.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3328—the “Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017.” I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forego further consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of this bill at this time, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee represented on the conference committee. Further, the Committee on Homeland Security agrees that mutually agreed upon changes to the legislation will be incorporated into the bill prior to floor consideration.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the report on the bill and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

□ 1645

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3328, the Cuban Airport Security Act.

The United States and the global aviation community face an adaptive

and agile enemy. Terrorist groups continue to target passenger aircraft and pursue new attack methods.

With those threats in mind, the legislation before us today focuses on raising the level of security in Cuba. H.R. 3328 will ensure that Congress is able to continue its oversight of the TSA's efforts to ensure the Cuban Government adopts aviation security initiatives and makes important security advancements. It is critical that the gains achieved are not eroded.

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

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL), the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee and my friend.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Cuban Airport Security Act. Last-point-of-departure airports are critically important to our homeland security. One only need look at the latest laptop ban that was instituted at 10 last-point-of-departure airports, given the fact that the terrorists have now learned how to turn them into explosive devices.

The American people should have grave concern about the level of security in place at any foreign airport where the host government refuses to allow strict inspections of airport security by Members of Congress.

As a footnote, Mr. Speaker, it was just last year that Mr. KATKO and I applied for visas to the Government of Cuba to inspect these airports to see how safe they were, and the Cuban Government's response to that was to deny our visa applications.

What is more concerning is that over the course of the last year, the United States Government personnel in Cuba have been targeted and subjected to harmful sonic attacks, which in some cases have caused permanent brain damage. This must not be tolerated.

Too many questions remain when it comes to Cuba's airports. Congress is still largely in the dark in terms of Cuba's security equipment, training procedures, and other perimeter security.

This bill takes an important step forward to shed light on current inadequacies and help to ensure proper oversight of inbound flights from Cuba to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my good friend from New York (Mr. KATKO) for his continued leadership on aviation security and last-point-of-departure airports, which has been critical in bringing these issues to the forefront, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, the House Homeland Security Committee passed H.R. 3328, the Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017, by voice vote in September. While the legislation is focused on raising the level of aviation security in Cuba, it has broader implications.

H.R. 3328 includes a provision requiring the TSA to develop a template for agreements with foreign partners for Federal air marshals to carry out security operations on flights departing or arriving on foreign soil.

As Mr. KATKO mentioned, just last week there were news reports that the DHS and the TSA had acknowledged that intelligence indicates that terrorists are plotting another massive attack on U.S. aircraft.

In the current climate of aviation security threats, the United States has a critical role to play in raising the baseline of global aviation security to keep the traveling public safe, in coordination with our international partners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for H.R. 3328, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill for the reasons that I have already spoken about, but I do want to note that there are two things in this bill that are very important. One is to give us the ability to examine whether or not the airports in Cuba are indeed safe.

As you heard from the statements earlier during this colloquy from myself, from Mr. VELA, and from Mr. MCCAUL, there are gaps in our knowledge of Cuba that are simply unique to most of the other aviation communities. It is incumbent upon us to try and find out what is going on down there.

As my colleague, Mr. MCCAUL, stated, we were denied visas because they knew we were coming to look at their airports. They allow very little oversight from the TSA at their airports.

They or someone in their country have attacked our embassy employees. The communist Cuban party controls the vast majority of what happens with aviation with very little knowledge of what the internal workings of that are. They are not collaborative partners at all, and that is a major concern.

The other part of the bill is reviewing international aviation standards.

Are they keeping up to date with evolving threats, such as the laptop threat and others that we know of around the world? Are they adhering to the standards that are set by the ICAO? And are those standards sufficient going forward?

Those are all things we need to take a look at. I urge my colleagues to pass this bill because it is a Homeland Security bill. I hope that my colleagues in the Senate, including Senator RUBIO, my good friend who is championing the companion bill, I hope that he pushes it over there quickly; and I hope we get this to the President's desk for signature because we can't mess with things that involve homeland security.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr.

KATKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3328.

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.

C-TPAT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3351) to amend the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 to reauthorize the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3551

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 "C-TPAT Reauthorization Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. CUSTOMS-TRADE PARTNERSHIP AGAINST TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title II of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 961 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

"Subtitle B—Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism

"SEC. 211. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CUSTOMS-TRADE PARTNERSHIP AGAINST TERRORISM PROGRAM.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within U.S. Customs and Border Protection a voluntary government-private sector partnership program to be known as the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).

"(b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of the C-TPAT program are to—

"(1) strengthen and improve the overall security of the international supply chain and United States border security;

"(2) facilitate the movement of secure cargo through the international supply chain;

"(3) ensure compliance with applicable law; and

"(4) serve as the Authorized Economic Operator program for the United States.

"(c) DIRECTOR.—There shall be at the head of the C-TPAT program a Director, who shall report to the Executive Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Field Operations (in this subtitle referred to as the 'Executive Assistant Commissioner') of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

"(d) DUTIES.—The Director of the C-TPAT program shall—

"(1) oversee the activities of the C-TPAT program, including certification of C-TPAT participants;

"(2) evaluate and make revisions to security criteria pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 213;

"(3) ensure that participants receive a tangible and measurable benefit for participation; and

"(4) carry out other duties and powers prescribed by the Executive Assistant Commissioner.

"SEC. 212. ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND NOTICE OF BENEFITS.

"(a) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Importers, exporters, customs brokers, forwarders, air,

sea, and land carriers, contract logistics providers, and other entities in the international supply chain and intermodal transportation system are eligible to apply for participation in the C-TPAT program.

"(b) TIERED PARTICIPATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Applicants may be eligible to participate as Tier 1 or Tier 2 participants.

"(2) IMPORTERS.—Importers may be eligible to participate as Tier 3 participants.

"(3) EXTENSION.—The Executive Assistant Commissioner may, in his or her discretion, extend Tier 3 participation to other entity types, if appropriate.

"(c) NOTICE OF BENEFITS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall publish, on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website and through other appropriate online publication, information about benefits to C-TPAT program participants.

"(2) CHANGES.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall publish, on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website and through other appropriate online publication, notice of any changes to benefits to C-TPAT program participants not later than 30 days before any such changes take effect.

"SEC. 213. PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall review all documentation submitted by an applicant pursuant to subsection (b)(2), conduct a background investigation of such applicant, and vet such applicant.

"(b) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for participation in the C-TPAT program, an entity shall, at a minimum—

"(1) have a designated company employee authorized to bind such entity that is a direct company employee and will serve as the primary point of contact responsible for participation of such entity in the C-TPAT program;

"(2) at the time of initial application and annually thereafter, including in advance of any recertification or revalidation, submit an international supply chain security profile, which shall identify how such entity meets the minimum security criteria of the C-TPAT program established by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and how such entity will maintain and enhance internal policies, procedures, and practices related to international supply chain security; and

"(3) meet any specific requirements for eligible entities, as established by the Commissioner.

"(c) MINIMUM SECURITY CRITERIA.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall establish minimum security criteria for participants in the C-TPAT program, review such minimum security criteria not less than once every two years, and update such minimum security criteria as necessary. Such minimum security criteria shall seek to address security vulnerabilities in the international supply chain.

"(d) ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED CRITERIA.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may establish additional and updated security criteria for individual C-TPAT program participants, categories of C-TPAT program participants, or particular entity types to meet in order to address a security vulnerability in the international supply chain.

"(e) CONSULTATION.—When establishing or updating security criteria in accordance with subsection (c), and when establishing additional or updated security criteria in accordance subsection (d), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall consult with C-TPAT program participants and other interested parties, and shall—

“(1) conduct a cost benefit analysis of such proposed new, additional, or updated security criteria in consultation with the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee established under section 109 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125; 19 U.S.C. 4316);

“(2) determine operational feasibility and, where appropriate, conduct a phased implementation of such proposed additional or updated security criteria; and

“(3) provide C-TPAT program participants and other interested parties a 90-day comment period to review and comment on such proposed additional or updated security criteria.

“(f) **WAIVER.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may waive the requirements of subsection (e) if the Commissioner determines there is a significant and imminent risk to the national security of the United States and such a waiver is necessary to protect such national security. Not later than 120 days after the issuance of any such waiver, the Commissioner shall announce on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website and through other appropriate online publication the Commissioner's intent to either withdraw such waiver or maintain such waiver while commencing efforts to establish minimum security criteria or establish additional or update existing security criteria in accordance with subsection (c) or (d), respectively.

“SEC. 214. BENEFITS FOR C-TPAT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall extend certain benefits to each C-TPAT program participant. Minimum benefits for each such participant shall include the following:

“(1) Assignment of a U.S. Customs and Border Protection Supply Chain Security Specialist.

“(2) Access to the C-TPAT program's web-based Portal system and training materials.

“(3) A periodic and unclassified update on regional and other relevant threats to the international supply chain.

“(b) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall make publicly available on the C-TPAT portal an annual assessment of the tangible benefits being realized by C-TPAT program participants.

“(c) **ANNUAL ASSESSMENT.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall conduct, on an annual basis, an assessment of the benefits conferred to C-TPAT program participants. The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall determine a process to carry out such assessments, to include projected milestones and completion dates for addressing data reliability issues and, as necessary, correcting data weaknesses, so that U.S. Customs and Border Protection can produce accurate and reliable annual assessments that can be compared year-to-year.

“SEC. 215. TIER 1 PARTICIPANTS.

“(a) **CERTIFICATION.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall certify the security measures and international supply chain security practices of all applicants to and participants in the C-TPAT program in accordance with section 213(b)(2) and the guidelines referred to in subsection (c) of this section. Certified participants shall be Tier 1 participants.

“(b) **BENEFITS FOR TIER 1 PARTICIPANTS.**—Upon completion of the certification under subsection (a), a C-TPAT program participant shall be certified as a Tier 1 participant. The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall extend limited benefits to a Tier 1 participant.

“(c) **GUIDELINES.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this sub-

title, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall update the guidelines and criteria for certifying a C-TPAT program participant's security measures and supply chain security practices under this section. Such guidelines shall include a background investigation and review of appropriate documentation, as determined by the Commissioner.

“(d) **TIMEFRAME.**—To the extent practicable, the Executive Assistant Commissioner shall complete the Tier 1 certification process within 90 days of receipt of an application for participation in the C-TPAT program.

“SEC. 216. TIER 2 PARTICIPANTS.

“(a) **VALIDATION.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall validate the security measures and international supply chain security practices of a Tier 1 C-TPAT program participant in accordance with the guidelines referred to in subsection (c) to validate such participant as a Tier 2 participant. Such validation shall include on-site assessments at appropriate foreign and domestic locations utilized by such Tier 1 participant in its international supply chain.

“(b) **BENEFITS FOR TIER 2 PARTICIPANTS.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner, shall extend benefits to each C-TPAT participant that has been validated as a Tier 2 participant under this section. Such benefits may include the following:

“(1) Reduced scores in U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Automated Targeting System.

“(2) Reduced number of security examinations by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(3) Priority examinations of cargo.

“(4) Access to the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) Lanes at United States ports of entry.

“(5) Recognition as a trusted trade partner by foreign customs administrations that have signed Mutual Recognition Arrangements with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(6) In the case of importers, eligibility to participate in the Importer Self-Assessment Program (ISA) or successor compliance program.

“(c) **GUIDELINES.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subtitle, the Commissioner shall develop a schedule and update the guidelines and criteria for validating a C-TPAT participant's security measures and supply chain security practices under this section.

“(d) **TIMEFRAME.**—To the extent practicable, the Executive Assistant Commissioner shall complete the Tier 2 validation process for a C-TPAT program participant under this section within one year after certification of such participant as a Tier 1 participant.

“SEC. 217. TIER 3 PARTICIPANTS.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commissioner shall establish a third tier of C-TPAT program participation that offers additional benefits to C-TPAT program participants that are importers or other entity types, in accordance with section 212(b), that demonstrate a sustained commitment to maintaining security measures and international supply chain security practices that exceed the guidelines established for validation as a Tier 2 participant in the C-TPAT program under section 216.

“(b) **BEST PRACTICES.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner may designate a Tier 2 C-TPAT program participant as a Tier 3 participant based on a review of best practices in such participant's international supply chain that reflect a continued approach to enhanced international supply chain security, including—

“(1) compliance with any additional or updated criteria established by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection under section 213(d) that exceed the guidelines established pursuant to section 216 for validating a C-TPAT program participant as a Tier 2 participant; and

“(2) any other factors that the Executive Assistant Commissioner determines appropriate.

“(c) **BENEFITS FOR TIER 3 PARTICIPANTS.**—The Executive Assistant Commissioner, in consultation with the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee established under section 109 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125; 19 U.S.C. 4316) and the National Maritime Security Advisory Committee established under section 70112 of title 46, United States Code, shall extend benefits to each C-TPAT program participant that has been validated as a Tier 3 participant under this section, which may include the following:

“(1) Further reduction in the number of examinations by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(2) Front of the line inspections and examinations.

“(3) Exemption from Stratified Exams.

“(4) Shorter wait times at United States ports of entry.

“(5) Access to the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) Lanes at United States ports of entry.

“(6) Recognition as a trusted trade partner by foreign customs administrations that have signed Mutual Recognition Arrangements with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(7) In the case of importers, eligibility to participate in the Importer Self-Assessment Program (ISA) or successor compliance program.

“SEC. 218. CONSEQUENCES FOR LACK OF COMPLIANCE.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—If at any time the Executive Assistant Commissioner determines that a C-TPAT program participant's security measures or international supply chain security practices fail to meet applicable requirements under this subtitle, the Executive Assistant Commissioner may deny such participant benefits otherwise made available pursuant to this subtitle, either in whole or in part. The Executive Assistant Commissioner shall develop procedures, in consultation with Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee, established under section 109 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125; 19 U.S.C. 4316), that provide appropriate protections to C-TPAT program participants, including advance notice and an opportunity for such participants to provide additional information to U.S. Customs and Border Protection regarding any such alleged failure, before any of such benefits are withheld. Such procedures may not limit the ability of the Executive Assistant Commissioner to take actions to protect the national security of the United States.

“(b) **FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION; LACK OF COMPLIANCE WITH LAW.**—If a C-TPAT program participant knowingly provides false or misleading information to the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Executive Assistant Commissioner, or any other officers or officials of the United States Government, or if at any time the Executive Assistant Commissioner determines that a C-TPAT program participant has committed a serious violation of Federal law or customs regulations, or if a C-TPAT program participant has committed a criminal violation relating to the economic activity of such participant, the Executive Assistant Commissioner may suspend

or expel such participant from the C-TPAT program for an appropriate period of time. The Executive Assistant Commissioner, after the completion of the process described in subsection (d), may publish in the Federal Register a list of C-TPAT program participants that have been so suspended or expelled from the C-TPAT program pursuant to this subsection.

“(c) NATIONAL SECURITY.—If at any time the Executive Assistant Commissioner determines that a C-TPAT program participant poses a significant and imminent risk to the national security of the United States or has committed a serious violation of Federal law or customs regulations, or if a C-TPAT program participant has committed a criminal violation relating to the economic activity of such participant, the Executive Assistant Commissioner may suspend or expel such participant from the C-TPAT program for an appropriate period of time. The Executive Assistant Commissioner, after the completion of the process described in subsection (d), may publish in the Federal Register a list of C-TPAT program participants that have been so suspended or expelled from the C-TPAT program pursuant to this subsection.

“(d) RIGHT OF APPEAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall establish a process for a C-TPAT program participant to appeal a decision of the Executive Assistant Commissioner under subsection (a). Such appeal shall be filed with the Commissioner not later than 90 days after the date of such decision, and the Commissioner shall issue a determination not later than 90 days after such appeal is filed.

“(2) APPEALS OF OTHER DECISIONS.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall establish a process for a C-TPAT program participant to appeal a decision of the Executive Assistant Commissioner under subsections (b) and (c). Such appeal shall be filed with the Commissioner not later than 30 days after the date of such decision, and the Commissioner shall issue a determination not later than 90 days after such appeal is filed.

“SEC. 219. VALIDATIONS BY OTHER DHS COMPONENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may recognize regulatory inspections conducted by other components of the Department of Homeland Security of entities as sufficient to constitute validation for C-TPAT program participation in cases in which any such component's inspection regime is harmonized with validation criteria for the C-TPAT program. Such regulatory inspections shall not limit the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct a C-TPAT program validation.

“(b) REVALIDATION.—Nothing in this section may limit the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's ability to require a revalidation by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(c) CERTIFICATION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to authorize certifications of C-TPAT applicants to be performed by any party other than U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“SEC. 220. RECERTIFICATION AND REVALIDATION.

“(a) RECERTIFICATION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall implement a recertification process for all C-TPAT program participants. Such process shall occur annually, and shall require—

“(1) a review of the security profile and supporting documentation to ensure adherence to the minimum security criteria under section 213; and

“(2) background checks and vetting.

“(b) REVALIDATION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall implement a revalidation process for all Tier 2 and Tier 3 C-TPAT program participants. Such process shall require—

“(1) a framework based upon objective, risk based criteria for identifying participants for periodic revalidation at least once every four years following the initial validation of such participants;

“(2) on-site assessments at appropriate foreign and domestic locations utilized by such a participant in its international supply chain; and

“(3) an annual plan for revalidation that includes—

“(A) performance measures;

“(B) an assessment of the personnel needed to perform such revalidations; and

“(C) the number of participants that will be revalidated during the following year.

“(c) REVALIDATION UNDER A MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon request from the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, all Tier 2 and Tier 3 C-TPAT program participants shall provide any revalidation report conducted by a foreign government under a Mutual Recognition Arrangement.

“(2) RECOGNITION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may recognize revalidations of entities conducted by foreign governments under a Mutual Recognition Arrangement as sufficient to constitute a revalidation for C-TPAT program participation under subsection (b).

“(3) NO LIMITATION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's ability to require a revalidation by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(d) DESIGNATED COMPANY EMPLOYEES.—Only designated company employees of a C-TPAT program participant under section 213(b)(1) are authorized to respond to a revalidation report. Third-party entities are not authorized to respond to a revalidation report.

“SEC. 221. NONCONTAINERIZED CARGO AND THIRD PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDERS.

“The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall consider the potential for participation in the C-TPAT program by importers of noncontainerized cargoes and non-asset-based third party logistics providers that otherwise meet the requirements under this subtitle.

“SEC. 222. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall establish sufficient internal quality controls and record management, including record-keeping (including maintenance of a record management system in accordance with subsection (b)) and monitoring staff hours, to support the management systems of the C-TPAT program. In managing the C-TPAT program, the Commissioner shall ensure that the C-TPAT program includes the following:

“(1) A 5-year plan to identify outcome-based goals and performance measures of the C-TPAT program.

“(2) An annual plan for each fiscal year designed to match available resources to the projected workload.

“(3) A standardized work program to be used by agency personnel to carry out the certifications, validations, recertifications, and revalidations of C-TPAT program participants.

“(4) In accordance with subsection (e), a standardized process for the Executive Assistant Commissioner to receive reports of suspicious activity, including reports regard-

ing potentially compromised cargo or other border or national security concerns.

“(b) DOCUMENTATION OF REVIEWS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall maintain a record management system to document determinations on the reviews of each C-TPAT program participant, including certifications, validations, recertifications, and revalidations.

“(2) STANDARDIZED PROCEDURES.—To ensure accuracy and consistency within the record management system required under this subsection, the Commissioner shall develop, disseminate, and require utilization of standardized procedures for agency personnel carrying out certifications, validations, recertifications, and revalidations to report and track information regarding the status of each C-TPAT program participant.

“(c) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION SAFEGUARDS.—In consultation with the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee established under section 109 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125; 19 U.S.C. 4316), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall develop and implement procedures to ensure the protection of confidential data collected, stored, or shared with government agencies or as part of the application, certification, validation, recertification, and revalidation processes.

“(d) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFFING PLAN.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall—

“(1) develop a staffing plan to recruit and train staff (including a formalized training program) to meet the objectives identified in the 5-year strategic plan under subsection (a)(1); and

“(2) provide cross-training in post incident trade resumption for the C-TPAT Director and other relevant personnel who administer the C-TPAT program.

“(e) ENGAGEMENT.—In carrying out the standardized process required under subsection (a)(4), the Commissioner shall engage with and provide guidance to C-TPAT program participants and other appropriate stakeholders on submitting reports described in such subsection.

“(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—In connection with the President's annual budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on the progress made by the Commissioner to certify, validate, recertify, and revalidate C-TPAT program participants. Each such report shall be due on the same date that the President's budget is submitted to Congress.”

(b) SAVING CLAUSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this Act shall take effect and apply beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act with respect to applicants for participation in the C-TPAT program.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply in case of C-TPAT program participants who are such participants as of the date specified in such paragraph. Such participants shall be subject to the amendments made by this Act upon revalidation of such participants to participate in such program. Until such time, such participants shall be subject to the requirements of the C-TPAT program as in existence on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 is amended by striking the items relating to subtitle B of title II and inserting the following new items:

“Subtitle B—Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism

“Sec. 211. Establishment of the Customs and Trade Partnership Against Terrorism program.

“Sec. 212. Eligible entities and notice of benefits.

“Sec. 213. Participation eligibility.

“Sec. 214. Benefits for C-TPAT program participants.

“Sec. 215. Tier 1 participants.

“Sec. 216. Tier 2 participants.

“Sec. 217. Tier 3 participants.

“Sec. 218. Consequences for lack of compliance.

“Sec. 219. Validations by other DHS components.

“Sec. 220. Recertification and revalidation.

“Sec. 221. Noncontainerized cargo and third party logistics providers.

“Sec. 222. Program management.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3551, the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Reauthorization Act of 2017. The Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, or C-TPAT, is the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's flagship global supply chain security program. C-TPAT is recognized throughout the world as the premier cargo pre-vetting program.

My legislation reauthorizes the program for the first time in 11 years to ensure that the program is ready to meet the dynamic threats currently facing the global supply chain, and that C-TPAT participants receive tangible benefits for their partnership with CBP.

When a company joins C-TPAT, they agree to work with CBP to protect the supply chain, identify security gaps, and implement specific security measures and best practices.

In order to receive benefits such as shorter wait times and fewer inspections at ports of entry, applicants must enhance security throughout their supply chain by undergoing vetting and a site visit by CPB.

While the SAFE Port Act of 2006, which established the program, set a strong foundation for the current success of C-TPAT, this bill not only codifies the structure of the current program, but also makes sure C-TPAT remains a true partnership between CBP and private industry.

Under this bill, CBP will be required to formally liaise with industry stake-

holders when implementing new or updated security criteria, and provide tangible benefits to all participants at various stages of the CBP vetting process.

My legislation also reduces redundant inspections on pre-vetted cargo and provides CBP with a mechanism to suspend or expel participants from the program if they fail to abide by security requirements or pose a threat to national security.

Furthermore, it establishes a process for CBP with congressional oversight requirements to continuously vet participants, review their security measures, and conduct site visits of their facilities to ensure compliance with and continued dedication to security measures.

Reducing wait times and inspections for participants who enhance the global supply chain greatly enhances cross-border trade and economic growth while reducing the workload of already overworked officers at CBP. C-TPAT achieves this in a way that also strengthens our national security through rigorous initial and recurrent background checks and site visits.

I am proud to sponsor the reauthorization of this highly successful program in order to expand its reach and increase its benefits to private industry.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, October 23, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I am writing with respect to H.R. 3551, the “C-TPAT Reauthorization of 2017.” This bill contains provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Committee on Ways and Means will not seek a sequential referral on H.R. 3551 so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration. This is done with the understanding that the jurisdictional interests of the Committee on Ways and Means over this and similar legislation are in no way diminished or altered. In addition, the Committee reserves the right to seek conferees on H.R. 3551 and requests your support when such a request is made.

I would appreciate your response confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 3551 and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, October 23, 2017.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3551, the “C-TPAT Reauthorization Act of 2017.” I appreciate your support in bringing this very important legislation before the House of Representatives, and appreciate the willingness of the Committee on Ways and Means to forego seeking a sequential referral.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing a sequential referral on this bill at this time, the Committee on Ways and Means does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Ways and Means represented on the conference committee for provisions within your jurisdiction.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman,
Committee on Homeland Security.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3551, the C-TPAT Reauthorization Act of 2017.

H.R. 3551 reauthorizes, for the first time in 11 years, the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program, also known as C-TPAT.

C-TPAT is a voluntary public-private sector partnership program where CBP works with the trade community to provide high-level cargo security through close cooperation with the principal stakeholders of the international supply chain, such as importers, carriers, consolidators, licensed customs brokers, and manufacturers.

Today, more than 11,400 certified partners spanning the gamut of the trade community have been accepted into the program. CBP pre-vets and certifies C-TPAT partners they consider to be low risk in exchange for benefits, such as fewer examinations and access to expedited or dedicated lanes.

This bill incorporates Democratic amendments, including one of my own that establishes a standard system for C-TPAT partners to report suspicious activity instead of the patchwork system that exists now.

Another important amendment offered by my colleague, Mr. CORREA, was adopted in committee to ensure that when CBP changes up the rules and security criteria for C-TPAT, stakeholders are given adequate notice to comply.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the majority for working with us to recognize that suspension and expulsion from the C-TPAT program has serious economic and repudiation ramifications for companies. The majority agreed to include Democratic language supported by the Border Trade Alliance and other stakeholders that urges CBP not to publish suspended C-TPAT participants, as is the current practice, until appeals and complete due process is carried out. We found some cases where companies were reinstated in the appeals process, but since they were tagged as a suspended company by CBP in the Federal Register, their business suffered. This language would prevent that from reoccurring.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when U.S. ports, like the Port of Los Angeles in my district, are experiencing CBP staffing shortages, the C-TPAT program helps the supply chain be more efficient and safe. I support the program's reauthorization.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3551 is an important piece of legislation that has strong support on both sides of the aisle and a broad range of stakeholders.

C-TPAT offers importers and other partners a win-win situation where they voluntarily allow CBP to prescreen them in exchange for benefits, such as shorter wait times and dedicated services. The more we know about our supply chain, the safer we will be.

C-TPAT is a big way we stay informed. As such, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 3551, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I appreciate the bipartisan support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3551, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. MCSALLY. 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.

□ 1700

ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUSINESS TRAVEL CARDS ACT OF 2017

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 504) to permanently authorize the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 504

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 "Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUSINESS TRAVEL CARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title IV of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 417 the following:

"SEC. 418. ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUSINESS TRAVEL CARDS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to issue an Asia-Pacific Economic

Cooperation Business Travel Card (referred to in this section as an 'ABT Card') to any individual described in subsection (b).

"(b) CARD ISSUANCE.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual who—

"(1) is a citizen of the United States;

"(2) has been approved and is in good standing in an existing international trusted traveler program of the Department; and

"(3) is—

"(A) engaged in business in the Asia-Pacific region, as determined by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection; or

"(B) a United States Government official actively engaged in Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation business, as determined by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

"(c) INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING TRAVEL PROGRAMS.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall integrate application procedures for, and issuance, renewal, and revocation of, ABT Cards with existing international trusted traveler programs of the Department.

"(d) COOPERATION WITH PRIVATE ENTITIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may consult with appropriate private sector entities and nongovernmental organizations, including academic institutions.

"(e) FEE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall—

"(A) prescribe and collect a fee for the issuance and renewal of ABT Cards; and

"(B) adjust such fee to the extent the Commissioner determines necessary to comply with paragraph (2).

"(2) LIMITATION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall ensure that the total amount of the fees collected under paragraph (1) during any fiscal year is sufficient to offset the direct and indirect costs associated with carrying out this section during such fiscal year, including the costs associated with operating and maintaining the ABT Card issuance and renewal processes.

"(3) ACCOUNT FOR COLLECTIONS.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States an 'Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Account' into which the fees collected under paragraph (1) shall be deposited as offsetting receipts.

"(4) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts deposited into the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Account established under paragraph (3) shall—

"(A) be credited to the appropriate account of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection for expenses incurred in carrying out this section; and

"(B) remain available until expended.

"(f) NOTIFICATION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate not later than 60 days after the expenditures of funds to operate and provide ABT Card services beyond the amounts collected under subsection (e)(1).

"(g) TRUSTED TRAVELER PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'trusted traveler program' means a voluntary program of the Department that allows U.S. Customs and Border Protection to expedite clearance of pre-approved, low-risk travelers arriving in the United States."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 417 the following new item:

"Sec. 418. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards."

SEC. 3. ACCOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the repeal of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-54; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note) pursuant to section 4(b)(1), amounts deposited into the APEC Business Travel Card Account established pursuant to such Act as of the date of the enactment of this Act are hereby transferred to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Account established pursuant to section 418(e) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2(a) of this Act), and shall be available without regard to whether such amounts are expended in connection with expenses incurred with respect to an ABT Card issued at any time before or after such date of enactment.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts deposited in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Account established pursuant to section 418(e) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, in addition to the purposes for which such amounts are available pursuant to such subsection, shall also be available for expenditure in connection with expenses incurred with respect to ABT Cards issued at any time before the date of the enactment of such section.

(c) TERMINATION.—After the completion of the transfer described in subsection (a), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Account established pursuant to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2011 shall be closed.

SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS AND REPEAL.

(a) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 411(c) of section 411 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (17), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (18) as paragraph (19); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (17) the following:

"(18) carry out section 418, relating to the issuance of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards; and"

(b) REPEAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-54; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note) is repealed.

(2) SAVING CLAUSE.—Notwithstanding the repeal under paragraph (1), an ABT Card issued pursuant to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2011 before the date of the enactment of this Act that, as of such date, is still valid, shall remain valid on and after such date until such time as such Card would otherwise expire.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 504, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2017.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, has been an economic catalyst for the Asia-Pacific region since 1989. APEC facilitates increased trade and business cooperation among the 21 member countries in the region that promote innovation, inclusiveness, and sustainable growth.

Specifically, this bill reauthorizes the APEC Business Travel Card Program. The program began as a pilot in 2011, and this bill would implement best practices found throughout the 7-year pilot program.

The APEC Business Travel Card is a travel document issued to business travelers who are citizens of APEC-participating economies. Valid for 5 years, the card eliminates the need for its holders to possess a visa when visiting other APEC-participating economies as long as preclearance has been obtained through a trusted traveler application process.

Our partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region are more important now than ever before. The APEC Business Card champions free and open trade, promotes economic integration, enhanced border security, and facilitates a sustainable global business environment. The program also helps to enhance border integrity and security in participating economies by prechecking each applicant against watch lists of other participating economies.

The program offers cost savings to travelers and moves frequent travelers who have been prescreened through the international travel process more efficiently.

The APEC Card is currently set to expire on September 30, 2018. Now is the time to reauthorize this important partnership between the United States and our friends in the APEC region.

I would like to thank my colleagues Miss RICE and Mr. DONOVAN for introducing the House version of this bill, as well as Ms. HIRONO and Mr. DAINES in the Senate for their part in moving this legislation forward.

I urge Members to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of S. 504, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, Business Travel Cards Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, the APEC Business Travel Cards Act permanently reauthorizes the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program. This trusted-traveler program provides access to fast-track immigration lanes at airports for travelers who conduct verified business in the APEC region. APEC is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim countries, including the U.S. and Australia, to support sustainable eco-

nomic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection started issuing cards to eligible Americans in 2014 after Congress passed the APEC Business Travel Cards Act in 2011. Today, the program facilitates travel for Americans working on behalf of 30,000 U.S. businesses. Under that law, the authority to issue these travel cards to Americans is set to expire on September 30, 2018.

S. 504, the APEC Business Travel Cards Act of 2017, is supported by a diverse range of stakeholders, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Asia-Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce, the U.S. Council for International Business, the U.S. Travel Association, and the American Hotel and Lodging Association.

On the House Homeland Security Committee, companion legislation to S. 504 was championed by Congresswoman KATHLEEN RICE of New York. With the leadership of Miss RICE and others, her bill was passed unanimously by our committee.

Allowing ABT cards to expire would be a mistake that puts American businesses at a disadvantage. I urge my House colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, S. 504 is an important piece of legislation that has strong support on both sides of the aisle. The ABT Card Program allows business travelers and government officials with business in APEC countries to access fast-track processing lanes at APEC airports.

The program saves an estimated 43 minutes per trip, according to U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, and operates entirely on user fees, costing taxpayers nothing. Importantly, it preserves authority for the Department of Homeland Security to revoke or suspend an individual's card for security reasons at any time.

This is a commonsense, bipartisan bill, and I encourage my colleagues to support S. 504 to ensure that the bill gets to the President's desk.

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

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

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

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 504, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act of 2017, which is identical to bipartisan legislation I introduced in the House earlier this year along with Representatives DAN DONOVAN, RICK LARSEN and DAVE REICHERT.

This bill would permanently reauthorize the APEC Business Travel Card program, which provides access to fast-track immigration lanes at airports for travelers who conduct verified business in the APEC region.

The U.S. has been participating in this program and issuing cards to verified American business travelers since 2014, after Congress passed the APEC Business Travel Cards Act in 2011.

Under that law, the authority to issue these travel cards to Americans is set to expire on September 30, 2018—meaning that no new cards can be issued after that date, and all cards will expire by 2021, after which Americans will no longer be able to travel throughout the region as easily as business travelers from other APEC countries.

S. 504 will permanently extend that authority, while maintaining the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) authority to revoke or suspend an individual's card for security reasons at any time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a successful program that operates at absolutely no cost to taxpayers and makes American businesses more competitive in the global economy—including many businesses in my home state of New York, which is home to more than 2,300 cardholders.

Allowing these cards to expire would be a mistake that puts American business travelers at a disadvantage, and this legislation reflects a common-sense, bipartisan commitment to reauthorize the program permanently.

I'm grateful to my colleagues from both parties in the House and Senate for their efforts to help move this legislation forward, and I urge all our colleagues to give it their full support today so we can send this bill to the President's desk.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 504, legislation to permanently authorize the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program.

Mr. Speaker, this is a common-sense measure to make permanent a program that has been successful since its inception in 2011.

More than 30,000 Americans currently hold fast-track cards that expedite business travel to Pacific Rim countries. The world economy is fast-paced and constantly evolving, and it's important to reduce bureaucratic obstacles for America to remain competitive.

The APEC Business Travel Card helps Americans travel faster and more efficiently throughout the Asia-Pacific region, allowing them to spend more time on business, and less time in airport lines. We must ensure that our business leaders have the resources they need to compete in an increasingly globalized economy, which is why I'm proud to support the permanent extension of this program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 504.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. MCSALLY. 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.

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING EMERGENCY RE-
SPONSE BY DETECTING INCOM-
ING CONTRABAND WITH TECH-
NOLOGY ACT

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 2142) to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2142

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 “International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology Act” or the “INTERDICT Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CHEMICAL SCREENING DEVICE.**—The term “chemical screening device” means an immunoassay, narcotics field test kit, infrared spectrophotometer, mass spectrometer, nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer, Raman spectrophotometer, or other scientific instrumentation able to collect data that can be interpreted to determine the presence of fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances.

(2) **COMMISSIONER.**—The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(3) **EXPRESS CONSIGNMENT OPERATOR OR CARRIER.**—The term “express consignment operator or carrier” has the meaning given that term in section 128.1 of title 19, Code of Federal Regulations (or any similar successor regulation).

SEC. 3. INTERDICTION OF FENTANYL, OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS, AND OTHER NARCOTICS AND PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES.

(a) **CHEMICAL SCREENING DEVICES.**—The Commissioner shall—

(1) increase the number of chemical screening devices available to U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers over the number of such devices that are available on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) make such additional chemical screening devices available to U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers as the Commissioner determines are necessary to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, including such substances that are imported through the mail or by an express consignment operator or carrier.

(b) **PERSONNEL TO INTERPRET DATA.**—The Commissioner shall dedicate the appropriate number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel, including scientists, so that such personnel are available during all operational hours to interpret data collected by chemical screening devices.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commissioner \$9,000,000 to ensure that U.S. Customs and Border Protection has resources, including chemical screening devices, personnel, and scientists, available during all operational hours to prevent, detect, and interdict the unlawful importation of fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as communities across my district and across our Nation continue to deal with the crisis of opioid abuse and addiction, it is incomprehensible to imagine a synthetic drug up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

Fentanyl is a manufactured opioid which, in its illicit versions, has contributed to tens of thousands of deaths. This fact is especially concerning, given that this drug can be ordered online and delivered via mail or express consignment couriers from places like China.

Fentanyl is highly potent in trace amounts, and this problem is exacerbated due to fentanyl being extremely difficult for our authorities to detect. That is why Congresswoman TSONGAS and I introduced the INTERDICT Act, a bipartisan piece of legislation that provides U.S. Customs and Border Protection access to the most effective chemical screening devices and scientific support to detect and intercept synthetic opioids before they can cause more harm.

Mr. Speaker, the INTERDICT Act will ensure that CBP will have additional portable chemical screening devices available at ports of entry and mail and express consignment facilities, along with additional fixed chemical screening devices available in CBP laboratories.

It also provides CBP with sufficient resources, personnel, and facilities, including scientists available at all hours, to interpret screening test results from the field and authorizes, based upon professional expertise, the appropriation of \$9 million for hundreds of new screening devices, laboratory equipment, facilities, and personnel for support during all operational hours.

Combined, the additional chemical screening devices, scientists, and other resources will help safeguard CBP field personnel from exposure to fentanyl and other deadly synthetic opioids and narcotics and prevent their unlawful importation.

As an EMT and former Federal drug prosecutor, I have seen firsthand the devastating impact of addiction in our communities and understand the increased danger added by synthetic opioids like fentanyl. Illicit fentanyl being trafficked into the United States poses a continued threat to the American people.

By passing this legislation, this body can follow through on its promise to the American people and align our policy with the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, which has prioritized regulating the flow of fentanyl in its interim report.

I urge all of my bipartisan Members of this House to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2142, the INTERDICT Act of 2017. H.R. 2142, the International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology Act, or the INTERDICT Act, is an important piece of legislation in our ongoing fight to stop the flow of illicit opioids like fentanyl from places like China and Mexico.

According to the CDC, the death rate from synthetic opioids, which includes drugs such as tramadol and fentanyl, increased by 72.2 percent from 2014 to 2015. In 2016, CBP seized nearly 200 pounds of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, primarily from along the southwest border. This is 25-fold increase over seizures from the previous year.

The INTERDICT Act before us today ensures that CBP will have the necessary tools to better combat the flow of these opioids. More specifically, this bill provides CBP high-tech chemical screening devices to help detect and interdict fentanyl and other illicit synthetic opioids. Additionally, the bill provides for the laboratory equipment, facilities, and personnel for support during all operational hours.

This bill was passed by our committee unanimously, and I commend the sponsors of this bill, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK), for their leadership on this issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS).

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2142, the INTERDICT Act, legislation I was pleased to introduce with Congressman FITZPATRICK.

Whenever I meet with local public safety officials in my district, they explain the urgent need for resources and support to combat drugs like fentanyl, which can be up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

In Massachusetts, the proportion of overdose deaths attributed to fentanyl is rising at a meteoric rate. At its lowest, in the third quarter of 2014,

fentanyl was present in 18 percent of opioid-related deaths in Massachusetts; but by 2016, fentanyl was present in a staggering 69 percent of the State's opioid-related deaths, resulting in 1,400 fentanyl-related deaths in the Commonwealth, a staggering number.

Although pharmaceutical fentanyl can be misused, most fentanyl deaths are linked to illicitly manufactured fentanyl and illicit versions of chemically similar compounds. The primary source of fentanyl is outside of the United States, in Mexico or China. The drug is smuggled in across the U.S. border or delivered via mail or express consignment couriers.

The INTERDICT Act will provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection with the latest in chemical screening devices to deploy across the United States to better detect and intercept fentanyl and other synthetic opioids.

Furthermore, this legislation will ensure that Customs and Border Protection has the resources, personnel, and facilities—including scientists available during all operational hours—to interpret screening test results from the field.

These high-tech devices will also protect law enforcement officers and their four-legged counterparts on the front lines from exposure to the deadly narcotic, which is so powerful that coming into contact with just a few grains can be fatal.

I would like to thank the chairman and ranking member of the Homeland Security Committee for their support, and I also want to thank Mr. FITZPATRICK for his partnership on this legislation, as well as our colleagues in the Senate, Senators MARKEY, RUBIO, BROWN, and CAPITO, for their bipartisan work on the Senate counterpart legislation.

□ 1715

The Federal Government must do its part to ensure our first responders have the tools they need in this greatest of public health fights. The INTERDICT Act provides important and powerful resources in this endeavor, and I urge its adoption.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers. If the gentleman from California has no other speakers, I am prepared to close.

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2142 is an important piece of legislation that has strong bipartisan support. Passage of this bill will go a long way in our fight against opiates. As such, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 2142.

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2142, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2142, as amended.

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. FITZPATRICK. 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.

CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENA COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2017

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4010) to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States and title 28, United States Code, to enhance compliance with requests for information pursuant to legislative power under Article I of the Constitution, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4010

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 “Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 85 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1365 the following:

“§ 1365a. Congressional actions against subpoena recipients

“(a) SPECIAL RULES.—In any civil action brought by the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, or a committee or subcommittee thereof, against the recipient of a subpoena to secure declaratory, injunctive, or other relief as may be appropriate concerning the failure to comply with a subpoena issued by a congressional committee or subcommittee, the following rules shall apply:

“(1) The action shall be filed in a United States district court of competent jurisdiction.

“(2) It shall be the duty of the United States district courts, the United States courts of appeal, and the Supreme Court of the United States to advance on the docket and to expedite to the greatest possible extent the disposition of any such action and appeal.

“(3) If a three-judge court is expressly requested by the plaintiff in the initial pleading, the action shall be heard by a three-judge court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28, United States Code, and shall be reviewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10 days, and the filing of a jurisdictional statement within 30 days, of the entry of the final decision.

“(b) MONETARY PENALTIES IN CASES INVOLVING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.—

“(1) The court may impose monetary penalties directly against the head of a Government agency or a component thereof held to

have willfully failed to comply with any part of a congressional subpoena.

“(2) No appropriated funds, funds provided from any accounts in the Treasury, funds derived from the collection of fees, or other Government funds shall be used to pay any monetary penalty imposed by the court pursuant to this section.

“(c) WAIVER OF PRIVILEGE.—Any assertion of a privilege or other ground for noncompliance (whether statutory, common law, or otherwise) asserted by the recipient of a congressional subpoena may be determined to have been waived as to any particular record withheld from production if the court finds that the recipient failed in a timely manner to comply with the requirement of section 105 of the Revised Statutes of the United States that it produce a privilege log with respect to such record.

“(d) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘Government agency’ means an executive department listed in section 101 of title 5, United States Code, an independent establishment, commission, board, bureau, division, or office in the executive branch, or other agency of the Federal Government, including wholly or partly owned Government corporations.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 85 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1365 the following:

“1365a. Congressional actions against subpoena recipients.”.

SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter seven of title II of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 191 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 105. RESPONSE TO CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENAS.

“(a) SUBPOENA BY CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.—Any recipient of any subpoena from a congressional committee or subcommittee shall appear and testify or produce records in a manner consistent with the subpoena and this section.

“(b) CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENAS FOR RECORDS.—

“(1) IDENTIFICATION OF RECORDS WITHHELD.—In the case of a record that is withheld, in whole or in part, by the subpoena recipient, the subpoena recipient shall provide a log containing the following information concerning such record:

“(A) An express assertion and description of the legal basis asserted for withholding the record.

“(B) The type of record.

“(C) The general subject matter.

“(D) The date, author, and addressee.

“(E) The relationship of the author and addressee to each other.

“(F) The custodian of the record.

“(G) Any other descriptive information that may be produced or disclosed regarding the record that will enable the congressional committee or subcommittee issuing the subpoena to assess the legal basis asserted for withholding the record.

“(2) MISSING RECORDS.—In the case of any record responsive to the subpoena submitted under paragraph (1) that was, but no longer is, in the possession, custody, or control of the subpoena recipient, the subpoena recipient shall identify the record (including the date, author, subject, and each recipient of the record) and explain the circumstances under which the record ceased to be in the possession, custody, or control of the subpoena recipient.

“(3) ELECTRONIC RECORDS.—Electronic records shall be produced pursuant to this subsection in their native or original file format. Electronic records shall be delivered on

a storage device (such as compact disk, memory stick, or thumb drive) and, to the extent feasible, shall be organized, identified, and indexed electronically and shall include an index describing the contents of the production.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section the term ‘record’ includes any books, papers, documents, data, or other objects requested in a subpoena issued by a congressional committee or subcommittee.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 7 of title II of the Revised Statutes of the United States is amended by adding at the end the following: “105. Response to congressional subpoenas.”.

SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted to diminish Congress’ inherent authority or previously established methods and practices for enforcing compliance with congressional subpoenas, nor shall anything in this Act be interpreted to establish Congress’ acceptance of any asserted privilege or other legal basis for noncompliance with a congressional subpoena.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4010, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill comes to you, having been unanimously voted on a recorded vote out of committee, but it has been a long time in coming and it has a long history of its need. Both under Chairman CONYERS, during the last years of the Bush administration, and under my chairmanship on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, we discovered a flaw in Congress’ subpoena power.

Congress has, and has always had, and has been supported all the way by the Supreme Court, the need to do oversight. With that, we issued subpoenas. The enforcement of those subpoenas has come into conflict over the last several years, both during Mr. CONYERS’ chairmanship when he subpoenaed Harriet Miers to appear, and during my time when I subpoenaed records by the Department of Justice. In both cases, the administrations decided that it was appropriate to question the standing and to delay.

Those delays were unfair to the body and unfair to the American people because it denied them in any reasonable period of time the effect of factfinding. This is not a partisan issue. It is, in fact, an issue that has already been decided for the American people. Under the Freedom of Information Act, if you do not receive documents within a rea-

sonable period of time, you have the right to go to court. You have standing as a private citizen or an interest group, and the court will decide what documents are appropriate for you to receive.

Yet this very question that was not once, but twice, defended by two different administrations of two different parties calls into question the ability in a timely fashion for Congress, the House or the Senate, to receive the information or the appearance of a witness it needs. We do not seek any new power under this legislation. We only seek an expeditious review by a Federal judge of a claim, either for the appearance of an individual or for documents appropriate to our oversight.

For that reason, I am pleased that both Republicans and Democrats within the committee saw fit to unanimously support this legislation. We believe that it is measured and it is also timely.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4010, the Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act of 2017. My support of this legislation is tied to my view of our committee’s responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch.

Nearly a century ago in *McGrain v. Daugherty*, the United States Supreme Court framed that responsibility this way: “A legislative body cannot legislate wisely or effectively in the absence of information respecting the conditions which the legislation is intended to affect or change; and where the legislative body does not itself possess the requisite information—which not infrequently is true—recourse must be had to others who possess it.”

In other words, it is our responsibility to ask for the information we require to do our jobs effectively, and the Constitution empowers us to enforce those requests if we are at first denied. We should be very clear on this point. Congress does not require a statute in order to enforce its subpoenas in Federal court.

We know this, of course, because in 2008, the House Judiciary Committee went to court to defend that authority. Ruling in favor of the committee, the court held that the Bush administration’s claim of absolute immunity from our process “is entirely unsupported by existing case law.”

In effect, both government officials and private individuals have a legal obligation to comply with the duly issued congressional subpoena whether or not the bill before us today is enacted into law, still this legislation is useful as a means to codify certain practices and to expedite enforcement of subpoenas in Federal court.

It also puts the House on equal footing with the Senate, which has had a statute in place since 1978, allowing that body to enforce at least some of its subpoenas in Federal court.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GOODLATTE for working with us to make sure that we strike the right balance. This bill both protects our existing authority and mitigates many concerns about abusive subpoena power by a runaway committee. I also want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for his leadership on this issue.

We often disagree about the issues we should prioritize for oversight, but I suspect that we stand together on the importance of oversight, both to our committee and to the Congress as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues support the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to further echo the gentleman from New York’s comments. Mr. NADLER is right. We will often, almost unanimously, find a way to disagree on what to look into at various times as a body. But whether it is a Democratic chairman or Republican chairman looking into something, whether it is a Republican administration or a Democratic administration, it is clear that we must, in fact, if a subpoena is issued, be able to enforce it in a timely fashion.

Under this legislation, it has a number of safeguards, but the most important one is the three-judge panel that will review these, followed by an expedited process at the U.S. Supreme Court.

I might note, the interesting history of the two cases Mr. NADLER and I are talking about is one in which a Democratic chairman enforced a subpoena, but had to go to a recently appointed Republican judge, who, in a fairly reasonable period of time, reached the conclusion that: one, the committee had standing, and the House had standing and; two, that it was really without merit for the administration—then the Bush administration—to claim this immunity, this newfound immunity.

Similarly, in a slightly longer period of time, but coincidentally, a Republican chairman went before a freshly minted appointee of the very President who was refusing to comply, and she reached the decision that the documents were unfairly withheld and ordered them released.

So I think the interesting thing to all of us is the independence of the judiciary has worked not once but twice. We only want to codify it in a way that would cause the judiciary to have that opportunity in a timely fashion, and for the people’s right to know to be recognized in that same expeditious fashion.

As Mr. NADLER said, the Senate has, for a long time, had a portion of what we are doing here today. It is an oddity that two coequals have not had the same ability during those many years since the late 1970s.

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

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

I want to share one last thought before closing. In our markup of this bill, the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) had this to say about a recent experience in the Intelligence Committee:

"We had interviewed a witness just 2 weeks ago with respect to our Russia interference investigation. . . .

"After the interview, he gave a public statement . . . and said that he had withheld information from the committee because he was not under subpoena.

"And he also stated that he felt like he had certain privileges to assert that allowed him to withhold this information.

"And so I saw right there . . . that even under a subpoena, individuals believe—some individuals believe—that without necessarily having a judicial or legal basis for privilege that they could just assert it.

"And I believe that is because the public is starting to perceive that our subpoena power does not have the weight that it should."

Wherever the Intelligence Committee's investigation lands, Mr. Speaker, we have a great deal of work to do. Given some of our current challenges, it is more important than ever for the House to conduct substantive oversight of the executive branch. This bill contributes to that effort, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I, too, urge the House to pass this bill, move it to the Senate in a timely fashion, and create an equal standing between the House and the Senate as to enforcement of its subpoenas.

I join with my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL), in the frustration that individuals often feel that they have privileges in a vague sense that are not to be asserted, but simply not to occur.

In the last administration, we have even had individuals claim that they basically lied as little as they needed to, to protect some question of a classified nature. These kinds of claims, in addition to the law enforcement sensitive, confidential, and other security clearance claims, which are not codified in statute, yet often are the reason for delay or outright refusal to deliver documents, flies in the face of the ability—sometimes behind closed doors, sometimes in public—for Congress' ability to conduct oversight. I look forward to this legislation becoming law, and I think I will close with just one more item.

Mr. NADLER and I have served together as chairman and ranking member for a number of years. We share something which is the many years that we have been here in Congress, we have seen the frustration of both par-

ties trying to do their job against another branch that often takes advantage of the natural rivalry between two different parties.

This legislation is designed to reduce that, to reduce the ability for the executive branch or other outside groups to, if you will, take advantage of the natural division between the two of us. After so many years of being here, the one thing I have learned is that to diminish the House's and the Senate's ability to represent the American people is to diminish our Republic.

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, although the power of Congress to investigate is not set forth in any particular clause in the Constitution, congressional investigations trace their roots back to the earliest days of our Republic. In fact, what is thought to be the first congressional investigation occurred in 1792, when the House appointed a select committee to investigate the massacre of American troops under the command of Major General Arthur St. Clair. The resolution authorizing that investigation stated that the committee shall "be empowered to call for such persons, papers, and records, as may be necessary to assist their inquiries."

Upon learning of the investigation, President Washington assembled his cabinet to seek their counsel. His cabinet, which included Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton, unanimously concluded that the House had every right to conduct its inquiry and request papers from the President. President Washington directed that the relevant papers be provided to the House and the War and Treasury Departments provided voluminous records to the committee.

Unfortunately, not all congressional investigations are met with the cooperation the first investigation received. Rather, sometimes Congress and its committees must rely on another inherent power derived from the Constitution to investigate effectively—the congressional subpoena power.

As the Supreme Court has observed, although "there is no [constitutional] provision expressly investing either house with the power to make investigations and exact testimony . . . the power of inquiry—with process to enforce it—is an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function. . . . Experience has taught that mere requests for information often are unavailing . . . so some means of compulsion are essential to obtain what is needed."

That means of compulsion is often a subpoena issued by a congressional committee backstopped by a civil action filed in federal district court. In recent years, the House and its committees have pursued two such civil actions, including one filed by this Committee, to enforce compliance with congressional subpoenas.

The legislation we are considering today, the Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act, codifies and strengthens the existing civil enforcement mechanisms thereby reinforcing the powers granted Congress in Article I of the Constitution. This legislation creates a statutory framework for compliance with and enforcement of congressional subpoenas through a few targeted changes to federal law.

First, the bill puts in place a statutory requirement that recipients comply with congressional subpoenas. Second, the bill statutorily requires subpoena recipients to provide a congressional committee with a privilege log if they assert a legal privilege as a reason for withholding subpoenaed materials. Finally, the bill provides that congressional subpoena enforcement cases are to receive expedited review in the federal courts and that a congressional committee may request that a subpoena enforcement case be heard by a three-judge panel of the district court, with direct appeal to the Supreme Court.

While it is true that some of what is addressed by the bill is currently covered through negotiation with subpoena recipients and is recognized in the precedents of courts in the D.C. Circuit, the current statutory requirements related to compliance with and enforcement of a committee subpoena are limited. Indeed, the existing civil subpoena enforcement statute only covers the Senate and does not apply to Senate subpoenas issued to the Executive Branch. It is time that we put in place a statutorily created, expedited civil enforcement mechanism for congressional subpoenas. Relying on the existing framework to enforce congressional subpoenas has proved to be an inadequate means of protecting congressional prerogatives.

I thank Mr. ISSA for introducing this legislation and urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it. This bill is a necessary step to strengthen Congress's ability to exercise its Article I legislative powers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4010, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DONOVAN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3551;

The motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 504; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

C-TPAT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3551) to amend the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 to reauthorize the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 569]

YEAS—402

Abraham	Clarke (NY)	Esty (CT)
Adams	Cleaver	Evans
Aderholt	Clyburn	Farenthold
Aguilar	Coffman	Faso
Allen	Cohen	Ferguson
Amodei	Cole	Fitzpatrick
Arrington	Collins (GA)	Fleischmann
Babin	Collins (NY)	Flores
Bacon	Comer	Fortenberry
Banks (IN)	Comstock	Foster
Barr	Conaway	Fox
Barragán	Connolly	Frelinghuysen
Barton	Conyers	Fudge
Beatty	Cook	Gabbard
Bera	Cooper	Gaetz
Bergman	Correa	Gallagher
Beyer	Costa	Gallo
Biggs	Costello (PA)	Garamendi
Bilirakis	Courtney	Garrett
Bishop (GA)	Cramer	Gianforte
Bishop (MI)	Crawford	Gibbs
Bishop (UT)	Crist	Gohmert
Black	Crowley	Gomez
Blum	Cuellar	Gonzalez (TX)
Blunt Rochester	Cummings	Goodlatte
Bonamici	Curbelo (FL)	Gosar
Bost	Davidson	Gottheimer
Boyle, Brendan	Davis (CA)	Gowdy
F.	Davis, Danny	Graves (GA)
Brady (PA)	Davis, Rodney	Graves (LA)
Brady (TX)	DeFazio	Graves (MO)
Brat	DeGette	Green, Al
Brooks (AL)	Delaney	Green, Gene
Brooks (IN)	DeLauro	Griffith
Brown (MD)	DelBene	Grijalva
Brownley (CA)	Demings	Grothman
Buck	Denham	Guthrie
Bucshon	Dent	Hanabusa
Budd	DeSaulnier	Handel
Burgess	DesJarlais	Harper
Bustos	Deutch	Harris
Byrne	Diaz-Balart	Hartzler
Calvert	Dingell	Hastings
Capuano	Doggett	Heck
Carbajal	Donovan	Hensarling
Cárdenas	Doyle, Michael	Herrera Beutler
Carter (GA)	F.	Hice, Jody B.
Carter (TX)	Duncan (SC)	Higgins (LA)
Cartwright	Duncan (TN)	Higgins (NY)
Castor (FL)	Dunn	Hill
Castro (TX)	Ellison	Himes
Chabot	Emmer	Holding
Cheney	Engel	Hollingsworth
Chu, Judy	Eshoo	Hoyer
Cicilline	Españillat	Hudson
Clark (MA)	Estes (KS)	Huffman

Hultgren	McHenry	Scalise
Hunter	McKinley	Schakowsky
Hurd	McMorris	Schiff
Issa	Rodgers	Schneider
Jackson Lee	McNerney	Schrader
Jayapal	McSally	Schweikert
Jeffries	Meadows	Scott (VA)
Jenkins (KS)	Meehan	Scott, Austin
Jenkins (WV)	Meeks	Scott, David
Johnson (GA)	Meng	Sensenbrenner
Johnson (LA)	Messer	Serrano
Johnson (OH)	Mitchell	Sessions
Johnson, E. B.	Moolenaar	Sewell (AL)
Johnson, Sam	Mooney (WV)	Shea-Porter
Jones	Moore	Sherman
Jordan	Moulton	Shimkus
Joyce (OH)	Mullin	Shuster
Kaptur	Murphy (FL)	Simpson
Katko	Nadler	Sinema
Keating	Napolitano	Slaughter
Kelly (IL)	Neal	Smith (MO)
Kelly (MS)	Newhouse	Smith (NE)
Kelly (PA)	Noem	Smith (NJ)
Kennedy	Nolan	Smith (TX)
Khanna	Norcross	Smith (WA)
Kihuen	Norman	Smucker
Kildee	Nunes	Soto
Kilmer	O'Halleran	Speier
Kind	O'Rourke	Stefanik
King (IA)	Olson	Stewart
King (NY)	Palazzo	Stivers
Kinzinger	Pallone	Suozzi
Knight	Palmer	Swalwell (CA)
Krishnamoorthi	Panetta	Takano
Kuster (NH)	Pascarella	Taylor
Kustoff (TN)	Paulsen	Tenney
Labrador	Payne	Thompson (CA)
LaHood	Pearce	Thompson (MS)
LaMalfa	Pelosi	Thompson (PA)
Lamborn	Perlmutter	Thornberry
Lance	Perry	Tiberi
Langevin	Peters	Tipton
Larsen (WA)	Peterson	Titus
Larson (CT)	Pittenger	Tonko
Latta	Pocan	Torres
Lawrence	Poe (TX)	Tsongas
Lawson (FL)	Poliquin	Turner
Lee	Polis	Upton
Levin	Posey	Valadao
Lewis (GA)	Price (NC)	Vargas
Lewis (MN)	Quigley	Veasey
Lieu, Ted	Raskin	Vela
Lipinski	Ratcliffe	Velázquez
LoBiondo	Reed	Visclosky
Loeb	Reichert	Wagner
Lofgren	Rice (NY)	Walberg
Loudermilk	Rice (SC)	Walden
Love	Richmond	Walker
Lowey	Roby	Walorski
Lucas	Roe (TN)	Walters, Mimi
Luetkemeyer	Rogers (AL)	Walz
Lujan Grisham,	Rogers (KY)	Wasserman
M.	Rohrabacher	Schultz
Luján, Ben Ray	Rokita	Waters, Maxine
Lynch	Rooney, Francis	Watson Coleman
MacArthur	Rooney, Thomas	Weber (TX)
Maloney,	J.	Webster (FL)
Carolyn B.	Ros-Lehtinen	Welch
Maloney, Sean	Rosen	Wenstrup
Marchant	Roskam	Westerman
Marino	Rothfus	Wilson (SC)
Marshall	Rouzer	Wittman
Massie	Roybal-Allard	Womack
Mast	Royce (CA)	Woodall
Matsui	Ruiz	Yoder
McCarthy	Ruppersberger	Yoho
McCaul	Russell	Young (AK)
McClintock	Rutherford	Young (IA)
McCollum	Sánchez	Zeldin
McEachin	Sanford	
McGovern	Sarbanes	

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—29

DeSantis	Renacci
Duffy	Ross
Frankel (FL)	Rush
Franks (AZ)	Ryan (OH)
Granger	Sires
Gutiérrez	Trott
Huizenga	Williams
Long	Wilson (FL)
Lowenthal	Yarmuth
Pingree	

□ 1853

Mr. RICE of South Carolina changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUSINESS TRAVEL CARDS ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 504) to permanently authorize the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 2, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 570]

YEAS—401

Abraham	Chu, Judy	Emmer
Adams	Cicilline	Engel
Aderholt	Clark (MA)	Eshoo
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Españillat
Allen	Cleaver	Estes (KS)
Amash	Clyburn	Esty (CT)
Amodei	Coffman	Evans
Arrington	Cohen	Farenthold
Babin	Cole	Faso
Bacon	Collins (GA)	Ferguson
Banks (IN)	Collins (NY)	Fitzpatrick
Barr	Comer	Fleischmann
Barragán	Comstock	Flores
Barton	Conaway	Fortenberry
Beatty	Connolly	Foster
Bera	Conyers	Fox
Bergman	Cook	Frankel (FL)
Beyer	Cooper	Frelinghuysen
Biggs	Correa	Fudge
Bilirakis	Costa	Gabbard
Bishop (GA)	Costello (PA)	Gaetz
Bishop (MI)	Courtney	Gallagher
Bishop (UT)	Cramer	Gallo
Black	Crawford	Garamendi
Blum	Crist	Garrett
Blunt Rochester	Crowley	Gianforte
Bonamici	Cuellar	Gibbs
Bost	Cummings	Gomez
Boyle, Brendan	Curbelo (FL)	Gonzalez (TX)
F.	Davidson	Goodlatte
Brady (PA)	Davis (CA)	Gosar
Brady (TX)	Davis, Danny	Gottheimer
Brat	Davis, Rodney	Gowdy
Brooks (AL)	DeFazio	Graves (GA)
Brooks (IN)	DeGette	Graves (LA)
Brown (MD)	Delaney	Graves (MO)
Brownley (CA)	DeLauro	Green, Al
Buck	DelBene	Green, Gene
Bucshon	Demings	Griffith
Budd	Denham	Grijalva
Burgess	Dent	Grothman
Bustos	DeSaulnier	Guthrie
Byrne	DesJarlais	Hanabusa
Calvert	Deutch	Handel
Capuano	Diaz-Balart	Harper
Carbajal	Dingell	Harris
Cárdenas	Doggett	Hartzler
Carter (GA)	Donovan	Hastings
Carter (TX)	Doyle, Michael	Heck
Cartwright	F.	Hensarling
Castor (FL)	Duncan (SC)	Herrera Beutler
Castro (TX)	Duncan (TN)	Hice, Jody B.
Chabot	Dunn	Higgins (LA)
Cheney	Ellison	Higgins (NY)

Hill	McCaul	Sánchez
Himes	McClintock	Sanford
Holding	McCollum	Sarbanes
Hollingsworth	McEachin	Scalise
Hoyer	McGovern	Schakowsky
Hudson	McHenry	Schiff
Huffman	McKinley	Schneider
Hultgren	McMorris	Schrader
Hunter	Rodgers	Schweikert
Hurd	McNerney	Scott (VA)
Issa	McSally	Scott, Austin
Jackson Lee	Meadows	Scott, David
Jayapal	Meehan	Sensenbrenner
Jeffries	Meeks	Serrano
Jenkins (KS)	Meng	Sessions
Jenkins (WV)	Messer	Sewell (AL)
Johnson (GA)	Mitchell	Shea-Porter
Johnson (LA)	Moolenaar	Sherman
Johnson (OH)	Mooney (WV)	Shimkus
Johnson, E. B.	Moore	Shuster
Johnson, Sam	Moulton	Simpson
Jordan	Mullin	Sinema
Joyce (OH)	Murphy (FL)	Slaughter
Kaptur	Nadler	Smith (MO)
Katko	Napolitano	Smith (NE)
Keating	Neal	Smith (NJ)
Kelly (IL)	Newhouse	Smith (TX)
Kelly (MS)	Noem	Smith (WA)
Kelly (PA)	Nolan	Smucker
Kennedy	Norcross	Soto
Khanna	Norman	Speier
Kihuen	Nunes	Stefanik
Kildee	O'Halleran	Stewart
Kilmer	O'Rourke	Stivers
Kind	Olson	Suozi
King (IA)	Palazzo	Swalwell (CA)
King (NY)	Pallone	Takano
Kinzinger	Palmer	Taylor
Knight	Panetta	Tenney
Krishnamoorthi	Pascarell	Thompson (CA)
Kuster (NH)	Paulsen	Thompson (MS)
Kustoff (TN)	Payne	Thompson (PA)
Labrador	Pearce	Thornberry
LaHood	Pelosi	Tiberi
LaMalfa	Perlmutter	Tipton
Lamborn	Perry	Titus
Lance	Peters	Tonko
Langevin	Peterson	Torres
Larsen (WA)	Pocan	Tsongas
Larson (CT)	Poe (TX)	Turner
Latta	Poliquin	Upton
Lawrence	Polis	Valadao
Lawson (FL)	Posey	Vargas
Lee	Price (NC)	Veasey
Levin	Quigley	Vela
Lewis (GA)	Raskin	Velázquez
Lewis (MN)	Ratcliffe	Visclosky
Lieu, Ted	Reed	Wagner
Lipinski	Reichert	Walberg
LoBiondo	Rice (NY)	Walden
Loeback	Rice (SC)	Walker
Lofgren	Richmond	Walorski
Loudermilk	Roby	Walters, Mimi
Love	Roe (TN)	Walz
Lowey	Rogers (AL)	Wasserman
Lucas	Rogers (KY)	Schultz
Luetkemeyer	Rohrabacher	Waters, Maxine
Lujan Grisham,	Rokita	Watson Coleman
M.	Rooney, Francis	Weber (TX)
Luján, Ben Ray	Rooney, Thomas	Webster (FL)
Lynch	J.	Welch
MacArthur	Ros-Lehtinen	Wenstrup
Maloney,	Rosen	Westerman
Carolyn B.	Roskam	Wilson (SC)
Maloney, Sean	Rothfus	Wittman
Marchant	Rouzer	Womack
Marino	Roybal-Allard	Woodall
Marshall	Royce (CA)	Yoder
Massie	Ruiz	Yoho
Mast	Ruppersberger	Young (AK)
Matsui	Russell	Young (IA)
McCarthy	Rutherford	Zeldin

NAYS—2

Gohmert

Jones

NOT VOTING—29

Barletta	DeSantis	Renacci
Bass	Duffy	Ross
Blackburn	Franks (AZ)	Rush
Blumenauer	Granger	Ryan (OH)
Bridenstine	Gutiérrez	Sires
Buchanan	Huizenga	Trott
Butterfield	Long	Williams
Carson (IN)	Lowenthal	Wilson (FL)
Clay	Pingree	Yarmuth
Culberson	Pittenger	

□ 1901

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 236, nays 158, answered “present” 2, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 571]

YEAS—236

Abraham	Eshoo	Lipinski
Adams	Espallat	Loudermilk
Aderholt	Estes (KS)	Love
Allen	Evans	Lowey
Amodei	Farenthold	Lucas
Arrington	Ferguson	Luetkemeyer
Bacon	Fleischmann	Lujan Grisham,
Banks (IN)	Portenberry	M.
Beatty	Foster	Luján, Ben Ray
Beyer	Frankel (FL)	Maloney,
Bilirakis	Frelinghuysen	Carolyn B.
Bishop (GA)	Gabbard	Marchant
Bishop (UT)	Garamendi	Marino
Black	Garrett	Massie
Blunt Rochester	Gianforte	McCarthy
Bonamici	Gibbs	McCaul
Brady (TX)	Gonzalez (TX)	McClintock
Brat	Goodlatte	McColum
Brooks (AL)	Gosar	McEachin
Brooks (IN)	Gottheimer	McHenry
Brown (MD)	Gowdy	McMorris
Budd	Green, Al	Rodgers
Bustos	Griffith	McNerney
Byrne	Guthrie	McSally
Calvert	Handel	Meadows
Carter (TX)	Harper	Meeks
Cartwright	Harris	Meng
Castro (TX)	Hartzler	Messer
Chabot	Heck	Mitchell
Chu, Judy	Hensarling	Moolenaar
Cicilline	Higgins (LA)	Mooney (WV)
Cleaver	Higgins (NY)	Moore
Clyburn	Hill	Moulton
Cole	Himes	Nadler
Collins (NY)	Hollingsworth	Napolitano
Comstock	Hoyer	Newhouse
Conyers	Huffman	Norman
Cook	Hultgren	Nunes
Cooper	Hunter	O'Rourke
Courtney	Hurd	Olson
Cramer	Issa	Pascarell
Crawford	Jayapal	Payne
Cuellar	Jeffries	Pelosi
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Perlmutter
Davidson	Johnson (LA)	Peterson
Davis (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Pocan
Davis, Danny	Kaptur	Polis
DeGette	Kelly (MS)	Posey
DeLauro	Kelly (PA)	Price (NC)
DelBene	Kennedy	Roby
Demings	Khanna	Roe (TN)
Dent	Kildee	Rogers (KY)
DeSaulnier	King (IA)	Rokita
DesJarlais	King (NY)	Rooney, Francis
Deutch	Krishnamoorthi	Roskam
Dingell	Kuster (NH)	Rothfus
Doggett	Kustoff (TN)	Royce (CA)
Donovan	Labrador	Russell
Doyle, Michael	LaMalfa	Sanford
F.	Lamborn	Scalise
Duncan (SC)	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
Duncan (TN)	Latta	Schneider
Dunn	Lawrence	Schweikert
Ellison	Lawson (FL)	Scott (VA)
Emmer	Levin	Scott, Austin
Engel	Lewis (MN)	Scott, David

Sensenbrenner	Stewart	Wasserman
Serrano	Takano	Schultz
Sessions	Taylor	Waters, Maxine
Shea-Porter	Thornberry	Watson Coleman
Sherman	Tiberi	Webster (FL)
Shimkus	Titus	Welch
Shuster	Torres	Wenstrup
Simpson	Tsongas	Wilson (SC)
Smith (NE)	Vela	Wittman
Smith (NJ)	Wagner	Womack
Smith (TX)	Walden	Yoho
Smith (WA)	Walker	Young (IA)
Smucker	Walorski	Zeldin
Speier	Walters, Mimi	
Stefanik	Walz	

NAYS—158

Aguilar	Graves (GA)	Palmer
Amash	Graves (LA)	Panetta
Babin	Graves (MO)	Paulsen
Barr	Green, Gene	Pearce
Barragán	Grothman	Perry
Barton	Hanabusa	Peters
Bera	Hastings	Pittenger
Bergman	Herrera Beutler	Poe (TX)
Biggs	Hice, Jody B.	Poliquin
Bishop (MI)	Holding	Raskin
Blum	Hudson	Ratcliffe
Bost	Jackson Lee	Reed
Boyle, Brendan	Jenkins (KS)	Reichert
F.	Jenkins (WV)	Rice (NY)
Brady (PA)	Johnson (OH)	Richmond
Brownley (CA)	Johnson, E. B.	Rogers (AL)
Buck	Jordan	Rohrabacher
Bucshon	Joyce (OH)	Ros-Lehtinen
Capuano	Katko	Rosen
Carbajal	Keating	Rouzer
Cárdenas	Kelly (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Carter (GA)	Kihuen	Ruiz
Castor (FL)	Kilmer	Rutherford
Cheney	Kind	Sánchez
Clark (MA)	Kinzinger	Sarbanes
Clarke (NY)	Knight	Schakowsky
Coffman	LaHood	Schrader
Cohen	Lance	Sewell (AL)
Collins (GA)	Langevin	Sinema
Comer	Larson (CT)	Slaughter
Conaway	Lee	Smith (MO)
Connolly	Lewis (GA)	Soto
Correa	Lieu, Ted	Stivers
Costa	LoBiondo	Suozi
Costello (PA)	Loeback	Swalwell (CA)
Crist	Lofgren	Tenney
Crowley	Lynch	Thompson (CA)
Curbelo (FL)	MacArthur	Thompson (MS)
Davis, Rodney	Maloney, Sean	Thompson (PA)
DeFazio	Marshall	Tipton
Delaney	Mast	Turner
Denham	Matsui	Upton
Diaz-Balart	McGovern	Valadao
Esty (CT)	McKinley	Vargas
Faso	Meehan	Veasey
Fitzpatrick	Murphy (FL)	Velázquez
Flores	Neal	Visclosky
Fox	Noem	Walberg
Fudge	Nolan	Weber (TX)
Gaetz	Norcross	Westerman
Gallagher	O'Halleran	Woodall
Galleo	Palazzo	Yoder
Gomez	Pallone	Young (AK)

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Rice (SC)

Tonko

NOT VOTING—36

Barletta	Franks (AZ)	Rooney, Thomas
Bass	Gohmert	J.
Blackburn	Granger	Ross
Blumenauer	Grijalva	Ruppersberger
Bridenstine	Gutiérrez	Rush
Buchanan	Huizenga	Ryan (OH)
Butterfield	Jones	Sires
Carson (IN)	Long	Trott
Clay	Lowenthal	Williams
Culberson	Mullin	Wilson (FL)
DeSantis	Pingree	Yarmuth
Duffy	Quigley	
	Renacci	

□ 1909

So the Journal was approved.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on October 23, 2017, I missed rollcall votes 569, 570, and 571 for health reasons. Had I been

present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 569, "yes" on rollcall 570, and "yes" on rollcall 571.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 469, SUNSHINE FOR REGULATIONS AND REGULATORY DECREES AND SETTLEMENTS ACT OF 2017, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 732, STOP SETTLEMENT SLUSH FUNDS ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-363) on the resolution (H. Res. 577) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 469) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 732) to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Ms. CHENEY, from the Committee on Natural Resources, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 115-364) on the resolution (H. Res. 555) of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit, respectively, certain documents and other information to the House of Representatives relating to the executive order on the review of designations under the Antiquities Act, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN JERRY KLECZKA

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

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with the Wisconsin delegation, to honor the former Congressman, Jerry Kleczka, my predecessor, who passed away on October 8, 2017, at the age of 73.

He was a very serious, hardworking legislator who served on the Ways and Means Committee. He had a strong work ethic. He was a particularly fantastic steward of our seniors, and he was proud to serve the people of Wisconsin's Fourth Congressional District.

I am pleased to stand here with my colleagues from the Wisconsin delegation to honor his service to our Nation, to the State of Wisconsin, and to the Fourth Congressional District, and I ask our colleagues to join us in a moment of silence.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FALLEN HERO, SERGEANT LA DAVID TERRENCE JOHNSON

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with my deepest sympathy that I rise today to recognize the tragic loss of Sergeant La David Terrence Johnson, one of four brave U.S. Special Forces soldiers—and you see them here listed—killed during an ambush in Niger on October 4 as a result of enemy fire.

Sergeant Johnson was a proud south Floridian, a decorated soldier, having been awarded several honors, and well-loved throughout our community.

Sergeant Johnson was a loving husband to his wife, Myeshia, and a devoted father to their wonderful children, Ah'Leeyssa Jones and La David Johnson, Jr. He leaves behind a baby girl due in January.

Sergeant Johnson will always be remembered as a loyal family man, a dedicated soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

I offer my deepest sympathy to Sergeant Johnson's mourning family, friends, and loved ones.

Godspeed to Sergeant La David Terrence Johnson.

□ 1915

OPPOSE CAPS ON 401(K) CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, recent media reports have suggested that the House will consider a plan to cap employees' 401(k) contributions as part of tax reform. I urge all my colleagues in the strongest possible terms to reject this proposal. This cap on 401(k) contributions would present a crippling and unnecessary burden on working families across the country by making it harder for everyday Americans to save for retirement.

There is already growing bipartisan opposition to this proposal as President Trump tweeted against it this morning, and in September, the majority leader said that this plan would punish people when they are actually saving for their own retirement.

I agree with the majority leader. Working families already face enormous challenges in saving for retirement. This proposal would create another, and I urge all of my colleagues to strongly oppose it.

THANKING GOOD KARMA ANIMAL RESCUE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Good Karma Animal Rescue of Minnesota in Maple Grove and their animal efforts in southern Texas after Hurricane Harvey.

After Harvey made landfall at the end of August, Good Karma Animal Rescue made two separate rescue attempts within a 2-week period south of Houston to the communities of Victoria and Rockport, Texas.

Good Karma Animal Rescue, led by Lisa Booth, rescued over 50 animals—ranging in all shapes, sizes, and ages—and brought them back to Minnesota to be treated for various ailments and prepare them for adoption by Minnesota families.

Mr. Speaker, the Twin Cities community loves rescue animals, and I want to thank Good Karma Animal Rescue for their work to find homes for these pets that were left behind in the recent tragic storms.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GARRETT PAIZ

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a local hero, Garrett Paiz, a Mecca native and firefighter, killed in the line of duty while fighting fires in northern California on October 16 at the age of 38.

I grew up with Garrett's family. Garrett embodied the best values of service and sacrifice. He put others above self, willing to rush toward danger when others ran from it. He traveled to northern California with firefighters from around the country to battle the deadly fires threatening so many homes and families. Being a firefighter was his lifelong dream.

He was humble, hardworking, and devoted to his family, and he was always smiling and laughing. Garrett had an adventurous nature and kind heart. He was always willing to do whatever was needed to take care of others.

I join my wife, Monica, and the entire 36th Congressional District to mourn this heartbreaking loss and honor Garrett's legacy.

To his wife, Bobbie; daughter, Terri Ann; parents, Judi and Armando; brother, Carlos; and sister, Cinthia; and the rest of the extended Paiz family, we support you, and we honor Garrett's dedication to selfless service. His life and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

EAGLE SCOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT OF THE YEAR

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Boy Scouts of America Leatherstocking Council. For more than 100 years the Boy Scouts of

America have molded young boys into men of character, compassion, and commitment.

Last week, I had the honor of attending their annual leadership dinner, where four of our local Eagle Scouts—Nathaniel Degear of DeRuyter, Devyn Guy of Middleburgh, Paul White of Clinton, and Gannon Frisbee of Downsville—were honored as finalists for the Eagle Project of the Year. The four finalists represented more than 120 new Eagle Scouts, who gave over 2,500 hours in service to our community.

It was an honor to finally present Gannon Frisbee with the Eagle Scout Community Service Project of the Year Award. Gannon began his project intending to upgrade lighting and wall decor at a local American Legion.

Soon after beginning his project, Gannon realized the building's structural integrity was at risk. Gannon worked tirelessly to repair the walls and the floor of the American Legion. His project was critical in ensuring that the American Legion was able to return to normal operations.

These young men offer us a glimpse into the Boy Scouts' outstanding tradition of service and commitment to community. They are truly a testament to the strength and the potential of America's next generation of leaders.

GO HOUSTON ASTROS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, go Astros.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, so many impacted, our boys of summer brought it home this weekend. In the words of David Barron: "With their season on the line, the Astros drew comfort from the familiar ground on which they stood, the sea of noise that greeted their every move, and the collective will that exemplifies the way they played and the city they represent."

Astros strong, Houston strong.

I am so delighted to have a friendly wager with a dear friend. I don't know for how long. I think he represents the Brooklyn—oh, the Los Angeles Dodgers.

I yield to the gentleman from California, and whether he will accept this friendly wager, I offer you Texas barbecue, Congressman JIMMY GOMEZ.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

In the spirit of good sportsmanship, I accept the gentlewoman's wager and the barbecue that I will get to enjoy next week.

The Houston Astros are an amazing team, with 101 wins, but the Dodgers are better, with 104. I know that the Astros stumbled across that finish line to make it to the World Series. I know it is going to be a hell of a game between the two teams.

If we lose, I will bring some French dip sandwiches from the Louisiana in-

stitution, Philippe's, in downtown Los Angeles.

Let the best team win. Play ball.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Reclaiming my time, barbecue is good everywhere in Texas.

Where there is a will, there is a way. The Astros have the will and the way. Go Astros.

GO LOS ANGELES DODGERS

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Los Angeles Dodgers for winning the National League Champion Series. They will appear in the World Series for the first time in 29 years. I hope they win it all.

Earlier this year, I had the honor of wearing the Dodgers uniform to the Congressional Baseball Game. I am a huge fan, and we Angelinos love our Dodgers.

When I was a kid, as my father battled Parkinson's disease, we watched every game together. It was our bonding time.

As we watch the game this week, may every kid enjoy our national pastime with a loved one—in person or in spirit.

Go Dodgers.

CONGRATULATING FORT LEE ON 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the 100th anniversary of the United States Army's Fort Lee in Prince George County, Virginia.

The fort that we know today began as Camp Lee in 1917. Camp Lee served as a training base for hundreds of thousands of our country's bravest as they prepared for service in World Wars I and II, a tradition that has continued ever since, often in pathbreaking ways.

In the late 1940s, Camp Lee became the home of the Women's Army Corp Training Center, which established a high-quality training facility for women who wished to serve their country.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Lee continues to prepare men and women for their service as the home to the Combined Arms Support Command, the U.S. Army Ordnance School, the U.S. Army Quartermaster School, the U.S. Army Transportation School, and roughly 20 other organizations and units.

Today and every day, we are grateful to all who have served at Fort Lee for a combined 100 years of dedication and honorable service.

CONTINUE PROVIDING AID TO PUERTO RICO

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Friday marked 1 month since Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico.

According to my constituents, current conditions are as follows: more than 1 million Americans there lack access to clean water; mothers cannot make infant formula; people are getting sick from infected water; and nearly 80 percent of the island still lacks electricity.

Struggles are everywhere: where there is help trickling in, there are lines, always lines; supplies simply aren't enough; medical facilities are running on hope; there is no reliable means of communication, so people cannot even register for aid; entire communities are cut off from modern civilization; millions desperately need assistance.

President Trump visited the island for as long as it takes to play a round of golf, and he went to the wealthiest part of the capital city. Last week, he granted himself a perfect score for his response to the devastation. But the Trump administration continues to fail our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Speaker, 3.4 million Americans live in Puerto Rico, and they deserve our full support.

Mr. President, can't you at least air-drop fresh water packets, food provisions, and telephones? Our military can do this anywhere in the world, why not Puerto Rico?

RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HELPED IN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, California, northern California, where I am from, has been suffering, as so many people know, from devastating fires these last few weeks. I think it is very appropriate to point out the incredible efforts of our first responders and our firefighters in saving so much valuable property and the lives that have been saved, as well as citizens pulling together to help each other.

We see the best in Americans during these times of crisis, and that has not gone unnoticed in northern California as well. Our hearts are with those folks who have suffered losses and more loss of life than could be imagined in modern-day America with all the firefighting apparatus and prevention we have. Still, it shows you have to have preparedness; you have to have defensible space; and you have to be ready, at any given time, during this type of fire season.

Again, our hats are off to our first responders and our firefighters for the amount of property and lives they have been able to save under these conditions. God bless them.

RECOGNIZING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PATH

(Ms. JAYAPAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is United Nations Day. As we reflect on the value of global partnerships to solve problems, I want to recognize the 40th anniversary of the international global health organization known as PATH, Program for Appropriate Technology and Health.

PATH is headquartered in Seattle, and since its founding, it has been an incredible force for good. It is a place that I had the opportunity to work at for many years in the 1990s.

PATH works in more than 70 countries, improving health for 150 million people each year. PATH has made a difference in countless lives, from stopping preventable deaths of mothers and children to keeping people safe from infectious disease outbreaks.

PATH has also helped make Washington State a global center of development for lifesaving health equity, innovations, and solutions. In 2013 alone, this global health industry generated \$5.8 billion in direct economic impact and employed more than 12,500 people.

PATH collaborates with governments, the private sector, and NGOs to advance more than 100 health strategies and technologies. It has saved \$14 million per year doing things like preventing undamaged vaccines from being discarded.

Congratulations to PATH.

□ 1930

TAX REFORM

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this House and its committees will discuss what is being called tax reform, what is being told to the American public is a middle class tax break.

Well, I am here to tell you it is a con job. It is a tax giveaway to the wealthiest people in this country like never before at the expense of people in the middle class, lesser incomes, who will not get benefits, and if they do, it is chump change. It is the change you give somebody at a restaurant when you get your meal.

Billionaires will get to get away without having to pay an estate tax, like Donald Trump—billions of dollars they will not have to pay to the government to help fund Pell grants, LIHEAP, and other programs that help people who need something. That is something they will not come off of.

They may raise a little rate and say: We are going to put a little higher rate on the wealthy because it is not in there now.

They may say: Give the State and local income tax exemptions back.

But they are not going to go back on the estate tax because that is for the superwealthy, and that is who this bill is for.

Wake up America. It is a con job.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this CBC Special Order hour. Also, I want to acknowledge the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Mr. CEDRIC RICHMOND, from the State of Louisiana, and other Members who are here to participate. For the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, the constituents that we all represent in our various districts.

For this particular Special Order hour, I am going to open it up and begin to talk about something that is very important and has been widely discussed within the Congressional Black Caucus, and that is civil rights and some of the things that we are worried about that are going on within the Justice Department.

We have several important Members here to speak on these. Before I go any further, I want to go ahead and recognize them. The first speaker we have is from the State of South Carolina, representing that State's Sixth Congressional District, and also our caucus' assistant leader. That is Mr. JIM CLYBURN.

I thank Representative CLYBURN for joining and being a part of this Special Order hour to talk about this subject matter that is very important to so many members of the Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN).

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding to me.

I also thank him and our colleague, Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, for joining me at the Center for African American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington last Thursday evening. It was a wonderful experience for me. President Vistasp Karbhari, Dr. Jason Skelton, and my longtime friend, Dr. Marvin Delaney, were perfect hosts.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Sergeant La David T. Johnson died a hero's death in a distant land on a mission few Americans know about or understand. This weekend, his grieving

family, including his pregnant wife, took him to his final resting place in Florida. Sergeant Johnson's tragic death leaves this young family fatherless.

Mr. Speaker, in his second inaugural address, President Abraham Lincoln called on our Nation to endeavor to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.

Unfortunately, rather than comfort Sergeant Johnson's grieving family, the current occupant of the White House has chosen to use them as his latest prop in his constant effort to sow discord and division in this country.

The President and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, who happens to be a four-star general, have insulted and smeared an honorable public servant who happens to be a five-star Congresswoman, and, in effect, called her and her grieving widow constituent liars.

Congresswoman FREDERICA S. WILSON has been a champion for the people of south Florida for decades. It is no mystery—and it was not political—that she was accompanying Mrs. Johnson and her family to receive her husband's remains. She had mentored Sergeant Johnson throughout his childhood.

I have participated in several of Congresswoman WILSON's 500 Role Models events and have spoken for one of their graduations. I also wear this red tie to this floor helping her highlight their efforts. Her passionate work on behalf of those kidnapped girls of Boko Haram is unmatched.

As the husband of a five-star African-American woman for more than 56 years and the father of three African-American daughters who are working hard to earn their stars every day, I feel compelled to respond to General Kelly and completely disregard his concocted misrepresentations.

Mr. Speaker, we can have political differences here in Washington. That comes with the territory. But people need to have the common decency and basic humanity to refrain from exacerbating the pain of those already suffering so much. I was taught from childhood that silence gives consent. I want the White House to know this: I and the members of the Congressional Black Caucus will not be silent, and we will not be silenced.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) very much for his timely and very serious comments. I hope that all of the Members who are here on both sides of the aisle realize the seriousness of the comments. There is nothing humorous about them all, nothing to be smiling or laughing about. It is very timely in light of the unfortunate incident that happened with our colleague. I thank the gentleman very much for bringing that to light.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to my fellow Texan from the 18th Congressional District in Houston. I thank very much

Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE for joining us this evening. We look forward to the gentleman's words.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the manager, Mr. VEASEY, for his leadership, his sensitivities, his sensibilities, and his empathy, knowing his distinguished wife and the leadership she gives to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. I am sure that there are many women in the gentleman's family, and I know that he has a great honor and respect for them.

It is appropriate to follow the leader, Mr. CLYBURN, who is vested in the storied history of African Americans from the East to the West, North to the South. He often diminishes his status by saying that he was raised in a parish house, but when he eloquently rises to the floor to defend, all eyes and all ears are tuned to him.

Now, I want to adhere to our discussion today because it is extremely important, and to also acknowledge my colleagues. So let me hurry through my comments. I do want to acknowledge the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, CEDRIC RICHMOND. I thank the women of the caucus for their eloquent and pointed statement regarding the series of events that has occurred.

Let me, first of all, say that our topic today deals with a retracing of the horrible history that was perpetrated under FBI Director Hoover for the decades that he served in that capacity. So as I label what it is, let me just for a moment deviate to what happened this weekend. I believe that the FBI personnel, through much of its history, were mostly men—fine men—who wanted to protect this Nation. But you see, Mr. Speaker, I have firsthand knowledge of the devastation of FBI surveillance way before the word “terrorism” became part of our normal discussion or language.

So I want to put a pause there and say that in the history of African Americans, we have been subjected to name-calling. That is what happens to you when, in the Constitution, you are not a complete human being. That is what happens to you even after the Emancipation Proclamation and the short-lived Reconstruction, the Nation rushed toward the hanging fruit, Jim Crowism, and the rampant murder of African Americans in the Deep South, some of the very States in which the President stood and called young African-American men sons of Bs.

There is another name-calling. So it seems that even as we have gone through the transition of freedom and we came through the 20th century with civil rights, and then affirmative action, that name-calling seems to be the welcomed and accepted tactic to use with people of color and, in this instance, African Americans.

What would be the explanation for the unseemly events that occurred around a grieving mother, aunt, uncle, and a grieving widow with beautiful children who no longer have their dad?

I offer my sympathy to Sergeants Wright, Black, La David Johnson, and Jeremiah Johnson.

So how their loss, through no fault of their own, in the battle for this Nation turned into an ugly name-calling, I am baffled, except for the fact that it is easy to call African Americans names. It is easy for some White Americans to call African Americans names.

When we are on the floor of the House and we say things that are untoward in some segments of the population, our phones ring off the hook with the N word, N word, N word. I don't know how many of my friends who are not people of color—I am sure we all say things that people disagree with, and I don't know whether they call up and call them White, White, White.

You see, race is something that we are fearful of discussing, and that is because the thought would be: Here she goes again.

But there is a great love—my interaction, my life's history is with the diversity of this world, from White Caucasians, Anglos in Texas, to Hispanics, African Americans, Asians, and beyond in various religious. I feel comfortable in my soul.

But this weekend was the most difficult time for African-American women who are—in the category of casting, the caste system—at the bottom of the totem pole. Even today, the likes of Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mae Jemison, Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, doctors, lawyers, and others, we are at the bottom.

So there was much latitude—uncontrolled latitude—in name-calling. Forty-five mentioning untoward words about our colleague, Congresswoman WILSON: name-calling. Nobody—there is no retribution or reprimand. None of his constituents would give a hoot. But it was name-calling.

Mr. Speaker, you don't know how many people stop me in airports, along the road, hurt and appalled. Let me just come to a close on that.

First of all, Congressman CLYBURN has already given the attributes of Congresswoman WILSON. I do want to add that she is a principal. She is an old-fashioned principal, though she is a young woman.

□ 1945

She loved her students. She implemented the 5000 Role Models. She took the children as family, and Sergeant David Johnson was one of those. So if people don't understand the cultural distinctions in the African-American community, we are aunts and uncles without bloodline. We are Godparents. We are family.

Her presence in that car was not as an interloper. She didn't break the door down. She was in there as family. She was not eavesdropping. The phone was on. As indicated by Mrs. Johnson's interview, she asked the phone to be put on speaker.

It seems that her offense in breaking down moved the Representative to ar-

ticulate, probably seeking some humanity, to say: Can you just, if you hear my words, apologize?

That never happened. The untruth spread all over. You see, as an African-American woman, you don't have to worry about saying the truth about us. We are various names—sons of Bs—and we have got all kinds of disturbing situations going on with names that we can be called. And that is what this White House did.

My dear friend, who I knew in the Southern Command, that is what happens when you are here for just a few years. He had great leadership and loss. I was here when that happened. And I don't want to spend a moment to diminish his status as a Gold Star parent. He has a right to mourn and to speak of his loss.

But then, when you are forced to step from that humble position over to an untruth, you can do it to a Black woman. They have no power. I can talk something that doesn't have any truth, because I have to defend—and this is said lovingly—a White man who happens to be in the Oval Office.

We don't count. We are the largest group of active, civic women in all kinds of organizations. If there is something being done—first of all, it is women overall, I love them all, but you will see the African-American woman—she is in there scrubbing, she is in there teaching, she is in there handling the religious institutions, she is standing by babies, and she is standing by young people.

She is a civil rights activist, she is a scientist, she is a doctor. She is president of various organizations. She is just in there.

That is what happened that has brought me to this point that what we have now is so dangerous. I hope before the end of the week—maybe before the end of tomorrow—my good friend, General Kelly, seeks to apologize for the distortion. He didn't have to defend a person who does it in his own way and besmirch all of the Gold Star families and this young mother who has not been able to see her son.

Mr. Speaker, I know there are many of us who served in this Congress who have seen their brethren fall. They have been injured. What is it like for their family not to be able to see the body? What is it like to know that the person's body was not found for 48 hours?

I am going to get to an end for my colleagues. I just want to say this. There are those of us who know about the African Command. There are those of us who know the soldiers there. The Congressional Black Caucus was instrumental when George Bush said that an African Command needs to stand up when Charles Taylor was killing his citizens in Liberia.

I know it firsthand. I have been to all those countries. I know ISIL was connected with Boko Haram. We have been trying to say it, but people have deaf ears, maybe because it is Africa.

Now, all of a sudden we are awake. Congresswoman WILSON knew that. She has been there. We have been there. Why don't people listen to Black women who know what they are talking about, along with our distinguished colleagues?

This document that I hold in my hand, "Black Identity Extremists Likely Motivated to Target Law Enforcement Officers," I have a lot to say on, but I am going to summarize.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, this is name-calling. We just got through a reckless weekend of name-calling of a distinguished Member of Congress.

This is name-calling. This is the FBI defining BIEs as individuals who seek, through unlawful acts of force or violence, a response to perceived racism and injustice.

But do you know what will happen, Mr. Speaker? This will be a big fishnet: the high school student who is getting his fists up; the college student who is rallying around in opposition to racism; the students down in Charlottesville who may believe they should stand up and be counted.

I know this, Mr. Speaker, because, with a little bit of humor, I am young, going backwards, but I served on the Select Committee on Assassinations that investigated the assassination of Martin Luther King—the reopening of the investigation—along with John F. Kennedy.

I was immersed in the files of COINTELPRO. I saw how the FBI dogged a modern-day prophet, a man who only wanted peace and believed in the beloved community. Yes, he was human. When you dog someone, you can find them throwing gum on a sidewalk.

Dr. Martin Luther King was subjected to the COINTEL program. It was dastardly and devastating, and may have been the basis of the loss of his life. If he was subjected to the COINTEL program, we always wondered why he couldn't have been in another hotel.

So the danger of this document that has come under Donald Trump and not under any other President—not Bill Clinton, not George Bush, not President Obama—as I understand it, but it came in August of this year, under President Trump, the same President who could find nothing distinctive between the alt-right and racist vileness talking about Jews and Blacks and everybody else in Charlottesville. There were good people on both sides.

Now we have this document. Lo and behold, what other names of Black activists and African Americans still fighting the war of civil rights peacefully may be caught up in this large net?

Again, I want to be able to say my respect for the service of FBI agents. They are friends of mine. I am on the Judiciary Committee. They are friends to all of us. We continue to salute their service. But this document is a riotous document.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I include in the RECORD: "The History of Surveillance and the Black Community." It goes into the discussion.

[From the Electronic Frontier Foundation, February 13, 2014]

THE HISTORY OF SURVEILLANCE AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY
(By Dia Kayyali)

February is Black History Month and that history is intimately linked with surveillance by the federal government in the name of "national security." Indeed, the history of surveillance in the African-American community plays an important role in the debate around spying today and in the calls for a congressional investigation into that surveillance. Days after the first NSA leaks emerged last June, EFF called for a new Church Committee. We mentioned that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the targets of the very surveillance that eventually led to the formation of the first Church Committee. This Black History Month, we should remember the many African-American activists who were targeted by intelligence agencies. Their stories serve as cautionary tales for the expanding surveillance state.

The latest revelations about surveillance are only the most recent in a string of periodic public debates around domestic spying perpetrated by the NSA, FBI, and CIA. This spying has often targeted politically unpopular groups or vulnerable communities, including anarchists, anti-war activists, communists, and civil rights leaders.

60s. COINTELPRO, short for Counter Intelligence Program, was started in 1956 by the FBI and continued until 1971. The program was a systemic attempt to infiltrate, spy on, and disrupt activists in the name of "national security." While it initially focused on the Communist Party, in the 1960s its focus expanded to include a wide swathe of activists, with a strong focus on the Black Panther Party and civil rights leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FBI papers show that in 1962 "the FBI started and rapidly continued to gravitate toward Dr. King." This was ostensibly because the FBI believed black organizing was being influenced by communism. In 1963 FBI Assistant Director William Sullivan recommended "increased coverage of communist influence on the Negro." However, the FBI's goal in targeting Dr. King was clear: to find "avenues of approach aimed at neutralizing King as an effective Negro leader," because the FBI was concerned that he might become a "messiah."

The FBI subjected Dr. King to a variety of tactics, including bugging his hotel rooms, photographic surveillance, and physical observation of King's movements by FBI agents. The FBI's actions went beyond spying on Dr. King, however. Using information gained from that surveillance, the FBI sent him anonymous letters attempting to "blackmail him into suicide." The agency also attempted to break up his marriage by sending selectively edited "personal moments he shared with friends and women" to his wife.

The FBI also specifically targeted the Black Panther Party with the intention of destroying it. They infiltrated the Party with informants and subjected members to repeated interviews. Agents sent anonymous letters encouraging violence between street gangs and the Panthers in various cities, which resulted in "the killings of four BPP members and numerous beatings and shootings," as well as letters sowing internal dissension in the Panther Party. The agency also worked with police departments to Department that aided in a raid on BPP leader

Fred Hampton's apartment. The raid ended with the Chicago Police shooting Hampton dead.

The FBI was not alone in targeting civil rights leaders. The NSA also engaged in domestic spying that included Dr. King. In an eerily prescient statement, Senator Walter Mondale said he was concerned that the NSA "could be used by President 'A' in the future to spy upon the American people, to chill and interrupt political dissent."

The Church Committee was created in response to these and other public scandals, and was charged with getting to the bottom of the government's surveillance overreach. In response to its findings, Congress passed new laws to provide privacy safeguards, including the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. But ever since these safeguards were put in place, the intelligence community has tried to weaken or operate around them. The NSA revelations show the urgent need to reform the laws governing surveillance and to rein in the intelligence community.

Today we're responding to those domestic surveillance abuses by an unrestrained intelligence branch. The overreach we've seen in the past underscores the need for reform. Especially during Black History Month, let's not forget the speech-stifling history of US government spying that has targeted communities of color.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. It says: "We mentioned that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the targets of the very surveillance that eventually led to the formation of the first Church Committee. This Black History Month, we should remember the many African-American activists who were targeted by intelligence agencies. Their stories serve as cautionary tales for the expanding surveillance state."

Where are the conservatives to stand up against this document? We can be safe, we can have the First Amendment, and we speak our different issues, but now we are going to entrap African Americans—young men who are kneeling because of their concern for police reform and violence that has taken the lives of African-American young men.

There are so many law enforcement officers who agree with me on the idea of police reform to help all of us work together. We are not divided, but we will stay divided with a document that is going to label us.

Where is the document for the alt-right, the religious right, the White supremacists? Where is that?

When are we going to understand that the calling of names—in our community, we call it calling me out of my name—by the majority community is a carryover from slavery and Jim Crow.

I am saddened by the last couple of days of steering away from the mourning of those wonderful heroes who reflected the greatness of America. They reflected what young men and women do who are willing to sacrifice their lives. They go without a recognition of what color their fellow soldier is. We honor them with no distinction.

That is what the last couple of days should have been about, as well as the loving care of that widow and the families of the other young men. Yet, in the

spirit of the FBI COINTEL program, that may be the downfall, again, of those of us trying to heal and not reflecting on how the best way to deal with those who would do us harm violently, of which I stand against, we are now in the midst of name-calling.

I go to my seat mourning. When is America going to change?

On August 3, 2017, the FBI released their new "Intelligence Assessment" report entitled: Black Identity Extremists (BIE) Likely Motivated to Target Law Enforcement Officers".

The FBI defines BIE as individuals who seek, through unlawful acts of force or violence, a response to "perceived" racism and injustice in American society.

The FBI also indicates, there is a desire for black physical or psychological separation based on religious or political beliefs grounded in racial superiority or supremacy.

Blacks fought for America long before it was a country, prerevolutionary period, where during the first 100 years of conflict we stepped up; and will continue, for equality and justice.

Blacks led civil rights movement winning double victories in both World War II and the Jim Crow era, forcing our then President Truman, to announced that "there are no justifiable reasons for discrimination because of one's ancestry, or religion, or race, or color of his skin."

Today, Trump's FBI believes that the African American community's reality is a mere perception as it relates to the racism and injustice that plague our communities. Why?

The FBI has consistently relied upon a flawed system to determine the number of people killed by officers. This flawed system is shaped by "voluntary law enforcement compliance"—in other words, police departments need not report this stat.

"The Counted" launched by the Guardian, is a public-service project tallying deaths of unarmed persons by law enforcement. They reached a tally of 1,068 at the start of 2015.

Former FBI Director Comey said, this was embarrassing and unacceptable that a Guardian U.S. investigative unit had a better tally than his agency's near 35,000 employees.

There is no reliable mechanism to accurately depict the true dimensions of an epidemic of lethal violence, force, and shootings committed by police across this country on unarmed civilians.

The reality is Sandra Bland died while in the custody of law enforcement; Michael Brown was gunned down in the street by law enforcement; Eric Garner died from a chokehold at the hands of law enforcement; Freddie Gray died while being transported in the custody of law enforcement; Tamir Rice was shot dead by a law enforcement officer previously deemed an emotionally unstable recruit and unfit for duty; and Laquan McDonald shot in the back and killed by law enforcement officers.

These are just a few of the innocent lives robbed and thus, gone too soon. These are the realities not perceptions that young activists in their own modern ways represent, whether it's marching, protesting with passion, or even taking a knee.

They are protesting unapologetically with great passion and hunger for justice, but nonetheless, peacefully.

They are not killing others who do not agree with them; nor are they inflicting violence due to religion, nationality and race.

Therefore, it is highly insensitive, offensive and blatantly discriminative and unconstitutional to mount a counter intelligence program, now COINTELPRO 2.0, to once again, aggressively target a race that merely seeks justice and equality it is entitled under our Constitution.

According to sources close to the FBI, the term "Black Identity Extremists" did not exist before the Trump administration. The FBI named BIE, a major threat to national security and public safety, thereby, criminalizing black activism.

The newly coined term, black identity extremists (BIE) is such a vague terminology that it invites alarming abuse of a specific race's constitutional rights based solely on an Administration's disturbed and visceral approach to race relations.

Under FBI Director Edgar Hoover's leadership, the Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO), a covert, often illegal, campaign was mounted to break up the civil rights movement and "neutralize" activists they perceived as threatening.

COINTELPRO was used to surveil and discredit civil rights activists, members of the Black Panther Party and any major advocates for the rights of black people in our nation's history.

COINTELPRO allowed the FBI to falsify letters in an effort to blackmail Martin Luther King Jr. into silence.

This was such a disgraceful period in our nation's history that our recent FBI Director, James Comey, kept a copy of a 1963 order authorizing Hoover to conduct round-the-clock surveillance of Martin Luther King Jr. on his desk as a reminder of Hoover's abuses.

The FBI's dedicated surveillance of black activists follows a long history of the U.S. government aggressively monitoring protest movements and working to disrupt civil rights groups, but the scrutiny of African Americans by a domestic terrorism unit was particularly alarming to some free speech campaigners.

This administration continues the same vile tactics used in well-documented stories of civil rights leaders who were profiled, targeted and killed for insisting that black people receive equitable treatment under the law in a country whose Constitution guarantees it.

Today the FBI continues its once intrusive, abhorrent and illegal targeting of black activists by labeling the Black Lives Matter movement as BIE.

We know that the Department of Homeland Security has been surveilling Black Lives Matter activists since 2014, but there's no way to know what's next.

With this recent report, the FBI has legitimized the idea that black activism is a threat and should be treated accordingly, with violent force.

Despite Charlottesville and all the other harms inflicted by emboldened white nationalists, the FBI has instead, chosen to target a group of American citizens whom merely decry the injustice seen and felt throughout their communities.

Despite numerous unarmed black individuals, particularly, young black men that are disproportionately the victims of police shootings, the FBI would like us to believe this is not a reality.

Instead, the FBI's report claims there is a danger in black activism by asserting that violence inflicted on black people at the hands of police is "perceived" or "alleged," not real.

This month the Congressional Black Caucus has written to the FBI Director, Christopher Wray, to express our concern over the recent "Intelligence Assessment" report.

We have requested a briefing on both the origins of its research and the FBI's next intended step based on its findings. No response as of date.

We should be allowed to exercise our constitutional and fundamental rights of free speech.

We should not be restricted and criminalized when we demand that those we elect to office exercise justice and fairness.

This FBI report will further inflame an already damaged police/community relation under the leadership of Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

Sessions has dismantled all the safeguards installed under Attorney General Holder's leadership, thus, returning our justice system to the broken system under Ashcroft.

Session has unleashed a merciless approach to "all" crimes including low level drug-related cases, and demands that his attorneys prosecute every case to the fullest extent of the law.

In doing so, Session has taken away any prosecutorial discretion once available to prosecutors throughout our justice system under U.S. law.

The FBI in this Trump Administration has returned to the era of Director Edgar Hoover, in their unleashing of this damaging, discriminative, and unconstitutional COINTELPRO 2.0.

With these lethal forms of attacks on the African American community from both the DOJ and the FBI, where is justice?

Mr. VEASEY. I thank my colleague from the 18th Congressional District for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my friend and classmate who represents the 10th Congressional District.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from the Lone Star State, my classmate, Congressman VEASEY, for hosting tonight's Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position where the lines are being so blurred that Gold Star families have come into this political discussion and are being dragged into this, unwillingly, over the past several days.

I have great respect for General Kelly and was very delighted to see him get the job as Chief of Staff so that he could maybe bring some semblance of calm and normalcy to the White House, but it seems like he has been infected by the disease that is the scourge in the White House.

There is no reason for him to fabricate what one of our colleagues said. The videotape is there. She never did one thing that General Kelly said she did on that fateful day in the dedication to that FBI building.

I don't understand what is going on with people these days, but these are the times we find ourselves in.

Mr. Speaker, as much as we would like to live in a colorblind society, in an America where people should be judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin,

we aren't there yet. Race, unfortunately, still matters.

Juries devalue Black lives by punishing offenders more harshly when their victims are White than when their victims are Black. Police are more likely to use force when interacting with Black people than when interacting with White people. Emergency room doctors are less likely to prescribe pain medication to Black patients than to Whites.

Results from psychological studies of racial bias have shown that nearly 90 percent of the White people in the United States who have taken the implicit-association test have an inherent racial preference for White people over Black people. Oh, yes, race matters in America, and we have got to talk about it.

It should not take a crisis for the United States to discuss race and the effects of stereotypes that are baked into our national cultural. We should not have to wait for a police officer to shoot an unarmed Black man before we discuss how negative stereotypes about Black people affect snap judgments.

□ 2000

It should not take mass murder in a Bible study to get us talking about how negative stereotypes of Black people in social media help White supremacists rationalize their racism.

Back in 1997, Professor Jody David Armour warned us that bad actors would try to make racism seem reasonable. Professor Armour wrote a book called "Negrophobia." In it, he predicted that "perhaps the gravest threat today to progress toward racial justice comes from the right-wing ideologues bent on convincing White people of good faith that negative stereotypes about Blacks are justified."

Professor Armour told us to look out for people trying "to prove that Blacks are inherently less intelligent and more violent than Whites." And he explained that these people would try to make racism seem rational by using discredited studies, unscientific experiments, and cooked statistics.

What have we seen on our social media over the past few years? We have seen that negrophobia is alive and well in the United States, and social media is its enabler.

People like the President have used social media to spread cooked statistics and outright lies to rationalize the racist stereotypes that Black people are inherently violent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, countries like Russia have used social media to fuel racial tensions in America's communities, and White supremacists have used social media to organize their hate.

We must not be afraid to ask: What role has Facebook played in fueling negrophobia in America?

Facebook was born in an age of diversity, but it was not born with a commitment to diversity. Only 3 in every 100 Facebook employees are African American.

The company has no Black executives, and it has no Black board members. The company's global director of diversity has said that hiring women and people of color is complicated. Its chief executive officer, Sheryl Sandberg, has promised that Facebook would hire a Black board member sometime soon.

Why has it taken so long? Why have minority voices been left out of the essential media development? Has Facebook's failure to value minority voices inside the company made Facebook an online megaphone for racist voices outside the company?

Facebook's algorithms have the power to affect the way Americans think about Black people, for better or worse. When Facebook accepts money from foreign actors who want to exploit racial tensions in the United States, Facebook perpetuates negrophobia.

By the same token, Facebook's algorithms could weaken negrophobia by enhancing positive messages that challenge people to reexamine and resist discriminatory responses, but that will require Facebook to fully commit to diversity right now, not sometime in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus met with Facebook a week ago in terms of these negative ads that were found out to be bought by Russian actors and spending \$100,000 in doing so, and buying fake "Black Lives Matter" responses and ads and "anti-Black Lives Matter" ads to continue to fuel this division in our country.

If countries are able to see a weakness in our fabric in this Nation, then they will exploit it. We have to come together as Americans and understand that our issues are something that we have to deal with and look each other in the face and have an honest discussion about.

No one is perfect. No one is saying that one side is worse than the other, but we need to come together as a unit, as this great experiment called the United States was meant to be, that all men are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights—all Americans, not just some—and we continue to strive towards that goal, towards that utopia in this country.

This is the greatest country in the world, and we all know it here because we benefit from it, but we have a long way to go in terms of reaching the ultimate goal.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Newark, New Jersey, for his comments, and also to talk about the fact that I am glad that he mentioned Facebook, because one of the things that really surprised me was the fact that some of those ads were purchased in rubles, and no one seemed to notice that, seems

absolutely amazing to me. And we need to, again, just continue to have this discussion and talk about these things, so I thank the gentleman very much for his comments tonight.

I yield to my friend and colleague from the great State of Michigan, representing the State's 14th Congressional District, BRENDA LAWRENCE. Again, I want to thank BRENDA for participating. She participates often in this hour, and I just really appreciate her comments. Her district appreciates the comments, her State, and our country, and I appreciate her joining us this evening.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman VEASEY for his leadership and for his dedication.

Today, I am at this mike for a number of reasons. One is that we have witnessed, over the weekend, another time in history that will be written for many to read, for generations to try to understand what exactly happened.

Most of us are raised that, in a time of grieving and mourning, you are sympathetic, you are patient, and, most of all, you try to be understanding.

I am at a loss in trying to understand how the dialogue was reduced to name-calling and then just unfactual information. But what I had hoped and what I feel that, as an American, as a Member of Congress, as a citizen, if someone gets it wrong, that at least I deserve, "I'm sorry, I didn't get the information right," or maybe "I spoke out of turn." And when you are grieving the loss of someone you love dearly, someone who was serving this country, someone who, as the family of a military service person, gave the sacrifice as well for them to represent our country.

I would hope—I was hopeful that that would happen, but it did not. There comes a point in time, Mr. Speaker, as American citizens, that we begin to stand up and say, as our country, there is an expectation. There is an expectation for those we elect, there is an expectation for those in leadership, and truly, there is an expectation of civility and, at minimum, truth.

As we know, the FBI has had a long, troubling history of using its broad investigatory powers to target Black citizens. It is not a myth. It is a fact. It has been written. During the 1960s, Director Hoover used the counterintelligence program to surveil and discredit civil rights activists, members of the Black Panther Party.

For an example, the FBI falsified a letter in an attempt to blackmail the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King into silence.

So the Congressional Black Caucus is concerned by the assertion that coins a new term, "Black identity extremists," and claims, with high confidence, that they are likely to target law enforcement based on perceptions of police brutality against African Americans.

In August, the FBI Counterterrorism Division issued a chilling and outlandish warning to its agents, all hidden behind the veil of an internal report never meant to be seen by the American people. It worries me because, in 2017, such a misguided and hateful and dangerous report exists at all.

Released just 9 days before the hateful violence in Charlottesville, this report targets so-called Black identity extremists by falsely linking peaceful and necessary calls for justice from Americans, from the African-American community, to entirely unrelated acts of violence against law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I served as a mayor of a diverse city for 14 years and had the responsibility of an entire police force for a city. I have such respect and honor for those who serve us.

I understand how, when there is trouble, the police run to that trouble to protect us, but I also know that the power that is held on the shield of a police force can be used for other than protection of their people. And that in this great country that we live in, time and time again in history, some people will use the comment: Don't be so sensitive about everything that happened. But history has shown us, every change that we have made in this country of freedoms and rights have come from people who had the courage, the political courage, to stand up and fight for that. Is that extremism?

Will you say the right to vote were Black extremists? Would you say that the women who protest and march so that women could have the right to vote, were they extremists? Or were they Americans who believed in this country and had the courage to stand up not just for them but for generations to come?

Our Social Security, when we looked at—and we looked at hunger in this country, and people repeatedly have shown, of all ethnic groups, that nothing in America happens without protests and the courage to stand up. Are they extremists, or they part of this amazing democracy that we have?

And the threat of being labeled by our FBI so you have permission to now treat these individuals, who have the courage to stand up, as unlawful villains and terrorists, and you have the permission now by the FBI to attack and to imprison them.

We must, as a Congress and a country, learn to understand the power of our words, and I am going to close with this.

Your words mean something. If this administration has taught us anything, the words of those who are elected to leadership do matter, whether it is the truth or whether it is a lie. It matters.

It fuels anger and hatred in people. It tells people that it is okay to disrespect others. Words mean something. And for me to be a Black woman in America and be labeled, if I stand up and fight for my rights, if I stand with others, if Black Lives Matter has not

just been Black people standing up—it has been all members of the United States, citizens saying that all lives matter and that we will not tolerate criminal injustice against Black people and the murder rate that we see of those who are of color.

□ 2015

This has been a movement in our country, and now we see this internal labeling by our law enforcement in our country. Does that cause me to feel afraid in my own country? Does that give me the fear that history is going to repeat itself because words have given permission for this to happen when you legitimize people whose only purpose to stand and be in a position in your community is to say that you have no value less than me and we hate you?

But do you know what? There are some very fine people there. Being a Black person in America, I can tell you, we have had some fine days. I would not be standing here, this little Black girl from Detroit, if this country did not give me the opportunities. But it came from the protests; it came in the death and the riots of the people in my generation before me who would not sit down and be quiet.

So now are we being told that we are not to use our constitutional rights of free speech and protests and to gather to say that now you are being an extremist? I am not going to allow that to happen in this country, and if you want to label me, label me. But I would not be here today if it were not for those who had the political courage to stand up for what is right, not just for Black people, but for Americans in this country. And that is something that this report strikes a chord with me.

I stand in opposition. I understand when someone takes their freedom to stand up and oppose something that is happening in America, and I want to protect that First Amendment right. But if we can avoid the consequences of halfway speech fueled by fear and false perceptions, we will be stronger as a country.

Mr. Speaker, I call on Congress to join me and my colleagues in condemning this report and standing with us for a more peaceful, a more accepting, and a more equal country where we can really mean, when we stand up and we say the Pledge of Allegiance and we say, "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," and for all of us we have a name.

We have a name that we were given at birth, and we expect our leadership, our President, our Congress, our Chief of Staff, our military to address us by our names. It is not acceptable, it is embarrassing for us as a country, to reduce ourselves to that level. And I stand here tonight, on the RECORD, that I am an American. I am a Member of Congress. I am a woman. I am an African American. I deserve respect, and I expect all of our colleagues to conduct themselves the same way, including the President of the United States.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. LAWRENCE for her comments, which are very timely in light of everything that is happening right now.

Mr. Speaker, before I close out, the one thing that I would like to make note of is that I think, with this COINTELPRO 2.0 that is going on right now, we should take this very seriously. And I just want to remind everybody that may be out here listening right now, we talk a lot about extremist groups. We talk a lot about alt-right and KKK and White supremacist groups, but one thing that we have to keep in mind is that, in the 1960s, when Dr. Martin Luther King came to town, he was not treated like he is now.

I hear so many people—conservatives, liberals, Democrats, and Republicans—talk about how much they admire and respect Dr. King, and rightfully so, because he earned the respect and the admiration that he has now, posthumously, in this country. I don't think that anyone would argue that. But if we could travel back in time to the 1960s, we will find that he was not that welcomed.

And let's just put aside the White supremacists. Let's put aside the alt-right. Let's put aside these hateful forces that, again, all of us agree on are bad people. But remember, when Dr. King came to some of these Southern towns in the 1960s, he was not welcomed. He was not welcomed by people at the Lions Club, people at the Elks Club, people at the First Baptist Church, people at the Methodist Church. People thought that Dr. King was bad, that he was stirring up trouble, that he was not "keeping his place," and that he had come into these communities to stir up a lot of trouble.

And because regular, everyday people—again, not the Klan, not the White supremacists, just regular, everyday, tax-paying shopkeepers in these little Southern towns—these conservative individuals who represented all segments of our society thought that Dr. King was out of place for doing what he was doing, because of that, the Nation reacted. And one of those people who reacted against Dr. King, against Malcolm X, and against other organizations like the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, SNCC, which was the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and many, many others, they ran the domestic counterintelligence program that you have heard about tonight, this COINTELPRO, and it became a weapon that was used to spy on individuals.

We heard mentioned earlier that our colleague, BARBARA LEE, was one of these people who was monitored. But this was happening to everyday African Americans who were just out there trying to make sure that we can vote and that our water fountains and our schools weren't segregated. And these regular town folk—again, the ones that weren't in the Klan, that were just good old folks that went to Sunday

school and went to church every Sunday—were trying to prevent this from happening, and J. Edgar Hoover stepped in and decided that he was going to discredit, disrupt, and neutralize these organizations, again, that were just trying to make sure that African Americans were no longer second-class citizens.

I think these groups and these organizations and these individuals that I mentioned earlier within the Black community that were willing to be part of that circle, I know that I would not be here serving had it not been for that surveillance that they endured, and I know that I would not be here today were it not for them putting their lives on the line, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, because of that.

So what I would just like to say is it is important that we monitor everything that is coming out of the Justice Department in relation to any announcements that they are going to make about investigating these organizations that they disagree with politically because it is dangerous, and we don't want to go back to those times. We don't want to end up in a situation where the organization is doing any sort of domestic spying on people who are practicing their First Amendment rights of free speech.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire how much time is remaining on the clock.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, let me also, again, talk about, very briefly, some of the things that people are concerned about in regards to civil liberties during the Cold War. That is when the FBI started running a lot of these counterintelligence programs, and Dr. King was always very high on the list. That is what people are concerned about. Their concerns are concerns that are very warranted because of what happened.

I know that people always say: Well, those things happened a long, long time ago. But, in reality, there are people who serve with us in this body who, sadly, remember those days. So it didn't happen that long ago because they are still here, and they are still active, very healthy members of society. They weren't Members of Congress back then, but they are now, and they saw this up front. They saw this in a very personal way, and that is important.

Also, one of the things that was mentioned earlier by Representative PAYNE from Newark, New Jersey, was the fact about social media. Social media has been very convenient. It has helped spawn new wealth in this country. It has brought us together like never before, but it can also tear us apart if we let it.

We have to be very serious when we have a foreign entity, a foreign country that doesn't like America, that doesn't like our values, and they have been

very open and blatant in saying that you can't have a multicultural society that exists. We need to take that threat very seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) so she can tell her story, and I thank her for joining us this evening.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman VEASEY for yielding, but also for his remarkable leadership here in Congress and for hosting this very important Special Order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, with a message for the American people: Wake up. COINTELPRO 2.0 is on the rise.

Mr. Speaker, now, in a report that was never supposed to see the light of day, the FBI's Counterterrorism Division branded African Americans in the fight for equality and justice as Black identity extremists that pose a domestic threat to police officers.

Now, I have witnessed many covert tactics designed to suppress African-American activism in my life, but the revelation of this report is one of the most troubling details I have ever learned about our government.

I remember very clearly the days of COINTELPRO under J. Edgar Hoover. As a community worker who worked closely with the Black Panther Party in their Ten-Point Platform, which made programs like Free Breakfast for Children possible and paved the way for our government's free breakfast program for low-income children, I witnessed firsthand how the lives of good people doing good work were destroyed by COINTELPRO.

Seeing the emergence of what is effectively COINTELPRO 2.0 is not only alarming, it is frightening. Just listen to how the FBI describes young women who take a stand for justice.

According to the FBI: "Black identity extremist, BIE, perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" has been responsible for "an increase in premeditated, retaliatory lethal violence against law enforcement and will very likely serve as justification for such violence in the future."

My God.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, we know that all police officers aren't bad actors. Actually, thousands of officers, the majority of officers, go to work every morning to protect our communities and to provide public safety for everyone, but I want to be very clear about two things, Mr. Speaker.

Police brutality is not, as they said in this FBI report, a perception. Police brutality is a reality African Americans grapple with every day.

African Americans are three times more likely to be killed by police than White people. That is a reality. That is not a perception. The facts speak for themselves.

Despite being only 13 percent of our population, nearly 25 percent of those

killed by police in the United States each year are African Americans. That is a reality. That is not a perception.

Nearly 99 percent of police-involved shootings have not resulted in any officers involved being convicted of a crime. Now, that is a reality, not a perception.

I also want to be very clear that Black identity extremism does not exist. It is simply not real. No academics or journalists have uncovered such a movement. No one has identified as a leader of such a movement. No act of hate or violence has been committed in the name of Black identity extremism.

So what is it, then? It is a twisted attempt by arbiters of the alt-right, including Attorney General Jeff Sessions and this administration, to deflect attention from the realities of police misconduct and the alt-right and White supremacy.

First let me thank Congressman VEASEY for his remarkable leadership in Congress and for hosting this vitally important Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker I rise today along with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus with a message for the American people.

Wake up! COINTELPRO 2.0 is on the rise.

Mr. Speaker, in a report that was never supposed to see the light of day, the FBI's Counterterrorism Division branded African Americans that fight for equality and justice as "Black Identity Extremists" that pose a domestic threat to police officers.

I have witnessed many covert tactics designed to suppress African American activism in my life, but the revelation of this report is one of the most troubling details I have ever learned about our government.

I remember clearly the days of COINTELPRO under J. Edgar Hoover.

As a community worker who worked closely with the Black Panther Party on their 10 point platform, which made programs like free breakfast for children possible, I witnessed firsthand how the lives of good people doing good work were destroyed by COINTELPRO.

So seeing the emergence of what is effectively COINTELPRO 2.0 is not only alarming it is frightening.

Just listen to how the FBI describes young men and women who take a stand for justice.

According to the FBI:

"Black Identity Extremist (BIE) perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" has been responsible for "an increase in premeditated, retaliatory lethal violence against law enforcement and will very likely serve as justification for such violence" in the future.

Mr. Speaker, we know that all police officers aren't bad actors. Thousands of officers go to work every morning to protect our communities.

But I want to be very clear about two things Mr. Speaker: Police brutality is not a perception. Police brutality is a reality African Americans grapple with every day.

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No one has identified as a leader of such a movement.

And no act of hate or violence has been committed in the name of Black Identity Extremism.

So what is it then?

Black Identity Extremism is a twisted attempt by arbiters of the alt-right, including President Trump and Jeff Sessions to deflect attention from the realities of Police brutality and white supremacy.

That is why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are here this evening. To sound the alarm.

This is not just another revelation or press report that should be dismissed.

This kind of hateful stigmatization presents a serious threat to the African American community. This is not mere speculation, Mr. Speaker.

If we're honest about the history of our nation, we must admit that the FBI has a disturbing history of surveillance and intimidation of African Americans for political expediency.

I remember all too clearly the lives that were cut short during the civil rights movement through the highly coordinated counterintelligence program known as COINTELPRO.

For 15 years under the direction of FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, the federal government spied on civil rights leaders and sowed division among African Americans with one express goal.

To "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize" any individual or group deemed to be subversive or a threat to the established power structure.

Members of the Black Panther Party were the greatest victims of this vitriolic pursuit.

Under the guise of COINTELPRO FBI agents harassed, intimidated and committed acts of violence against Black Panthers and their supporters.

Men and women were killed as a result of this program. We simply cannot allow government sanctioned violence to develop against innocent African Americans fighting for the perfection of our union.

As the conscience of Congress, members of the Congressional Black Caucus are determined to stop COINTELPRO 2.0 dead in its tracks.

That is why we are demanding that the FBI give a full account to Congress on the development of this report and the sources used to inform it.

It has been said that those who do not know their history are doomed to repeat.

Well Mr. Speaker, we are here to give the American people and the Trump Administration a history lesson.

Clearly the FBI has not learned from its mistakes. But I want to be clear about one thing, under no circumstances will we allow another generation of African Americans to be subjected to unwarranted surveillance and harassment.

It will not happen, not on our watch.

I stand with our Chairman Congressman RICHMOND, Congressman CONYERS, Con-

gressman THOMPSON and Congressman CUMMINGS in demanding that the FBI come clean about this report.

Enough is enough.

Mr. VEASEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, in my role as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, I have always taken a serious view of my oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigations. It is vitally important that we keep a close watch on the activities of law enforcement, especially regarding their operations in domestic intelligence gathering. In the wake of September 11th attacks, a time of crisis when civil liberties can be viewed as a luxury, it was important to ensure that all Americans could rely on the Constitution to both protect our rights and protect public safety.

As we all know, the FBI has a long, troubling history of using its broad investigatory powers to vulnerable or dissenting groups in our society. As a long-serving member, I was here in Congress when the reports of the FBI's surveillance activities against African-American groups involved in the struggle for civil rights first surfaced in the press.

Centralized operations under COINTELPRO officially began in August 1956 with a program designed to "increase factionalism, cause disruption and win defections" inside American Communist Party. Tactics included anonymous phone calls, IRS audits, and the creation of documents that would divide the American communist organization internally. An October 1956 memo from Hoover reclassified the FBI's ongoing surveillance of black leaders, including it within COINTELPRO, with the justification that the movement was infiltrated by communists.

In 1956, Hoover sent an open letter denouncing Dr. T.R.M. Howard, a civil rights leader, surgeon, and wealthy entrepreneur in Mississippi who had criticized FBI inaction in solving recent murders of George W. Lee, Emmett Till, and other black people in the South. When the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), was founded in 1957, the FBI began to monitor and target the group almost immediately, focusing particularly on Bayard Rustin, Stanley Levison, and, eventually, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. During the 1960's Director J. Edgar Hoover also used COINTELPRO to spy on and attempt to discredit civil rights activists and members of the Black Panther Party.

After the 1963 March on Washington, Hoover singled out King as a major target for COINTELPRO. Soon after, the FBI was systematically bugging King's home and his hotel rooms, as they were now aware that King was growing in stature daily as the leader among leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. Amidst the urban unrest of July-August 1967, the FBI began "COINTELPRO—BLACK HATE",

which focused on King and the SCLC as well as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), the Deacons for Defense and Justice, Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and the Nation of Islam. BLACK HATE established the so-called Ghetto Informant Program and instructed 23 FBI offices to "disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize the activities of black-nationalist hate type organizations."

The program was successfully kept secret until 1971, when the Citizens' Commission to Investigate the FBI burgled an FBI field office in Media, Pennsylvania, took several dossiers, and exposed the program by passing this material to news agencies. In 1976, the "Church Committee" (Sen. Frank Church-Idaho) launched a major investigation of the FBI and COINTELPRO. Journalists and historians speculate that the government has not fully released the many dossiers and documents related to the program.

Against this backdrop, the Congressional Black Caucus is justified in its concern about the FBI's investigation of African-American political organizations. The coining of the phrase "Black Identity Extremists" and claims with "high confidence" that these groups are likely to target law enforcement based on "perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" takes us back to claims about groups like the Black Panthers in the 1960's.

While it is important that the FBI monitor all threats domestic, its activities around the American Muslim community and efforts to "combat violent extremism" have raised questions about tactics and constitutional norms. The CBC has called for an FBI briefing on the origins on this research and the Bureau's intended next steps. I have supported this request in my role as Ranking Member on the Judiciary Committee and intend to keep a close eye on the Bureau's activities. This is not the time for a COINTELPRO 2.0 in America.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) published a report on August 3rd with findings that "black identity extremists" and their views on police brutality have very likely contributed to an uptick in premeditated violence against police officers. While many questions about the origins and intentions behind this report still remain unanswered, I cannot help but feel that this troubling assessment is reminiscent of the 1960's era Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) that targeted black activists during the Civil Rights Movement.

There are no doubts that the 2012 shooting of Treyvon Martin or the 2014 death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri have paved the way for increased tension within our communities. The subsequent protests and rise of the Black Lives Matter movement born out of the 2013 acquittal of Treyvon Martin's murderer fueled further tension between law enforcement and racial minorities. However, these protests—while interspersed with bouts

of violence—have been largely peaceful at their core.

Interestingly, we have yet to also see a comparable FBI report investigating the white supremacists that have emerged during rallies in Charlottesville, VA and other parts of the country. This apparent double standard sets a dangerous precedent for race relations in the United States. The FBI's recent report is also extremely troubling given the rise and prominence of far-right movements throughout the country during this tense moment in our history.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus has called for an FBI briefing on the origins of this report and the Bureau's intentions on next steps. I will join my colleagues in eagerly awaiting a response from the FBI, so that we can make sure that there is no impropriety or racial bias fueling this investigation. I am disappointed in the FBI's report and urge my colleagues to tread carefully as we look to avoid a repeat of history by using government institutions and resources to unfairly target racial minorities.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

2872. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pecans Grown in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas; Establishment of Assessment Rates [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-17-0027; SC17-986-1 FR] received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2873. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order amending Executive Order 13223, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1601 (H. Doc. No. 115—73); to the Committee on Armed Services and ordered to be printed.

2874. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B) Ethnicity and Race Information Collection [Docket No.: CFPB-2017-0009] (RIN: 3170-AA65) received October 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2875. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Delaware River; Dredging [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0947] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110

Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2876. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Camp Lejeune, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0792] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2877. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Remedial Action Schemes Reliability Standard [Docket No.: RM16-20-000; Order No.: 837] received October 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2878. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guidance — Physical Inventories and Material Balances at Fuel Cycle Facilities (Regulatory Guide 5.88) received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2879. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's NUREG revision — Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Service Provider Licenses (NUREG-1556, Volume 18, Revision 1) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2880. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guidance — Emergency Planning for Research and Test Reactors and Other Non-Power Production and Utilization Facilities (Regulatory Guide 2.6, Revision 2) received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2881. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guides withdrawal — “Conduct of Nuclear Material Physical Inventories”, and “Statistical Evaluation of Material Unaccounted For” [NRC-2017-0196] received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2882. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulator Programs, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule To List the Maui Dolphin as Endangered and the South Island Hector's Dolphin as Threatened Under the Endangered Species Act [Docket No.: 160614520-7805-02] (RIN: 0648-XE686) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2883. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Tennessee River, Chattanooga, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0727] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2884. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Cumberland River, Nashville, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0812] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2885. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations and Safety Zones; Recurring Marine Events Held in the Coast Guard Sector Northern New England Captain of the Port Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2016-0998] (RIN: 1625-AA08; AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2886. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Pacific Ocean, Kilauea Lava Flow Ocean Entry on Southeast Side of Island of Hawaii, HI [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0172] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2887. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Roanoke River, Plymouth, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0886] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2888. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Patapsco River, Northwest and Inner Harbors; Baltimore, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0808] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2889. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Blue Angels Air Show; St. Johns River, Jacksonville, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0577] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2890. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Sector Key West COTP Zone Post Storm Recovery, Atlantic Ocean, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0939] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2891. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Socastee, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0801] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2892. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland

Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Belt Parkway Bridge Construction, Gerritsen Inlet; Brooklyn, NY [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0937] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2893. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards; Adoption of 2017 North American Industry Classification System for Size Standards (RIN: 3245-AG84) received October 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Small Business.

2894. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Procedures for Obtaining Approval to Use Plan-Specific Substitute Mortality Tables (Rev. Proc. 2017-55) received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2895. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Updated Static Mortality Tables for Defined Benefit Pension Plans for 2018 [Notice 2017-60] received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2896. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Physical Presence of Certain Individuals in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands Under Section 937(a) Following Hurricane Irma or Hurricane Maria [Notice 2017-56] received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2897. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's Major final regulations — Mortality Tables for Determining Present Value under Defined Benefit Pension Plans [TD 9826] (RIN: 1545-BM71) received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4010. A bill to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States and title 28, United States Code, to enhance compliance with requests for information pursuant to legislative power under Article I of the Constitution, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-360). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3898. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to place conditions on certain accounts at United States financial institutions with respect to North Korea, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 115-361). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3972. A bill to clarify that family offices and family clients are accredited investors, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 115-362). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 577. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 469) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 732) to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-363). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. House Resolution 555. Resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit, respectively, certain documents and other information to the House of Representatives relating to the executive order on the review of designations under the Antiquities Act; with an amendment (Rept. 115-364); adversely. Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3279. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide that extraction of helium from gas produced under a Federal mineral lease shall maintain the lease as if the helium were oil and gas (Rept. 115-365). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3921 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia (for himself and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 4090. A bill to amend the Controlled Substance Act to establish a task force to address fentanyl and heroin trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. DUNN:

H.R. 4091. A bill to remove from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System the areas included in Indian Peninsula Unit FL-92 and Cape San Blas Unit P-30 in Florida; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. BARR):

H.R. 4092. A bill to create a nonimmigrant H-2C work visa program for agricultural workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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By Mr. BROWN of Maryland (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 4093. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen prevention and response measures for hate crimes on college campuses by establishing robust accountability measures, providing needs-based grants, and amending the Clery Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. POLIS):

H.R. 4094. A bill to establish a public health plan; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 4095. A bill to repeal Public Law 114-145; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 4096. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish a prize competition for the research, development, or commercialization of technology that would reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere, including by capturing or sequestering carbon dioxide or reducing the emission of carbon dioxide; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. NEAL:

H.R. 4097. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of methadone under Medicare part B; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 4098. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit schools and libraries that receive universal service support from blocking Internet access to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BRAT (for himself, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. SENSIBRENNER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. KATKO):

H.J. Res. 119. A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H. Res. 576. A resolution reaffirming the strategic partnership between the United

States of America and the country of Georgia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 578. A resolution honoring the lives, work, and sacrifice of Joseph Curseen, Jr., and Thomas Morris, Jr., the 2 United States Postal Service employees who died as a result of their contact with anthrax while working at the United States Postal Facility located at 900 Brentwood Road, NE, Washington, DC, during the anthrax attack in the fall of 2001; United States Postal Service employees, who have continued to work diligently in service to the people of the United States notwithstanding anthrax attack; as well as the other 3 Americans who died and the 17 who became ill in the attacks; 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. JENKINS of West Virginia:

H.R. 4090.

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

Article I section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DUNN:

H.R. 4091.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOODLATTE:

H.R. 4092.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland:

H.R. 4093.

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

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 4094.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 4095.

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

Article 1 section 8 Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 4096.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. NEAL:

H.R. 4097.

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

Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 4098.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. BRAT:

H.J. Res. 119.

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

Article V of the Constitution states that "The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution . . ." This joint resolution is submitted for Congress to consider whether it is necessary to amend the Constitution to include it.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 19: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 103: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.

H.R. 173: Mr. MASSIE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BARR, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. BERA, Mr. LANCE, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 176: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 184: Mr. AMASH.

H.R. 233: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 296: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 299: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 377: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 389: Mr. HIMES and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 392: Ms. TITUS and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H.R. 444: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 445: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 535: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 539: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN and Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 564: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MESSER, and Mr. WILLIAMS.

H.R. 613: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. PITTINGER, and Mr. VELA.

H.R. 619: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 635: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 669: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CRIST, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 681: Mr. MCHENRY.

H.R. 685: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 747: Mrs. BUSTOS and Ms. HANABUSA.

H.R. 771: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 772: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 781: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia.

H.R. 785: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 807: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 820: Mr. TROTT, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. PAULSEN, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. YOHO, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 828: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 846: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. COOK, and Mr. ROSKAM.

H.R. 849: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 866: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 930: Ms. MCSALLY and Mr. RENACCI.

H.R. 1014: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mrs. DEMINGS.

H.R. 1017: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 1046: Mr. KILMER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. BUCSHON, and Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 1057: Mr. SIRES and Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 1090: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 1098: Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 1133: Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. GARRETT, and Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 1148: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1155: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1156: Mr. WALKER.

H.R. 1187: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 1204: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 1270: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.

H.R. 1291: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 1305: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

H.R. 1322: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 1341: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 1342: Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 1360: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 1363: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 1406: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 1456: Mr. TONKO and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 1475: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 1528: Ms. SINEMA and Mr. HUNTER.

H.R. 1568: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 1592: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BRAT, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.

H.R. 1639: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 1661: Mr. COMER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.

H.R. 1673: Mr. KILDEE and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1686: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 1698: Mr. GALLAGHER and Ms. FUDGE.

H.R. 1699: Mr. COMER.

H.R. 1749: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 1825: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1832: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1836: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1861: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 1865: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. KNIGHT.

H.R. 1898: Mr. MARCHANT, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. ROSKAM, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 1899: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 1911: Mr. KILMER, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. CROWLEY.

H.R. 1949: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 1953: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1955: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 2092: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HECK, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2230: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BACON, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 2234: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 2242: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2285: Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 2295: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 2340: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 2358: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 2366: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2401: Mr. WELCH and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 2418: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 2431: Mr. BARR.

H.R. 2434: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 2465: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 2499: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 2501: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 2526: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 2550: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2601: Mrs. LOVE and Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.

H.R. 2623: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 2663: Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 2670: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 2723: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 2740: Mr. WILLIAMS and Mr. ROYCE of California.

H.R. 2765: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 2790: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. JACKSON LEE,

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 2801: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2820: Ms. TENNEY and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 2856: Mr. NUNES.

H.R. 2862: Mr. ISSA and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 2865: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 2920: Mr. HUNTER, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, and Mr. GAETZ.

H.R. 2936: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 2946: Mr. EMMER.

H.R. 2968: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.

H.R. 2999: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. LOEBACK.

H.R. 3073: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 3117: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 3124: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 3127: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 3128: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 3179: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 3197: Mrs. LOWEY and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 3199: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 3211: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 3265: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.

H.R. 3274: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. VELA, Mr. RUPERSBERGER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. WALZ, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HECK, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARINO, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. WILIAMS, Mr. COMER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 3282: Mr. FASO.

H.R. 3297: Mr. BARR and Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 3320: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 3329: Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. BARR, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ROSS, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CHENEY, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.

H.R. 3342: Mr. BACON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 3380: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 3400: Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 3402: Mr. MCCLINTOCK and Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 3409: Mr. TROTT, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. BARTON.

H.R. 3441: Mr. GIBBS, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. COLE, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. BURGESS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HULTGREN.

H.R. 3445: Mr. REICHERT.

H.R. 3477: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. HOLDING, and Mr. WALKER.

H.R. 3495: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 3541: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 3550: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 3552: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 3577: Mr. HECK.

H.R. 3596: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LAHOOD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. JONES.

H.R. 3605: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 3635: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 3648: Mr. SHIMKUS.

H.R. 3671: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 3711: Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 3712: Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 3738: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 3758: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 3759: Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. MEEHAN, and Ms. DELAUNO.

H.R. 3768: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 3784: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 3792: Ms. LEE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. KIHUEN.

H.R. 3798: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROTHFUS, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 3820: Mr. MCKINLEY.

H.R. 3832: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 3845: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 3862: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 3866: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 3875: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 3898: Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 3913: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 3940: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 3956: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TIPTON, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 3966: Mr. SANFORD.

H.R. 3969: Ms. NORTON and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 3971: Mr. LOEBACK.

H.R. 3984: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 3990: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 4010: Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 4013: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. BORDALLO, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 4020: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 4022: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. MESSER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 4024: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4025: Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 4030: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. ROSEN.

H.R. 4038: Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 4040: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 4047: Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 4049: Mr. KHANNA and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 4057: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 4073: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida,

Ms. NORTON, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 4079: Mr. PETERSON, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 4082: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. BERA, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. EVANS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CRIST, Mr. HECK, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. MATSUI.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mrs. McMorris Rodgers.

H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. KIHUEN.

H. Con. Res. 43: Mr. COHEN and Mr. CONYERS.

H. Con. Res. 47: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H. Con. Res. 57: Ms. KAPTUR.

H. Con. Res. 59: Ms. KAPTUR.

H. Con. Res. 81: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. HANABUSA.

H. Res. 31: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, and Mr. KNIGHT.

H. Res. 58: Mr. ZELDIN and Ms. KAPTUR.

H. Res. 220: Mr. HUNTER and Mr. BEYER.

H. Res. 236: Mr. BARR.

H. Res. 274: Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H. Res. 276: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H. Res. 307: Mr. HUDSON.

H. Res. 401: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H. Res. 464: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas and Mr. YODER.

H. Res. 466: Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. PETERS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H. Res. 495: Mr. KENNEDY.

H. Res. 529: Mr. CAPUANO and Ms. LOFGREN.

H. Res. 532: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. BARR, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, and Mr. ADERHOLT.

H. Res. 554: Ms. MOORE.

H. Res. 560: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Chairman GOODLATTE, or a designee, to H.R. 469, the Sunshine for Regulations and Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2017, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

The amendment to be offered by Chairman GOODLATTE, or a designee, to H.R. 732, the Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.



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No. 170

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God of our fathers and mothers, Your glory, majesty, and power sustain us. Lord, we ponder the graciousness of Your providence that lifts our hearts and gives us hope.

Keep our lawmakers true to You, obeying You faithfully and trusting Your wisdom. Lord, provide them with wisdom to cultivate such reverence for You that they will stand for right though the heavens fall. When darkness overtakes them, be for them a shining light. May they face their foes triumphantly, knowing that with You nothing is impossible. May they labor with such integrity that generations to come will celebrate their faithfulness.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2017

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 2266, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany H.R. 2266, a bill to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with McConnell amendment No. 1568, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 1569 (to amendment No. 1568), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell amendment No. 1570, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 1571 (to the instructions) amendment No. 1570), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell amendment No. 1572 (to amendment No. 1571), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 5:30 p.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, let me just speak for a few minutes on the emergency supplemental appropriations for disasters.

No one in this Chamber is immune from disaster. Six years ago, I remember, in Vermont, Marcelle and I watched as communities around Vermont felt the devastating impact of Tropical Storm Irene. That storm washed away entire communities in our State, tearing down homes, local landmarks, and bridges alike. I watched the devastation from a helicopter with the Governor and the head of our National Guard the day after the

storm hit. I saw bridges washed away. The only way we could get into the towns was by helicopter because all of the roads were gone that led into them. I saw homes that had been on the north side of a river that were now upside down and destroyed on the south side of the river.

Do you know the one thing that occurred to me as I traveled around the State of Vermont? It is that I had heard from my fellow Senators, both Republicans and Democrats, saying that they would help us rebuild. I had heard the same thing from the President of the United States. They stood by Vermont's side to help us rebuild—again, Republicans and Democrats alike—because that is who we are as Americans. We lift each other up in times of disaster. We are one country.

Today, in California and across the West, families are returning to the charred ruins of their homes—those who were able to get out alive. In Florida and Texas, communities are trying to put their lives back together after Hurricanes Harvey and Irma—again, those who were able to get out alive. In Puerto Rico, hundreds of thousands are still without potable water, electricity, cell service, or adequate medical supplies following Hurricane Maria. The Virgin Islands are also facing devastation that I can never remember. Millions of Americans all over the country, as well as the Americans in Puerto Rico and the Americans in the Virgin Islands, need us to work together to help lift them up, just as we have seen in past disasters. This is not a Republican or a Democratic issue; this is an American issue. This is who we are as a country. We hold together.

I have been privileged to serve here since the time of President Ford. In times of disaster, I have seen every single President, Republican and Democrat, work to help Americans and do it out of concern for Americans, not for themselves. That is why it is so disappointing that President Trump

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



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seems more concerned with claiming credit for a job well done than the actual situation on the ground deserves, particularly in Puerto Rico. President Trump has given himself a 10 out of 10 as though this were a game show for the administration's response to the devastating hurricane, but let's look at some numbers that really matter for the people who have lost everything.

It has been 48 days since Hurricane Irma made landfall in Puerto Rico and 34 days since Hurricane Maria tore through the island. These storms wreaked havoc on those who live there. They destroyed houses and killed at least 49 people. Yet, 48 days later, nearly 80 percent of the island is still without power, and 30 percent of the population is without clean drinking water—some having to resort to drinking contaminated water. Roads are impassable. Bridges are down. The few hospitals that are operating are operating on generators.

Frankly, the administration was slow to respond to the disaster. So to claim that it gets a 10 out of 10 for its response is to ignore the facts, especially the facts that the people who have been hit know so well. As I said before, this is not a reality TV show. It is not where the participant with the highest score advances to the next round. This is not fiction. These are people's lives—real people. They are people's homes. This is the hard part of governing. This is where we roll up our sleeves and dig in for the long haul. We stop patting ourselves on the back. Instead, we use that hand to give a hand to the people who are hurting.

Today we are going to advance a disaster package that contains \$36.5 billion in additional emergency relief. It includes \$18.7 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, Disaster Relief Fund, \$16 billion for the National Flood Insurance Program debt forgiveness, \$1.2 billion for nutrition assistance, and \$576.5 million to address these devastating wildfires in the western part of the United States.

As vice chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same. If we do not act, the Disaster Relief Fund and the Flood Insurance Program will run out of resources in a matter of days. This money, if we pass it, will help FEMA, the Department of Defense, the Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies to continue their work in all of the devastated communities and to start catching up with the work that needs to be done and to help families begin to rebuild their homes and their lives—those who did not die in the disaster. This is just the next step. This is a multistep process. This is the next step on the road to recovery.

Last week, I met with Governor Ricardo Rossello, of Puerto Rico, and his staff. I have been to Puerto Rico many times, in happier times, but here he detailed the unique challenges that face

Puerto Rico. He was telling us what is happening to our fellow Americans. The electric grid was almost completely destroyed. Its infrastructure, itself, was demolished. Houses were flattened. At the same time, Puerto Rico faces a fiscal situation that will make it nearly impossible for it to provide the Federal match that is required for most disaster assistance programs. It faces a Medicaid funding crisis that may leave nearly 1 million people without healthcare in just a matter of months, assuming that we restore their healthcare.

This tells us that our response cannot be business as usual. We need to tailor disaster assistance to meet Puerto Rico's unique challenges. We may need to consider legislation to address its unique needs. Most importantly, we need to think long term. To simply replace and repair what was destroyed would be shortsighted. We have to help our fellow Americans who are in Puerto Rico to recover, to rebuild, and to be more resilient and better prepared. We should invest in the 3.4 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico and invest in their infrastructure so that the next disaster is not a humanitarian issue and crisis.

Some like to say that the situation is unique in Puerto Rico. It is not. We have to acknowledge that historicized storms are now annual occurrences, and we have to respond accordingly. Even with the help from our own citizens and from the U.S. Government, we are just now fully rebuilding in Vermont, and we were not hit as badly as these other places were. Across the country—from wildfires in California to the flood damage in Florida, Texas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as what I said about Puerto Rico—we can invest in technology, and we can invest in conservation and infrastructure. That would mitigate further damage.

Do you know what? It would also make these communities more resilient because we cannot speak about "once in 100 years" storms. Sometimes, as we have seen this year, they have been "once in 2 months" or "once in 3 weeks" storms. This requires a commitment from the U.S. Government. It is not measured by days or weeks or months but in years—a commitment that does not waver, a commitment that does not depend on whether you live in Texas or Florida or Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Today, I urge all Senators to support this emergency supplemental bill that will provide much needed assistance for disaster relief across the country, but it is still just the next step on the path to recovery. The Trump administration is committed to putting forward a third, more comprehensive disaster package in the coming weeks. As vice chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I intend to hold the administration to that commitment.

In conclusion, even in the years since Irene, this Vermonter still takes comfort in the number of Republican and

Democratic Senators who called me during that storm and pledged support and, along with the pledge, came through with the support.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

THE BUDGET AND TAX REFORM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, last week, the Senate took an important step for the fiscal and economic future of our country with passage of the budget for fiscal year 2018.

The comprehensive, responsible budget we passed marks out a clear vision for the future. It will put the Federal Government on a path to balance, and it sets out a new course after the long years of the Obama economy, when paychecks stagnated, steady work became harder to find, and retirement for many slipped further away. The budget we passed isn't just about getting our fiscal house in order—though it is certainly about that—it is also about getting our economy going again and growing again.

Perhaps the most important way it does so is by authorizing legislative tools to advance tax reform, and passing tax reform is the most important thing we can do today to get our economy reaching for its true potential.

Tax reform is all about helping the middle class succeed. It is about making it easier to create jobs in America and keep them right here. To summarize the effort in one phrase, it is this: Tax reform is about taking more money out of Washington's pocket and putting more in yours—more for workers, more for small businesses, and more for the middle class. After all, as the President wrote over the weekend, "we are not talking about the government's money—we are talking about your money, your hard work."

If you look back a few months, many doubted our ability to get a budget done or to advance tax reform. They didn't see the path forward. Those skeptics underestimated our resolve. The Senate has delivered on the budget, and we will soon have the tools to deliver on tax reform.

We now look forward to our House colleagues' continued consideration and passage of the budget. Once they do so, we can move forward with tax reform for American families.

For Americans who have suffered through years of uncertainty—everything from a recession to outsourcing to unemployment—we are ready to deliver for you. For those who watched opportunity recede while the personal wealth of coastal elites grew beyond comprehension, help is on the way. We want to put more money in your pocket, we want to make retirement a reality for you, we want to get this economy moving the way it should, and tax reform is the key to helping us get there.

I would like once again to thank Chairman ENZI and the members of the Budget Committee for their important work to get this budget resolution passed.

I also would like to thank the cloak-room staff, the Parliamentarians, the clerks, the pages, and the officers of the U.S. Capitol Police who worked into the evening to make sure, as they always do, that the Senate runs smoothly.

Thanks also to Chairman HATCH and the members of the Finance Committee. We now look forward to their continued good work on development of the kind of tax relief that will get our economy truly moving again.

Mr. President, on another matter, the Senate remains committed to doing its part to support the ongoing hurricane relief efforts, and, to that end, today we will take a vote to advance the administration's most recent supplemental funding request. These resources will ensure that FEMA and the rest of the administration have the ability to continue their crucial support to help those impacted by devastating storms.

Like many colleagues, I have been engaged on this issue from the very start. Through several meetings with leaders from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, I have had the opportunity to hear firsthand how the government can support their relief efforts. I met with Puerto Rico's Governor last week to get another update on the funding request and to hear about the continuing recovery.

In addition, I have continued working with the administration as it responds to these storms. For instance, after the devastation of Hurricane Harvey, I met with the Department of Homeland Security's Acting Secretary to learn more about what would be needed. I also met with President Trump's eminently qualified nominee to lead that Department.

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a supplemental funding request with strong bipartisan support, and now it is our turn to act. As we all know, the administration will continue to actively review hurricane relief and recovery needs. As it does, we can expect the transmittal of additional supplemental requests for our consideration in the near future.

The victims of these hurricanes continue to count on our support, and I look forward to the Senate continuing to do its part to help.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I just want to address very briefly one other issue that surfaced last week.

Press reports indicate there are multiple nominees of President Trump awaiting Senate confirmation, but even though they haven't been confirmed—there has not been a vote maybe even in committee, I understand; certainly they have not been confirmed by the Senate. Yet they are engaged in the very duties of the positions for which they have been nominated. That includes nominees showing up to work, even though they are not

yet confirmed. It means they attend White House meetings, even though they are not yet confirmed. They show up for photo ops, even though they are not confirmed. This includes officials with at least three different agencies.

If accurate, this is nothing but an end run around our constitutional system. It directly flouts the Senate's constitutional role to check and balance the enormous power wielded by the executive branch. It is our obligation to advise and ultimately consent, vote up or down, the appointment of high-level agency officials. Their decisions impact millions of Americans. I hope that all of us—both Democrats and Republicans—will speak up and defend the prerogatives of the Senate if the Trump administration continues to insist it is above the law.

I have been here a half dozen times when Democrats were in the majority and a half dozen times when Republicans were in the majority. We have always insisted that these kinds of nominees await a vote first. Back in my time during the Ford administration, the Carter administration, the Reagan administration, the Bush administration—the first Bush administration—the Clinton administration, the next Bush administration, the Obama administration, we actually followed the law and the Constitution. It was something that both Republican leaders and Democrat leaders insisted on, and I agreed with it. Although I may have hated to wait sometimes, we insisted on it. So I raise that point.

It raises a real question. I am told that it may be a violation of the law. It certainly raises a question if they make decisions based on their responsibilities in a position that requires confirmation and they haven't been confirmed. We may be facing lawsuits—taxpayers paying to defend lawsuits—when all they have to do is wait a few days.

Republicans are in charge of the Senate. They can bring up these nominees. Bring them up and vote on them, but don't just pretend the Senate is not here. Let's not pretend the advice and consent part of the Constitution doesn't exist.

Let's actually obey the law and the Constitution. It can be refreshing to do things the way the law and the Constitution requires. In the long run, the country will be better off.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. Thank you, Mr. President.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, first, on the issue of healthcare, since I last addressed this Chamber, the bipartisan agreement reached by Senators ALEXANDER and MURRAY has amassed enough cosponsors to guarantee its passage. It now has 12 Republican cosponsors and 12 Democratic cosponsors. That is as bipartisan as it gets. I believe all 48 Members of my caucus will support the agreement, which means it has the necessary 60 votes. Even Leader MCCONNELL has made it clear that he will put the Alexander-Murray bill on the floor as soon as President Trump supports it.

Let me make a direct appeal to the President.

Mr. President, come out and support the Alexander-Murray bill. You called it "a very good solution" already. Announce that you will support it, and it will pass through the Senate soon after.

The President's only stated concern was that the Alexander-Murray bill "bails out insurance companies." I can assure the President that Senators ALEXANDER and MURRAY took great pains to make sure the insurance companies would not get one extra penny from this deal. I have read the language. I have worked with them. It is good. It is strong. They have included provisions in the bill to prevent insurance companies from double dipping on the cost-sharing program and ensure that the money goes precisely where it is intended: to keep premiums and other out-of-pocket costs down for low-income Americans.

If the President wants even greater assurances, we can work to move back the start of enrollment 1 month. He may be able to do that administratively, but if not, that is something both Senator ALEXANDER and Senator MURRAY wanted to do, which would ensure that there would be new applications, and the rates would be looked at as if cost sharing were happening, but the White House blocked it. If the White House and the President want to make it even stronger—I think it is strong enough already—then we can do that. From what I understand, the President might be able to do that administratively.

This idea that the President isn't supporting this because he doesn't want the insurance companies to make money on this—well, it is wrong. There is some other reason he doesn't want it done. Maybe he doesn't want a bipartisan bill. Maybe it is because he wasn't involved. Maybe it is because on issue after issue the hard-right Freedom Caucus people say don't do it, and he is afraid, because he is not showing much leadership when they stand up to him.

The only reason the President shouldn't support this bill is that he wants to continue intentionally hurting Americans. He has talked about that. He almost seems gleeful: ObamaCare will fail—even though he is trying to make it fail.

The President should know that premiums have shot up 30 percent in Pennsylvania because of the President's decision to end cost sharing. Premiums for silver plans will rise 20 to 25 percent if cost sharing is not restored. It is time for the President to stop the sabotage. He created the problem by for the first time not renewing cost-sharing payments. Now we have a solution that will renew them, but Democrats will have to give. Copper plans have never been our favorite. He should go along with the good compromise.

The President has told me repeatedly that he wants to work in a bipartisan way. He told me that he wants to work in a bipartisan way on healthcare. Well, on this one, I am from Missouri. Shows us. Show me.

It is time, Mr. President, to turn the page on healthcare and pass the Alexander-Murray bill. We have other pressing healthcare issues to grapple with. For the first time in history, again due to lack of leadership from that White House, the authorization for the Children's Health Insurance Program has expired. That must be reauthorized, too, and soon. Kids across America are depending on it.

President Trump, please stop the games. Stop the zigging and zagging. You are for it one day and against it the next. Stop coming up with fake excuses. Declare your support for this bill so we can move forward in a bipartisan way to improve our Nation's healthcare.

THE BUDGET AND TAX REFORM

Now, Mr. President, on taxes, last week the Republican majority jammed through one of the worst budgets in history. That is not hyperbole; this is one of the worst budgets in history. They should hang their heads in shame. It increases the deficit by \$1.5 trillion, slashes Medicare and Medicaid by \$1.5 trillion, and sets up the same partisan process the Republicans used for healthcare.

Now it goes to the House for their approval, where many conservative House Republicans will have to rationalize voting for a bill that dramatically increases deficits. For many in the conservative wing of the House Republican caucus, the debt and deficit have been their No. 1 focus in Congress, their *raison d'être*. Many campaigned on the singular promise—made with almost religious fervor—to lower our Nation's debt and deficit. They rhapsodize fiscal responsibility. They hold themselves up as the guardian of preventing the debt from being passed on to our grandchildren. They evangelize constitutional amendments requiring a balanced budget. They were willing to risk default on our Nation's credit for a spurious talking point.

The budget resolution will be a true test of the principles the Freedom Caucus and the hard right in the House have espoused about the evils of deficits for the better part of the last decade, because those same Members of

the Freedom Caucus must now vote to approve a budget that increases the deficit by \$1.5 trillion. The House bill didn't do that. The Senate bill clearly does. Yet, so far, we haven't heard a peep from the Freedom Caucus. The most scolding deficit hawks have morphed into deficit doves, eschewing principle for political expediency.

With respect to the deficit, any economist will tell you that a dollar less in revenue due to a tax cut is the same as a dollar less in spending. Yet the Freedom Caucus and deficit hawks only harp on the deficit when it is about spending cuts: Get rid of Medicare. Get rid of Medicaid. Slash them—programs every bit as popular and as important as any.

As Representative WALKER, a conservative of the House, lamented, "[The deficit] is a great talking point when you have an administration that's Democratic-led. It's a little different now that Republicans have both houses and the administration." Really? So you are a deficit hawk only when it is politically expedient, Representative WALKER?

Well, the Freedom Caucus still has a chance to change the course of their budget when we vote this week. When the Freedom Caucus came out against the Republican healthcare bill, the Republican majority was forced to make concessions to them. If they were real deficit hawks, honest deficit hawks, consistent deficit hawks, nonpolitical deficit hawks, they would do the same thing here.

Let's see how Representative WALKER and his fellow Members of the House Freedom Caucus vote on a GOP budget to increase the deficit by \$1.5 trillion.

Another point on the GOP tax plan. The Republicans are so wedded to their desire to give a massive tax break to big corporations and the superrich—which will blow up the deficit even in their fake math models—that they are searching for new ways to sock it to the middle class to make up the difference.

First, Republicans debated eliminating the mortgage deduction, then they included the provision to eliminate State and local deductibility, and recently there have been reports that some Republicans want to cap Americans' pretax contributions to their 401(k)s. That is one of the few provisions we have to encourage middle-class families to start saving for an early retirement. President Trump tweeted this morning that we are not going down that road. The fact that Republicans were even considering raiding American's retirement savings to pay for giant tax cuts for corporations shows just how backward their plan is.

The Tax Policy Center estimated that while the wealthiest 1 percent of America would reap 80 percent of the benefits under the GOP plan, it would also raise taxes on nearly a third of middle-class workers. That statistic reveals the rotten core at the center of

this tax plan: The Republicans are so eager to give tax cuts to the rich, they are willing to explore many different ways of raising taxes on the middle class to pay for them. Each time, they bring up different methods—mortgage interest deductions, State and local deductibility, capping pretax 401(k)s—and then back off when they see the political and popular cost to each proposal. That shows you the dilemma they are in.

The fact is, there is no way the Republicans can avoid raising taxes on a good number of middle-class families if they are going to cling to such massive tax cuts for the rich and powerful and still make the numbers work, even with fake math.

Instead of capping middle-class deductions or pilfering retirement savings, how about Republicans drop their proposal to repeal the estate tax? Repealing the estate tax would cost the government hundreds of billions. Why are Republicans looking at middle-class deductions instead of merely scrapping the estate tax repeal, which goes only to estates of over \$5 million—only to estates over \$5 million. The number who benefit is tiny. It is in the thousands. Their estates get huge, huge benefits. Get rid of that instead of hurting the middle class. The logic is confounding, and our Republican colleagues will not even talk about it.

This plan is so rotten at its core that it has our Republican colleagues turning themselves into pretzels and jumping through hoops, and they can't really say what they believe—trickle down works. The only rationale for this entire plan is that if you give tax breaks to the wealthy and the big corporations, there will be a lot of job growth. It didn't happen when George Bush's tax cuts occurred. It didn't happen when Kansas dramatically cut its taxes. The Koch brothers' center, Kansas—they did just what the Koch brothers wanted. It was a disaster. Growth was much less than the national average even though the taxes were slashed. Although they don't state it, it is contrary to what our Republican colleagues believe.

I respect the Republican Member who comes up and says: Trickle down works; that is why we are doing it. Tax cuts for the very wealthy is what would fuel the economy.

No one else believes it anymore. History disproves it. It is fake. It is a fig leaf so that they don't have to admit what they want to do—give huge tax cuts to the wealthiest of their contributors, the people who have sort of set up the sinew of this Republican Party with their think tanks and op-eds and so many other things, the Koch brothers network.

The American people should know that the money to pay for that giant tax cut for the rich is coming from somewhere, and it is likely to be coming from their pocketbooks.

STEEL AND ALUMINUM IMPORTS
INVESTIGATIONS

Finally, one final topic: steel and aluminum. Recently and shockingly, Commerce Secretary Ross has said he is waiting for the Republican tax plan before completing critical investigations into how steel and aluminum imports are impacting the capacity of steel and aluminum U.S. producers to supply our defense needs. I am not sure why the Republican tax plan has anything to do with this national security investigation, which could finally lead to some relief from the predatory trade practices from China and other countries. The two are entirely unrelated.

Secretary Ross's comments smell like an excuse for further delays—and a bad one at that. I would like to see him explain his decision to the thousands of steelworkers whose jobs are on the line because their companies aren't competing on a level playing field because China repeatedly subsidizes, doesn't play by the rules, and cheats.

It is another classic example of the Trump administration promising one thing and doing another. President Trump has promised many times to crack down on China, and still, 10 months into his administration, his Commerce Secretary is once again needlessly delaying a preliminary step in that effort.

I have known him for 30 years. He is a New Yorker like I am. Every time I see Secretary Ross, I say to him: When are we going to do something on China?

Oh, we are going to do something tough.

Each time, there is a different excuse. This should have happened in the first 2 months of the administration. It hasn't.

Because of the Republican inaction, because of the President's unfulfilled and rapidly becoming broken promise on being tough with China, Senate Democrats will be sending a letter to President Trump and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross demanding that the administration keep its promise to crack down on China's unfair and predatory trade practices. We are asking that they continue these investigations and expeditiously complete them. These trade investigations have nothing to do with tax reform, and there is no need to delay them.

One more thing on China. Today I read that Tesla—our great car manufacturing company—will be relocating to China.

When you want to sell cars and many other advanced products in China, you have to do one of two things: set up a joint ownership company which lets them steal our intellectual property or face huge tariffs. That is based on the fact that the WTO was poorly negotiated and China was regarded as a developing country. That was the fault of President Bush and President Obama; neither did enough to stop China.

Based on his campaign rhetoric, one would think President Trump would be

tougher as China steals our family jewels. It is no longer clothing and furniture; it is our best industries. They steal our intellectual property by these joint ventures. Sometimes they do it by cyber theft—a lot of times they do it by cyber theft—and it is hurting the good-paying jobs that might be available to our children and grandchildren. Based on campaign rhetoric, one would think President Trump would be tougher on China, but so far it has been a lot of talk and not very much action, and the delay in these investigations is another example.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 117, Scott Palk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Scott L. Palk, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Scott L. Palk, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Mitch McConnell, Orrin G. Hatch, John Cornyn, Chuck Grassley, Thom Tillis, Pat Roberts, John Barrasso, Johnny Isakson, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, Marco Rubio, James Lankford, Richard Burr, Steve Daines, Mike Crapo, John Boozman, James M. Inhofe.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 179, Trevor McFadden.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Lamar Alexander, Susan M. Collins, John Boozman, Chuck Grassley, Orrin G. Hatch, Steve Daines, Dean Heller, Bill Cassidy, Cory Gardner, Michael B. Enzi, Thom Tillis, John Thune, John Kennedy, John Cornyn, David Perdue, Joni Ernst, Mitch McConnell.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF
2017—Continued

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the cloture motion on the House message to accompany H.R. 2266 be waived.

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

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, to accommodate the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent—I understand that he will object, and I will explain it afterward, but it involves what you see here in the aftermath of the hurricane, all of this citrus fruit on the ground—

that it be in order to call up my amendment No. 1575—approximately \$3 billion for all of the agriculture for Florida and Texas, which Senator CORNYN, Senator RUBIO, and I have all been working on—to the motion to concur with an amendment to the House message on H.R. 2266 and that the amendment be agreed to with no intervening action or debate.

In order to accommodate the majority leader, I will explain it after he has returned to his meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I would say to my good friend from Florida that I hope he knows that the Senate remains committed to doing its part to support the ongoing hurricane relief efforts. We all see this as a multistaged process in providing needed relief. There will be additional rounds, and we are all fully committed to meeting the needs that have arisen as a result of these devastating hurricanes.

For the moment, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, in my explanation, I will go into it in detail.

It is my hope that the White House promise that this will be taken up in November, which is the next tranche of the hurricane money, the disaster assistance. It has been well past a month since Hurricane Irma hit Puerto Rico and 2 months since it hit Florida, and Floridians all across our State are working as hard as ever to recover.

One group of individuals who were hit especially hard by this storm is Florida's citrus growers. I will refer again to this photograph. You can see the citrus grove. You can see the branches on the citrus trees. Some of the trees have blown over, but in the meantime, you can see all of the fruit that is on the ground.

Toward southwest Florida, at least 75 percent of the crops are on the ground. In more central Florida, it is upward of 50 and 60 percent. Of all the times, this was going to be a bumper crop. Lord knows, with the greening disease—its nickname is "greening," but it is a bacteria—it will kill the tree in 5 years, and it has been declining the citrus production over the course of the last 10 years. We had suffered enough through all of that, and then here had come this hurricane. When it looked as if there was going to be a good crop to turn around the lessened production that had occurred over each of the last 10 years, this is what happened.

If that were not enough—all of the fruit on the ground—take a look at this. This is what has happened to citrus groves. Whole trees have been blown over. Whether you are talking about a grove that is totally demolished or a grove that has lost almost all of its crop, that is why the Florida

citrus growers are in such a very difficult economic situation. Some of Florida's farmers lost nearly everything when Irma tore through the State. In fact, the statewide agricultural industry has lost more than \$2.5 billion. Included in that is \$760 million that Florida's citrus industry alone, just by itself, has lost, as you see in these photographs.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released its first crop estimates for the 2017–2018 citrus season. They estimated that Florida's citrus growers would harvest 54 million boxes of oranges this year, but that number doesn't yet fully account for all the damage caused by Hurricane Irma.

According to the folks on the ground, they believe the actual estimate is going to be only 31 million boxes this season. Now compare 31 million boxes to a decade ago when Florida harvested over 203 million boxes. Ten years before that, Florida growers harvested 244 million boxes. Now they are estimating, after the storm, a yield of only 31 million boxes.

So the Florida citrus growers are really taking a hit. They have to have disaster assistance. The citrus industry is a vital part of Florida's economy, and that is why Senator RUBIO is here with us. We have been pushing so hard to get our citrus growers some help.

Just a couple of days after the storm, Senator RUBIO and I met with a group of growers in a citrus grove in Polk County in Central Florida, where the loss is about 50 or 60 percent, unlike South Florida, where the loss is 75 to 90 percent.

Unfortunately, the White House has been saying: No, we can't do it in this disaster assistance bill. As we have been working on a bipartisan amendment that would provide the growers with the help they need, the same amendment that the majority leader had to object to, President Trump has reportedly been making calls urging others in the Chamber to move forward with the overall package as is and to nix the money we need to help Florida's farmers.

Florida's citrus industry may have been one of the industry's hardest hit by the storm, but it certainly wasn't the only industry that was affected in Florida. Florida's fruit and vegetable farms lost more than \$180 million when their fields were flooded and their bushes were ripped straight out of the ground. Row crops, such as peanuts, cotton, sweet corn, potatoes, and sugarcane together experienced nearly \$450 million in losses from the hurricane-force winds and heavy rains.

Senator RUBIO went to Hastings to see the potato farms. He saw how they had been ripped to shreds. Florida's nurseries lost nearly \$625 million when their greenhouses were damaged by the winds. Florida's timber industry lost \$261 million. Florida's cattlemen, whose ranches, barns, fences, and equipment were severely damaged, lost

a total of \$237 million in losses. Dairy farmers had to dump more than \$2 million worth of milk because they couldn't store it properly after they lost power.

Farmers are the lifeblood of this country and an important part of Florida's economy. Right now, they desperately need our help. In urging the Senate to move forward with this disaster package as it is, not amended, President Trump has told some of our colleagues that he would support adding this additional agriculture money in a later supplemental next month. To my colleagues who have farmers and ranchers in their own States, you know as well as we do that these families and businesses can't wait any longer. They need our help, and they need it now. I ask you to consider how you would react if those farmers and ranchers suffered \$2.5 billion in losses from a single natural disaster, as our agriculture industry in Florida has.

So, to accommodate the majority leader, I already made the unanimous consent request, which the majority leader objected to. I want to further state that to fulfill the White House promise of including the disaster aid farmers desperately need, I have placed a hold on the President's nominee for Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Getting the additional money next month could be the difference between whether Florida's farmers can replant their crops next year or not.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Thank you, Madam President.

I thank the senior Senator from Florida on this issue. I want to elaborate on it a little further. Any time we ask the taxpayers of this country to step in and help a private industry, it is important and incumbent on us to justify why. The amendment he just made that we have been working to get included in what is before the Senate obviously deals with agriculture at large, and he described some of the different industries in Florida that have been hurt in agriculture and some of the crops in Florida that were impacted by the storm.

The reason I want to focus my attention on citrus is not because we don't care about the other industries that were damaged, but citrus is in a unique and precarious place. I want to describe it to people who may not be as familiar with this as those who live in Florida and see it all the time.

First, I would say that one of the signature issues in the campaign and in politics today is the desire to make more and produce more in the United States; the idea that somehow, because of these changes in the global economy, we have lost significant industries to other countries, and we talk about that primarily in manufacturing, but we also talk about it in technology and things of this nature. I don't think

we should leave agriculture out of that conversation. If we want there to be agriculture in the United States, then we have to deal with each of those crops and the unique challenges they face. We most certainly want to have agriculture in the United States.

A lot of people don't identify Florida as an agricultural State. It is better known for its tourism and being one of the largest places where people move to be in warm weather and not have State income tax, but Florida is a large agricultural State. I encourage people to look at the numbers. If you have spent any significant time in Florida, it is not just something we put on our license plates and not something we call ourselves in our heritage, it is real now. Tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands of jobs across the supply chain and entire communities are sustained by the presence of agriculture. In the case of citrus, the overwhelming majority of growers are actually families who have had these operations for sometimes two or three generations and are trying to stay afloat.

You look at this and ask: What is this industry doing wrong to be under these circumstances? Yes, they had a storm, but why can't they rebuild like everybody else? Two things. First, citrus in Florida was already facing an extraordinary challenge. It wasn't a better orange or better grapefruit that some other countries are doing than we are. It is a disease called citrus greening that didn't just blemish the fruit the way the canker did, but it killed the trees. You have a significant number of growers who are on the borderline of being out of business because unlike—and I am not diminishing other people's losses here, on the contrary—but unlike a manufacturing plant that gets wiped out by a storm, where you put the new machine in and in 6 months you are up and running, that is not the way it works with citrus.

The time between when you plant the new tree and produce fruit is 4 to 5 years, and you have to stay afloat in between. They are already facing that. So that already has them on the brink of catastrophe, and they have been working very hard to get around and design scientific solutions. They have made some advances, thanks to the work at the University of Florida, but they are not there yet. In the process, they have been hurting already.

You heard about the production figures and how low they have gotten, and here comes the storm. The first thing it does is knock all the fruit off the trees. When we flew over these groves, all we saw on the ground was fruit all over the place. As those familiar with agriculture know, once that fruit gets in the floodwater, it can't be sold, and you can't do much with it. The fruit continued to fall over the days to come.

On top of everything else they were facing, they lost this year's crops. A lot of these fields were flooded, so they were sitting in feet of water. That kills

the trees, and they will continue to lose trees in the weeks to come.

Put yourself in the position of the grower who has to say: I have already lost everything for this year. I lost a bunch of trees that I will not have next year or the year after that. I was facing citrus greening. Do I really want to replant or has the time come to sell my land for some other use, development, or has the time come for me to go into another crop or has the time come to declare bankruptcy? This is the life challenge of American agriculture families in the State of Florida.

Look, I hope very much that in November we are going to be here next month and we are going to pass a new bill and it will have this money in there and it will be fantastic, but we know how this place works, and I don't know why we wouldn't do it now. Do we truly want to keep American businesses in America? This is a great example of an opportunity to do it.

It is not an industry that benefits from anything extraordinary from the government. They are literally on the verge of going away unless we help them sooner rather than later. We have the entire Florida delegation in the House in favor of it, and they couldn't get it in the House bill. You have both Senators here for it. It can't be a part of this because if we change it, it goes back, and we lose time.

No one can tell you why it is not in there, no one can tell you why they are against it being in there, but it is not in there. Sometimes you start to wonder, and you guess why people look at this process and shake their heads.

Unfortunately, it looks like this has been foreclosed. Obviously, Senator NELSON moved forward and made that motion and it was objected to so it will not be a part of this package, but I hope we think about these men and women and families who own the groves. How do you explain it to them and what happens if it goes away? What happens if we lose this industry? It will not just hurt Florida, I think it hurts the country. I think it sets a precedent for other crops that might be threatened by floods in the future.

I hope this can be reversed, and I am hopeful we will deal with it in November, but if we don't, I just want everyone to understand what this means. This is not hyperbole. This industry is in a lot of trouble. I am not telling you that the amount of money we are asking for alone will save them, but without it, sooner rather than later, I feel we will lose not just Florida citrus, but I feel we will lose something as a key part of the State's heritage and a key crop for the country, and we will depend more than ever on foreign imports to feed our people with this problem.

With that, I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2266.

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Roy Blunt, Shelley Moore Capito, Mike Rounds, John Thune, Orrin G. Hatch, Deb Fischer, Cory Gardner, John Barrasso, Johnny Isakson, John Boozman, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, James M. Inhofe, Roger F. Wicker, Lindsey Graham.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2266, an act to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SUL-LIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 79, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 246 Leg.]

YEAS—79

Alexander	Feinstein	Murphy
Baldwin	Fischer	Murray
Bennet	Franken	Nelson
Blumenthal	Gardner	Peters
Blunt	Gillibrand	Portman
Booker	Grassley	Reed
Boozman	Harris	Roberts
Brown	Hassan	Rounds
Burr	Hatch	Rubio
Cantwell	Heinrich	Sanders
Capito	Heitkamp	Schatz
Cardin	Heller	Schumer
Carper	Hirono	Scott
Casey	Hoeven	Shaheen
Cassidy	Isakson	Tester
Cochran	Kaine	Thune
Collins	Kennedy	Tillis
Coons	King	Udall
Corker	Klobuchar	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Leahy	Warner
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Warren
Cruz	Markey	Whitehouse
Daines	McCain	Wicker
Donnelly	McCaskill	Wyden
Duckworth	McConnell	Young
Durbin	Merkley	
Ernst	Murkowski	

NAYS—16

Barrasso	Johnson	Sasse
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Crapo	Lee	Strange
Enzi	Paul	Toomey
Flake	Perdue	
Inhofe	Risch	

NOT VOTING—5

Graham Moran Sullivan
Menendez Stabenow

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 79, the nays 16.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer falls.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, as we speak, our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida are recovering from a series of devastating hurricanes. Over 100 people have lost their lives because of these terrible storms, and many more are struggling to get by day to day.

The crisis is perhaps most acute in Puerto Rico, where 35 percent of the population still does not have access to safe drinking water and four out of five Puerto Ricans do not have power.

The people of Florida, Puerto Rico, and Texas have responded with great tenacity and admirable creativity to this disaster. I wish the same could be said of the politicians here in Washington, DC.

Once again, this body is poised to fail the American people. Instead of helping the victims of these disasters through responsible aid paired with lasting reform, Congress has rushed to its favorite so-called solution—billions of dollars in new spending with little accountability or meaningful oversight.

If this \$36.5 billion aid package passes, it will mean even more money and more power for government programs that in some cases left us vulnerable to these disasters in the first place. If it passes, the politicians and lobbyists will pat themselves on the back for doing a good deed and then move on to the next multibillion dollar spending opportunity. Meanwhile, the people of Florida, Puerto Rico, and Texas will be left to pick up the pieces and to deal with the disastrous consequences of this approach.

Puerto Rico, in particular, has to contend with the effects of a devastating storm and decades of malfeasance that has left Puerto Rico with \$74 billion of debt.

This crisis calls for emergency aid, yes. More than that, it calls for true lasting reform, the type of reform that is noticeably absent from this measure. That is why I am voting no on this shortsighted bill, because it is easy to caricature a vote against emergency aid as calloused or cruel, but it is hard to do the real work that is necessarily required by real, lasting, meaningful reform.

It is harder still to defend these packages when their contents are exposed fully to the light of day. If you were evaluating an emergency aid package, you might reasonably expect it to direct all of its spending to programs that actually help the people of Florida, of Puerto Rico, of Texas, but this proposal does not even come close

to directing all of its money to broad-based recovery efforts.

Just under half of the \$36.5 billion in new spending would bail out the National Flood Insurance Program, or NFIP. In the Houston area, just 17 percent of homeowners were enrolled in the NFIP. In Puerto Rico, the numbers are even more sparse. Just 5,600 Puerto Ricans are enrolled in NFIP, less than 1 percent of homeowners. That means 99 percent of Puerto Ricans will not get anything at all from the \$16 billion to NFIP. But then again, it is not clear that NFIP recipients get much from NFIP to begin with.

The National Flood Insurance Program represents the triumph of good intentions over sound public policy. Its generous subsidies were supposed to reduce the need for Federal aid after massive storms. Instead, NFIP encourages thousands of Americans to live in some of the most dangerous real estate in the country.

NFIP sells flood insurance at rates well below that of any reasonable private insurer. As a result, its policies do not accurately reflect the risk of living in manifestly flood-threatened, flood-endangered areas. These government policies encourage Americans to live in precisely those areas where their livelihoods—and, in fact, even their lives—can be swept away in an instant.

Economists refer to this perverse incentive as moral hazard, and, in more senses than one, that is just what the National Flood Insurance Program is—a hazard to Americans. It is distinctly immoral for the government to subsidize housing in the Nation's flood plains—deep within the flood plains—or on the edges of its coast. Instead of building your house on a rock, the government wants you to build it on the sand.

NFIP pays out claims for properties that have been swept away not once, not twice, but many, many times before. Homes that have been flooded multiple times make up just 1 percent of NFIP policyholders, but they account for more than one-third of its claims. This has cost taxpayers more than \$12.1 billion in payouts according to the Congressional Research Service.

When Hurricane Harvey swept through Houston last month, it submerged a house that had been flooded 22 times since 1979. The house is valued at about \$600,000. The government has spent \$1.8 million to rehabilitate it.

No private insurance company would ever offer insurance on the terms that NFIP offers. Such a company would endanger its policyholders, and it would run out of money.

That is precisely what has happened under NFIP. The program is \$25 billion in debt and routinely blows through its statutory debt limits.

The emergency aid package Congress is considering today would cancel \$16 billion of NFIP's debt—no questions asked. Congress isn't making NFIP bring its actuarial practices in line with reality or into conformity with

free-market forces. No, it isn't even appropriating new funds for another failed program. That, at least, would be business as usual in Washington. Instead, Congress is effectively giving a debt amnesty to the National Flood Insurance Program. It is absolving NFIP of its sins and making American taxpayers do the penance.

So that is an example of what is in the bill. Let's consider a little bit of what is not in the bill.

If we want to be responsible leaders in a moment of crisis like this one, we need to provide long-term reforms in addition to any short-term assistance. We need to provide a full meal to those affected by these storms and not just a temporary, passing sugar rush.

But this bill does not include any reforms that would help Puerto Rico attain long-term stability or climb out from underneath its \$74 billion debt. It doesn't even attempt to reform the dysfunctional electrical utility program which, through a combination of neglect and profiteering, has left millions of Puerto Ricans in darkness. Without electricity, Puerto Rico can't power hospitals, clinics, food banks, or even sewage systems. And it doesn't repeal the Jones Act, the protectionist regulation that kept foreign-flagged relief ships out of Puerto Rican harbors for precious days after Hurricane Maria and for a long time has forced Puerto Rican consumers to pay significantly higher prices on just about everything they buy.

Simple reform measures such as reforming PREPA, the electric utility company I mentioned a moment ago, or repealing the Jones Act would provide very meaningful, lasting benefits to Puerto Ricans long after the public's attention has drifted and the relief money has dried up. But Congress, true to form, would rather double down on broken laws and broken programs rather than fix them, and Congress would rather take on more debt than spend according to what we have and prioritize in order to get there.

None of this \$36.5 billion in emergency spending is offset by spending reductions on other programs—none of it—not a single dollar. That is the sad irony of this bill. If the trend of deficit-fueled spending continues, one day soon we will wake up to the cries of our fellow Americans and we will have nothing to give them in support.

Again, this bill doesn't take care of those programs, and it is not as if there aren't solutions out there. One of my colleagues, Senator PAUL, has effectively been blocked from introducing an amendment that would call for offsets to this spending. Another one of my colleagues, Senator FLAKE, has tried to introduce an amendment, of which I am a cosponsor, that would bring about some of these other reforms I have described—reforms to the State-owned utility company, to the Jones Act, and reforms to the way that we spend money through the Federal Government in Puerto Rico.

I hope my colleagues will work with me on a more responsible, sustainable, meaningful way to help our brothers and sisters in areas affected by the recent hurricanes. Congress has the authority to lead, especially over Puerto Rico, where we have plenary power that exceeds the authority we have in other parts of the country within States. In this hour of crisis, especially with regard to Puerto Rico, we are the only ones who indisputably have this power, and we are the ones who must act if we are going to achieve meaningful reform.

If we can only offer money and a pat on the head, it will be our fault when the American people continue to suffer as a result of failed programs that haven't worked and call out to us through their failures for reform.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, I urge the Senate to approve the disaster relief supplemental appropriations bill.

This bill will provide additional funding for response and recovery operations in areas devastated by recent hurricanes.

The storms this year have been severe in both strength and number. Communities in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are struggling to recover.

Both the Disaster Relief Fund and the National Flood Insurance Program are depleted. They will soon run out of money for disaster response and to pay flood insurance claims.

The supplemental funding in this bill will ensure that first responders and Federal agencies have the necessary resources to continue their important work.

This bill also includes funding in response to the deadly wildfires that have ravaged western States. While these emergency funds are needed now, I will continue working with my colleagues to find a better way to fund wildfire suppression in the future.

This will not be the end of our efforts to respond to this year's disasters. The Appropriations Committee will continue to work with the administration and with the affected delegations to determine and provide for additional recovery needs. I am committed to doing what is necessary to get the job done.

Mr. LEE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

BANGLADESH

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, in correspondence with officials of the Government of Bangladesh over a period of several years and in conversations with officials of our own State Department, I, like many others, have raised concerns about enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests, unfair trials, extrajudicial executions, and other flagrant violations of the rule of law by the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed and particularly by the Rapid Action Battalion, RAB.

Like the inquiries and appeals of others, my concerns have been responded to by Bangladeshi officials with blanket denials, obfuscation, and even falsehoods.

Despite such attempts to deflect responsibility, it is beyond a doubt that the rule of law is often violated by Bangladeshi law enforcement agencies. This conduct has become so ingrained that it is not an overstatement to describe Prime Minister Wajed's government as one that condones state-sponsored criminality.

Of course, the government would vociferously reject such a characterization, insisting that individuals who have disappeared were kidnapped by militants or joined extremist groups or simply claiming that their whereabouts are unknown to the government. The problem is that there is often credible eyewitness testimony to the contrary or those responsible for the abductions have identified themselves as members of one of the security forces, the RAB being the most notorious.

The State Department's latest Country Reports on Human Rights describes the situation in Bangladesh as follows: "Human rights groups and media reported that multiple disappearances and kidnappings continued, some committed by security services. The government made limited efforts to prevent or investigate such acts. The United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances contacted the government on March 9 concerning the 'reportedly alarming rise of the number of cases of enforced disappearances in the country' and had 34 outstanding cases under review as of May 18, but the working group did not receive a response. Following alleged disappearances, security forces released some individuals without charge, arrested some, some were found dead, and others were never found."

The State Department also cited the practice of torture of detainees in Bangladesh: "Although the constitution and law prohibit torture and other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment or punishment, local and international human rights organizations and the media reported security forces, including RAB, intelligence services,

and police, employed torture and physical and psychological abuse during arrests and interrogations. Security forces reportedly used torture to gather information from alleged militants although members of political opposition parties claimed that security forces also targeted activists within their parties. Security forces reportedly used threats, beatings, kneecappings, and electric shock, and law enforcement officers sometimes committed rapes and other sexual abuses. Two prominent human rights organizations stated that security forces tortured eight persons to death in the first nine months of the year."

The situation has not improved since the State Department published that report earlier this year. Just last week, seven senior representatives of an opposition political party were arrested in Dhaka. Their whereabouts, conditions of confinement, and the evidence against them remain a mystery.

This egregious situation has been cited by the European Parliament, the United Nations, Human Rights Watch, and other reputable human rights monitors; yet the government of Prime Minister Wajed rejects such admonishments out of hand as fabrications or an infringement of sovereignty. Not only do these practices violate the rule of law, they threaten democracy itself. Bangladesh does face a serious problem of violent extremism, which must be effectively addressed, but if peaceful expression and association that challenges government policies or that condemns corruption and police misconduct are equated with terrorism and responded to with threats, arbitrary arrests, and disappearances, extremism will increase, and democracy will suffer.

Other international organizations and governmental bodies have urged the Government of Bangladesh to respond to calls regarding dozens of cases of disappearances and to permanently dismantle the RAB and suspend other law enforcement agencies that have engaged in such crimes until credible investigations of such cases are conducted and those responsible are appropriately punished. I echo those calls and do not support further U.S. assistance for such agencies until the necessary steps are taken.

UGANDA

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I want to speak briefly about the situation in Uganda, which should concern all Senators.

Uganda, located on the Equator in East Africa, has been a friend and partner of the United States for many years, particularly in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Twenty years ago, Uganda was the epicenter of AIDS in Africa. Thousands were dying, testing was nonexistent, condoms were outlawed, and the future was bleak. Since then, dramatic progress has been made in controlling the disease, although more remains to be done.

The United States has also joined in the fight against the Lord's Resistance Army, which ravaged northern Uganda for many years. I remember a time, not so long ago, when thousands of young children, called "night commuters" would walk each evening from their remote villages into towns where they were protected from being kidnapped by the LRA and forced into servitude as child soldiers.

Throughout that period and to this day, President Museveni has remained in power, for five consecutive terms, solidifying his control increasingly through repression, including the arrest, imprisonment, and even alleged assassination attempts of political opponents and social activists. In 2016, at his most recent inauguration after an election marred by fraud and intimidation, Sudan's President Bashir, indicted by the International Criminal Court, was an invited guest.

In 2012, President Museveni announced that he would "certainly not" seek to remain in office after age 75, consistent with article 102(b) of Uganda's Constitution; yet today, with the next Presidential election scheduled for 2021, an effort is underway in Uganda's Parliament, presumably with President Museveni's blessing, to amend the constitution to eliminate the age limit. If successful, Museveni could remain President for life, in the tradition of other African strongmen like Robert Mugabe.

There is no law against amending the constitution. Our own Constitution poses no such age limit on Presidents or Members of Congress, but doing so for the obvious purpose of perpetuating the increasingly autocratic rule of a serving President, who has used the security forces to silence his opposition and who has systematically undermined the possibility of a free election, is wrong.

Such an outcome would be a tragedy for democracy and the rule of law in Uganda, at a time when corruption, economic stagnation, and internal strife are propelling Uganda backwards. The United States and the international community have provided Uganda with billions of dollars in aid since 1986 when President Museveni first came to power. I supported that investment in Uganda's social, economic, and political stability, and President Museveni deserves credit for many positive developments in Uganda since the horrific years of his brutal predecessors, Idi Amin and Milton Obote; yet today much of that investment is at risk of being squandered.

Ultimately this is a decision for the representatives of the Ugandan people, but I hope the Ugandan Parliament recognizes what is at stake, not only for the people of Uganda and for the future of democracy and stability in that country, but for future support from the United States and the international community.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, unfortunately, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2266, emergency supplemental appropriations. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in favor of cloture.●

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 246, on the motion to invoke cloture on the House message to accompany H.R. 2266, the emergency supplemental. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.●

HONORING NEVADA'S WORLD WAR II FILIPINO VETERANS

Mr. HELLER. Madam President, today I wish to honor several Nevada heroes who are being recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal for their service in the Philippines during World War II: Sergeant Regalado Baldonado, Private Aurelio Dela Cruz, Corporal Benito Anton, Private First Class Leonardo Palao, and the many other Filipino and Filipino American veterans across our Nation. My appreciation for their service and sacrifice is immeasurable.

During World War II, more than 260,000 Filipino soldiers from the U.S. commonwealth of the Philippines answered President Roosevelt's call to fight under the American flag. These individuals fought bravely, some making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of democracy and freedom. More than half a century later, our Nation made a commitment to honoring them for their service.

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I believe it is our solemn responsibility to recognize those who put their lives on the line. That is why I was proud to work with my colleague Senator HIRONO to pass into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act, Public Law 114-265, to recognize the dedication and heroism of these individuals.

Now the time has come to award this Congressional Gold Medal to Filipino World War II veterans on October 25, 2017, and I could not be more proud and humbled that Nevada is home to Filipino veterans who served and are most deserving of this medal. Today I would like to again recognize and honor Filipino veterans who are living in Nevada: Sergeant Regalado Baldonado, Private Aurelio Dela Cruz, Corporal Benito Anton, and Private First Class Leonardo Palao. To these heroes, your place in history will not be forgotten. There are also many other Filipino vet-

erans from Nevada who have passed on, but our gratitude extends to their family members who will ensure their legacy lives on.

While the awarding of this Congressional Gold Medal is a proud moment for the Filipino community and America, many Filipino veterans have yet to receive recognition for their service. There is no doubt to me that Filipino soldiers served honorably in the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines, Recognized Guerilla Forces, and New Philippine Scouts alongside U.S. troops during World War II. However, some have still not been verified by the U.S. for their service because they don't have the documentation the U.S. requires. This is an injustice that I will continue fighting so that every Filipino veteran is afforded respect for and acknowledgement of their contributions to our country.

I am honored to acknowledge all Filipino and Filipino American veterans for their dedication to our country and am proud this Congressional Gold Medal will serve as a constant reminder of the importance of the Filipino and Filipino American community in our Nation's history.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT PHILIP J. IYOTTE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I wish to honor and pay tribute to the late Army SGT Philip J. Iyotte, a hero from South Dakota who, after 66 years, has returned home.

At a young age, Philip Iyotte, a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, was given his Lakota name of Soldier Who Stands Alone. In 1950, Philip enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the Army's 21st Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division. Shortly after, he was deployed to the Korean conflict. On September 2, 1950, Sergeant Iyotte was seriously injured from fragments from an enemy missile. Nineteen days later, he bravely returned to the battlefield.

On February 9, 1951, 21-year-old Sergeant Iyotte was declared Missing in Action after being captured by Chinese forces during Operation Thunderbolt. When the war ended, several returning prisoners of war reported that Sergeant Iyotte passed away around September 10, 1951, and was buried at the main prisoner of war camp in Korea. Sixty-six years after being captured and killed, his remains have finally been returned to his family in White River, SD.

For his bravery and service, Sergeant Iyotte was awarded the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Prisoner of War Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Korean War Service Medal.

I consider it an honor to pay tribute to SGT Philip J. Iyotte. May his family and his Oyate find comfort in knowing that his remains have now been laid to

rest and the legacy of his service and sacrifice to our Nation lives on.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CHRISTIAN LEE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize CDR Christian A. Lee for his induction into the Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame on October 19, 2017.

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes outstanding Coast Guard Academy athletes who distinguish themselves in military or civilian life and seeks to honor those who have substantially contributed to the excellence of Academy athletic programs.

As a three-sport athlete at the Coast Guard Academy, Christian excelled in football, baseball, and track. On the football field, he was a starting wide receiver for 4 years and set a single-season record with 938 receiving yards. He ended his 4-year career with 149 receptions, 23 touchdowns, and continues to hold the Coast Guard Academy record for alltime receiving yards. As captain, he led the team to its first ever NCAA playoff appearance in 1996 and was selected as a first team All-Conference wide receiver and kick returner. He was also named an Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference and New England Football Writers first-team wide receiver.

In addition to his successful football career, Christian substantially contributed to the academy's baseball and track programs and was named the most outstanding senior athlete in 1997. That same year, he led the baseball team with 15 stolen bases, 24 runs scored, and had a batting average of .321, earning him second-team All-Conference honors. As a sprinter on the track team, he was part of a 4x100 record-setting relay team and went on to compete at the New England Championship and the Penn Relays.

Christian was a gifted athlete, and his induction into the Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame is well-deserved. I congratulate him on this honor, and I am grateful for his dedication and service to our Nation.●

REMEMBER MOTHER LULA MAE LOLLAR BELTON

• Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor the life of a great South Carolinian, Mother Lula Mae Lollar Belton, "Mom-mo," who departed this life on September 20, 2017.

Mother Belton was a spiritual, humble, and loving woman who loved the Lord and her community. She worked for the Colleton County Food Service for 31 years, as well as many positions within Buckhead UMC Church, where she was a faithful member. She most notably served as Mother of the Church. Mother Belton always had an

open heart to her many children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, as well as many others in the community and church. She will be greatly missed by the family and community she leaves behind, and I would like to add her name to our October 23, 2017, CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

REMEMBER DR. OSCAR PERRY BUTLER, JR.

• Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor the life of a great South Carolinian, Dr. Oscar P. Butler, Jr., who departed this life on October 2, 2017. Dr. Butler was a graduate of South Carolina State University and later went on to earn a doctor of philosophy in administration and higher education from Michigan State University. He then spent over 27 years in student personnel development, including as a dean at SCSU. He also served as executive director of 1890 Research and Extension for over 10 years. He has been recognized for Outstanding Service by the N.A.A.C.P., Meritorious Service and Commendations by the U.S. Navy, and given the Distinguished Alumnus Award by SCSU. Dr. Butler was a faithful member of Williams Chapel A.M.E. Church for over 57 years, where he was the recipient of the Unsung Hero Award 2015. Dr. Butler will surely be missed and remembered as a great South Carolinian, and I would like to add his name to our October 23, 2017, CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

REMEMBERING BISHOP LEWIS NATHANIEL TAYLOR

• Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor the life of Bishop Lewis Nathaniel Taylor, a great South Carolinian, who departed this life on October 2, 2017. Bishop Lewis Taylor deeply loved his family, church, and community. He pastored in San Diego, California, Washington, DC, and New York. He eventually returned to his native Walterboro, SC, where he continued the legacy of his father and became pastor of Greater Saint James Church. He encouraged, inspired, and mentored many people in the community and abroad. Bishop Taylor served not only as a pastor, but as a carpenter and general contractor as well. In short, Bishop Taylor was a builder-visionary who helped design and construct churches across South Carolina. In 2008 and 2017, the mayor of Walterboro presented Bishop Taylor with the Key to the City. He was known to many as "the little man, with a big vision" and served his community tirelessly and earned the respect and admiration of all people he came in contact with. He will be greatly missed by the Walterboro community and the people of South Carolina.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. AKIL E. ROSS, SR.

• Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, I would like to recognize and congratulate Dr. Akil Ross, of Chapin High School, who has been chosen as the National Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. His nomination is an honor for South Carolina. After graduating from School Without Walls Senior High School in Washington, DC, Akil E. Ross, Sr., studied political science and played football for Duke University. He graduated in 2002 with his B.A. in political science and minoring in history and education. In 2005, he obtained his M.Ed. in secondary educational administration from the University of South Carolina and joined Chapin High School as an assistant principal in July of 2005. After 5 years as an assistant principal, he was named principal in July of 2010. In July of 2012, he completed his doctorate degree in curriculum studies from the University of South Carolina.

Chapin High School has received many awards and recognitions under Dr. Ross, such as Palmetto's Finest, national rankings in academics, 12 State championships in athletics, and 3 State championships in marching band. In September, Dr. Ross was named the 2017 South Carolina Secondary Principal of the Year before being selected as the National Principal of the Year. Dr. Ross is an extraordinary leader who has truly succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for his South Carolina students, whom are lucky to be under his care. Congratulations, Dr. Ross.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13413 OF OCTOBER 27, 2006, WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN, OR IN RELATION TO, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO—PM 17

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days of the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, is to continue in effect beyond October 27, 2017.

The situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has been marked by widespread violence and atrocities that continue to threaten regional stability, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13413 with respect to the situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 23, 2017.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker removes the gentleman from Oregon, Mr. WALDEN, as a conferee and appoints the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. SHIMKUS, to fill the vacancy thereon to the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, and that the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Natural Resources is modified by striking the first reference to section 2863.

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-3189. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, seven (7) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Octo-

ber 16, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3190. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to realistic survivability testing of the Fleet Replenishment Oiler (T-AO 205); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3191. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the mobilizations of selected reserve units, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3192. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, fifty-three (53) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Defense, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3193. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 on November 14, 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3194. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Somalia that was declared in Executive Order 13536 on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3195. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of President, Government National Mortgage Association, Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3196. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, five (5) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3197. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Housing and Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3198. 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; Nevada; Recission of Visibility Protection Federal Implementation Plan for the Mohave Generating Station" (FRL No. 9969-85-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3199. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Redesignation of the Chicago and Granite City Areas to Attainment of the 2008 Lead Standard"

(FRL No. 9969-69-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3200. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; NC; Open Burning and Miscellaneous Revisions" (FRL No. 9969-77-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3201. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Open Burning and Miscellaneous Revisions" (FRL No. 9969-78-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3202. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; Regional Haze Progress Report" (FRL No. 9969-87-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3203. 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 "Adjusted Applicable Dollar Amount for Fee Imposed by Sections 4375 and 4376" (Notice 2017-61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3204. 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 "Treatment of Amounts Paid to Section 170(c) Organizations under Employer Leave-Based Donation Programs to Aid Victims of Hurricane and Tropical Storm Maria" (Notice 2017-62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3205. 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 "September 2017 Supplement to Rev. Proc. 2014-64, Implementation of Nonresident Alien Deposit Interest Regulations" (Rev. Proc. 2017-46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3206. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3207. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2017-0171-2017-0175); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3208. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of the Government of Cuba's compliance with the

United States-Cuba September 1994 “Joint Communiqué,” and on the treatment of persons returned to Cuba in accordance with the United States-Cuba May 1995 “Joint Statement,” and the United States-Cuba January 2017 “Joint Statement”; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3209. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, four (4) reports relative to vacancies in the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3210. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22-141, “Unity Health Care, Inc. Certificate of Need Maximum Fee Establishment Temporary Amendment Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3211. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22-142, “Fort Dupont Ice Arena Programming Temporary Amendment Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3212. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22-143, “Voter Rolls Protection Temporary Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3213. 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 “Procedures for Requesting Approval for a Change in Funding Method” (Rev. Proc. 2017-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3214. 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 “Automatic approval for certain funding method changes for single-employer defined benefit pension plans subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 430” (Rev. Proc. 2017-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3215. A communication from the Executive Director, National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Museum’s 2016 annual report and financial audit; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3216. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Record Disclosure and Privacy” (RIN3245-AG52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2017; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-3217. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-9143)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3218. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0561)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3219. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0623)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3220. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0809)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3221. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-9301)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3222. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-9185)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3223. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0511)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3224. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0334)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3225. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0639)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3226. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-

2017-0494)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3227. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Defense and Space S.A. (Formerly Known as Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A.) Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0555)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3228. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0452)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3229. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd and Co KG Turbofan Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0140)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3230. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0767)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3231. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Siemens S.A.S. Smoke Detectors” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0099)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3232. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Technifly Motors GmbH Reciprocating Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0241)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 1536, A bill to designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-177).

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 283

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 283, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 591

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 591, a bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 916, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 1016

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1016, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1073

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1073, a bill to authorize Escambia County, Florida, to convey certain property that was formerly part of Santa Rosa Island National Monument and that was conveyed to Escambia County subject to restrictions on use and reconveyance.

S. 1370

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1370, a bill 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. 1421

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1421, a bill to support educational entities in fully implementing title IX and reducing and preventing sex discrimination in all areas of education.

S. 1589

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1589, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1693

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1693, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of that Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sex trafficking.

S. 1787

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1787, a bill to reauthorize the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

S. 1827

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, a bill to extend funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1839

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1839, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to extend and expand the market access program and the foreign market development cooperator program.

S. 1893

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Florida

(Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, a bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to specify when bank holding companies may be subject to certain enhanced supervision, and for other purposes.

S. 1942

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1942, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 1970

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1970, a bill to establish a public health plan.

S.J. RES. 47

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 47, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Arbitration Agreements".

S. RES. 139

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 139, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 250

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 250, a resolution condemning horrific acts of violence against Burma's Rohingya population and calling on Aung San Suu Kyi to play an active role in ending this humanitarian tragedy.

S. RES. 295

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 295, a resolution designating October 2017 as "National Employee Ownership Month".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1573. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1574. Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1575. Mr. NELSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1576. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1573. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) **OFFSET.**—Of the unobligated balances made available to each covered executive department for fiscal year 2018, \$36,517,000,000 are rescinded, on a pro rata basis, in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) **DISCRETION OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT HEAD.**—The head of each covered executive department shall determine from which accounts of the covered executive department and in what amounts the funds required to be rescinded under subsection (a) will be rescinded.

(c) **COVERED EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.**—In this section, the term “covered executive department” means—

(1) an Executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) does not include the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SA 1574. Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 5, lines 5 through 10, strike “*Provided further,*” and all that follows through “Secretary of the Treasury.”.

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION C—PUERTO RICO ENERGY DELIVERY RELIABILITY AND REFORM

SEC. 2001. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY.

It is the sense of Congress that privatizing the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority would lead to lower energy costs for electricity customers in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

SEC. 2002. EXCEPTIONS TO APPLICATION OF COASTWISE LAWS FOR PUERTO RICO.

Section 55101(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively; and

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redesignated, the following:

“(1) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;”.

SEC. 2003. TERMS AND AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN LOANS OR OTHER ASSISTANCE.

Nothing in this Act authorizes any loan or other assistance made available under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)—

(1) to include any terms that would impair any lien or collateral securing the claim of any creditor of—

(A) a territory or possession of the United States or a local government agency of a territory or possession of the United States; or

(B) an instrumentality of a territory or possession of the United States or a local government agency of a territory or possession of the United States; or

(2) to be made available for proceedings under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Security Act (48 U.S.C. 2161 et seq.).

SA 1575. Mr. NELSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In title II of division A, under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE”, add at the end the following:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For an additional amount for the Office of the Secretary, \$3,000,000,000, for necessary expenses related to crop losses and other consequences of Hurricanes Irma, Harvey, and Maria: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, payment and income limitations shall not apply with respect to payments made to producers pursuant to this paragraph: *Provided further*, That with respect to payments made to producers of citrus, fruits and vegetables, or nursery crops, the Secretary of Agriculture shall carry out this paragraph in a similar manner as under the Florida Hurricane Agriculture Disaster Assistance (Special Disaster Relief for Hurricanes Charley and Frances) program of the Farm Service Agency (as revised on September 30, 2004): *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by Congress as being for emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

SA 1576. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 308 and insert the following: SEC. 308. Section 1309(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a)) is amended by striking “\$30,425,000,000” and inserting “\$46,425,000,000”.

SAFER ACT OF 2017

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 231, S. 1766.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1766) to reauthorize the SAFER Act of 2013, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee

on the Judiciary, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act of 2017” or the “SAFER Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. PEDIATRIC SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINERS.

Section 304(c)(2) of the DNA Sexual Assault Justice Act of 2004 (34 U.S.C. 40723(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “, both adult and pediatric,” after “role of forensic nurses”; and

(2) by striking “and elder abuse” and inserting “elder abuse, and, in particular, the need for pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners, including such nurse examiners working in the multidisciplinary setting, in responding to abuse of both children and adolescents”.

SEC. 3. REDUCING THE RAPE KIT BACKLOG.

(a) **REAUTHORIZATION.**—Section 2(c)(4) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (34 U.S.C. 40701(c)(4)) is amended by striking “2017” and inserting “2022”.

(b) **SUNSET.**—Section 1006 of the SAFER Act of 2013 (34 U.S.C. 40701 note) is amended by striking “2018” and inserting “2023”.

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1766), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, October 24; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 2266; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that all time during morning business, recess, adjournment, and leader remarks count postcloture.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:47 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER CALDWELL, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON, DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY, VICE CHRISTOPHER A. MASINGILL.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KENNETH J. BRAITHWAITE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE COAST GUARD RE-

SERVE IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 53(B):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

REAR ADM. ANDREW S. MCKINLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JAMES M. KELLY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. THOMAS ALLAN
CAPT. LAURA M. DICKEY
CAPT. DOUGLAS M. FEARS

CAPT. JOHN W. MAUGER
CAPT. NATHAN A. MOORE
CAPT. BRIAN K. PENoyer
CAPT. MATTHEW W. SIBLEY

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on October 23, 2017 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

TOM MARINO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, VICE MICHAEL A. BOTTICELLI, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2017.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO THE BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Baha'i community as they celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of their founder, Bahá'u'lláh. Born as a nobleman in Persia in 1817, Bahá'u'lláh spread a message of peace and tolerance, emphasizing the fundamental unity of all people. His teachings of peace among nations, equality between men and women, tolerance among religions, and justice for people of all races and nationalities are as important today as they were in the 19th century.

Today, there are over 5 million Baha'is around the world, including a community in my Congressional District. In California and around the world, Baha'is strive to promote the ideals that Bahá'u'lláh championed to promote peace and unity throughout the world. They are active members of their communities and advocate for human rights, especially those of Baha'is in Iran who are unable to practice their religion openly.

I encourage my colleagues to take up and pass H.Res. 274 to condemn Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority, and its continuing violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in sending good wishes to the Baha'i community of California's 18th Congressional District and across the United States on the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Bahá'u'lláh.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOOD PRODUCTION FACILITY IN STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Stilwell Oklahoma food production facility. The food production facility in Stilwell, originally called the Stilwell Canning Company, first opened on March 16, 1942 when World War II drove up the demand for canned items. An expansion project completed in 1999 made the Stilwell plant the largest frozen dessert production plant in the country.

Schwan's Company acquired the plant in 2003 when it purchased the Mrs. Smith's pie brand from Flowers Foods. A recent \$40 million investment by the Schwan's Company gave the Stilwell dessert manufacturing facility a state-of-the-art pie line and put the facility on the leading edge of pie production in the industry. Schwan's Company is one of the larg-

est employers in Adair County, with over 300 employees.

The Mrs. Smith's, Edwards, and Schwan's pies and okra produced each day at this facility are enjoyed by families across our great country. I am honored to recognize this facility today before the United States House of Representatives and I wish them a very happy 75th anniversary.

HONORING THE COMPLETION OF THE FOLSOM DAM JOINT FEDERAL PROJECT

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the completion of the Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project.

This project has been nine years in the making and will provide critical increased flood capacity with Folsom Dam. Last week, the Army Corps of Engineers transferred control of the new auxiliary spillway to the Bureau of Reclamation.

In connection with the existing gates, the new auxiliary spillway will help release water more quickly from Folsom Reservoir to help create space for precipitation during our wet winters.

I want to thank all of the engineers, construction workers and staff from both the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation who worked on this important project. These agencies worked together with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency to get the project completed.

The city of Sacramento faces the second highest flood risk in the country. So this new spillway is just one part of several infrastructure upgrades to increase flood protection in the region. I look forward to working with my colleagues to support the remaining upgrades including completing levee repairs, updating the water control manual, and raising the dam walls.

Finally, I want to also extend many thanks to Mr. David Thomas, who was the ACE Sacramento District Mega Project Center Director and the lead point person for the JFP.

Soon, Mr. Thomas will retire after more than 30 years of service in the Army Corps of Engineers. He has served in a wide variety of stations from New York and Houston to Italy, Afghanistan and Iraq. Mr. Thomas received his Bachelor's degree of Engineering in 1985 from Texas A&M University. In 1993, he attended the Army Management Staff College and also holds a Master's degree in Public Administration in 1995 from Harvard University.

I want to thank him for his work over the past 5 years here in Sacramento as the Mega Project Director and his instrumental role in helping get this project across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Thomas and wish him the best in retirement and his next adventure. The Joint Federal Project has been a

great example of how cooperation should work between government agencies and what happens when we make government work on behalf of the American people.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT NEWLEN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert Newlen, for his decades of service to the Library of Congress. Beginning his career in 1975 at the Congressional Research Service and working his way up to Deputy Librarian of Congress, Mr. Newlen is truly an inspiration.

During his time at the Library of Congress, he has served in various capacities, including assistant director and then director of the Knowledge Services Group in CRS, law librarian for collections, outreach and services in the Law Library, the Library of Congress' Chief of Staff, and as of last year the Deputy Librarian of Congress. Mr. Newlen's personal commitment and devotion to the institution is unparalleled. He has committed his entire professional career, 43 years to be exact, to making the Library of Congress a vital part of the deliberations of the legislative branch.

Mr. Newlen's behind-the-scenes efforts in the Law Library were critical in bringing the Magna Carta, one of history's most celebrated documents and a major influence on our Founding Fathers, to the Library of Congress for exhibit in 2014.

Mr. Newlen is known as a quiet leader and a mentor among his colleagues and friends at the Library, who has inspired many and has forever left his mark on this great institution. I have had the good fortune of interacting with Mr. Newlen many times. As many say, he is a gentleman and a scholar.

After leaving the Library of Congress, Mr. Newlen will be moving to my home state of California to work as the head of the Dwight D. Opperman Foundation. Mr. Speaker, Robert Newlen has been an extraordinary public servant, and I know the House of Representatives joins me in wishing him well in the future.

HONORING CHICAGO'S POLISH HIGHLANDERS MARUSZYNA KOLO NO. 35 ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chicago's Maruszyna Kolo No. 35, a lodge of the Polish Highlanders Alliance of

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

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

North America, which celebrates its 40th anniversary on October 21, 2017.

As a member of the Polish Highlanders Alliance, the lodge aims to organize Polish Highlanders in the Chicago area into a cohesive family. In addition to providing a meeting place for Highlanders across the Chicago area, the lodge cultivates Polish Highlander arts, customs, and traditions. The members also provide material assistance to the church and two schools in the village of Maruszyna in Poland.

The lodge, located at 4808 S. Archer Avenue, is an important pillar of the community on the Southwest Side of Chicago. Polish Highlanders come from all across the region for celebrations at Maruszyna Kolo. On the first weekend of August every year, the lodge hosts a picnic on the same day that the village of Maruszyna hosts a fair celebrating its annual parish holiday. The picnic is attended by over 400 guests annually. The lodge also hosts a celebration during the second week of January where members share Christmas wafers and mark the end of Christmas celebrations by wishing one another well for the New Year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing all that Maruszyna Kolo No. 35 does to bring together Polish Highlanders in the Chicago area and to support Poland. The lodge's dedication to community is admirable and I wish them the best as they continue their traditions and service for generations to come. One hundred years (Sto lat).

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WSRE

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of WSRE. WSRE-TV is viewer supported Public Broadcasting Station for the Gulf Coast. On September 11, 1967, WSRE began its over-the-air broadcast television station on UHF Channel 123 and today broadcasts four digital channels.

WSRE was an early pioneer producing national, quality programing beginning with Earl Peyroux's Gourmet Cooking to its most recent documentary *They Were Our Fathers*.

WSRE is licensed to the District Board of Trustees of Pensacola State College. Its 43,000 square foot facility includes three studios that are used to produce local programming. The facility houses a full-time staff, as well as volunteers who contribute thousands of hours of service on a regular basis.

The mission of WSRE is to open doors to a larger world with quality programming and educational outreach services for every person on the Gulf Coast who desires to be more educated, informed and entertained. WSRE helps people make informed decisions with a better understanding of the community and world in which they live. As a community-supported, outreach service of Pensacola State College, WSRE brings forth culture and ideas that enhance the quality of life and promote the joy of discovery and learning.

The vision of WSRE is to positively influence the daily lives of all on the Gulf Coast through broadcast programming and educational outreach services that encourage us

to engage more deeply in the world around us.

WSRE has always and continues to demonstrate an exceptional dedication to education and learning.

From the very start, WSRE has partnered with local school districts to provide educational resources that enhance learning in the classroom. Through community partnerships WSRE enriches the efforts of Pensacola in becoming "America's First Early Learning City" and launched the 24/7 WSRE PBS KIDS channel and mobile app. By utilizing the latest digital technology, the Imagination Station at Wahoo Stadium, provides exposure for thousands of children and guardians each year to the resources and value of early learning.

Television reaches a large number of persons from all walks of life and WSRE keeps the community connected through its various local and national programs. WSRE's commitment to the surrounding communities has proven to be deeply valuable and has endured throughout the decades.

By operating as a public television station, WSRE also encourages an informed electorate by producing RALLY candidate forums and Legislative Review to connect the community with lawmakers since the 1970s while also broadcasting The Florida Channel.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all who have served in any capacity with WSRE throughout its 50 years. WSRE has been and will continue to be a steadfast and invaluable contributor to the enhancement and growth of our community and to all who have benefited from its services.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to congratulate WSRE on 50 years of providing quality programming and educational outreach services to Northwest Florida.

HONORING MAYOR BARBARA SHARIEF

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to recognize my good friend, The Honorable Barbara Sharief of Miramar, Florida, on her successful tenure as mayor of Broward County.

Mayor Sharief is the first African American woman, as well as the first Muslim, to serve as Broward County mayor. She was first elected to the nine-member County Commission in 2010, was elected mayor by her fellow commissioners in November 2013, and was re-elected in 2015. As mayor, she oversees Broward County's \$4.3 billion operating budget, which operates the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Port Everglades, and a variety of regional services, such as parks, libraries, public works, and transit.

Mayor Sharief has focused her mayoralty on the theme of "Broward Means Business." Mayor Sharief understands that small business is the backbone of our economy and has steadfastly highlighted and promoted county programs to ensure they succeed and thrive. To that end, she has begun every commission meeting by recognizing the civic leadership of one business in Broward County.

As she concludes her second term, Mayor Sharief continues the county's tradition of hosting the Mayor's Gala to raise funds for the United Way's Mission United program, helping veterans transition from active duty to civilian life.

In addition to making Broward County a better place for all business, Mayor Sharief manages her own business, South Florida Pediatric Home Care Inc., which she built from the ground up. She holds both a Master of Science in Nursing and an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner degree from Florida International University, and is pursuing a Doctorate of Nursing Practice. In addition to her role as mayor, businessowner, and student, she is also the mother of five children—Amanda, Zach, Alyssa, Meia, and Hailey.

Mayor Sharief is an extraordinary public servant whom I am proud to have worked alongside for the betterment of the residents of Broward County. I thank her for her dedicated service, and I wish her much success in all her future endeavors.

HONORING NICK LARIGAKIS FOR HIS 30 YEARS OF SERVICE STRENGTHENING U.S.-GREECE RELATIONS THROUGH HIS WORK AT THE AMERICAN HELLENIC IN- STITUTE (AHI)

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the extensive and unique contributions that my friend, Nick Larigakis, has made in strengthening the strategic alliance between the United States and Greece throughout his impressive 30-year tenure at the American Hellenic Institute. The American Hellenic Institute (AHI) is a non-profit Greek American public policy center which Mr. Larigakis has led with his renowned passion for justice and the rule of law. He manages the day-to-day operations of AHI and its affiliated organizations. He is directly responsible for strategic planning, policy analysis, public affairs, government relations, financial development and communications—essentially a one man show.

During his many years of distinguished service, Mr. Larigakis has hosted 70 successful legislative conferences and two trade conferences. He has also hosted multiple Congressional fact-finding trips to Greece and Cyprus, and led nine summits on the Future of Hellenism in America. Through his tireless advocacy and unwavering commitment to Hellenic causes he has molded AHI into a premier organization that regularly makes meaningful contributions in the public policy arena. As Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Affairs, as well as Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Hellenic Israel Alliance, I, along with my colleagues have especially benefitted from Nick's counsel and from the support of AHI in fostering mutually beneficial relations between the United States, Cyprus and Greece. His effective and respected political advocacy work has educated and informed the U.S. Congress about the protection and promotion of Hellenic-American interests. Furthermore, his efforts have helped

form a strong bond within the Hellenic community and served as an invaluable resource for Philhellenes throughout our great nation.

I congratulate Mr. Larigakis on reaching this important milestone in his career and thank him for his outstanding service, which has benefited our country, Greece, Cyprus and Hellenes worldwide while helping to preserve our rich cultural heritage. I look forward to working with him for many years to come. In the astute words of Pericles, "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." Throughout his remarkable career, Mr. Larigakis has left behind a passion for perpetuating the cornerstones of Hellenism: justice and democracy. Axios.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL (RET) SAMUEL MILTON SELBY ROLLINSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant, outstanding citizen, and hero to his community, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Samuel Milton Selby Rollinson. Sadly, Lt. Col. Rollinson passed away on Friday, September 22, 2017. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Fort Benning Infantry Chapel at 2:00 pm.

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Samuel was born to Sam and Ruth Rollinson, as the fourth of five sons. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, in 1982, he was commissioned as a ranger and later promoted to an infantry lieutenant, where he received his Airborne badge.

Following his retirement from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel, Samuel served as a government civilian by becoming Fort Benning's first Protocol Officer. He then served as the Civilian Deputy Chief of Staff, and ultimately, the Deputy TRADOC Capability Manager for the Stryker Brigade Combat Team. His co-workers and fellow servicemen cherished his seasoned wisdom and passion for reveling in the beauties of life.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind him distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." Although his passing was tragic and before his time, Lt. Col. Rollinson proved to us all what it truly meant to be a hero. He left this world doing what he loved most—serving the people of Fort Benning and Columbus, Georgia. His impression on this earth extends beyond himself to the very wellbeing of his community, and for that he will be remembered for time to come.

For his outstanding selflessness to the Columbus community, he was awarded the Rotary Club Mary Reed Award. Beyond this achievement and the respect held for him by servicemen and civilians, he was an honorable human being who loved deeply and, in return, was deeply loved.

Lt. Col. Rollinson is survived by his mother, Ruth; wife of 32 years, Sarah; children, Sam, Michelle, and Zack; daughter-in-law, Katharine; brothers, Jon Martin, Matt and Jim; and

a host of friends and those whose lives he has impacted.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, the nearly 730,000 people in Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and all Americans, in extending our sincerest appreciation to Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Milton Selby Rollinson, for his dedicated service to our nation and to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Lieutenant Colonel Rollinson's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF STAFF SERGEANT JAMES HARRELL, U.S. MARINE CORPS, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of Staff Sergeant James Harrell, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired, who served his country and continues to selflessly serve his fellow veterans and his community following his retirement. He is a fitting recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

SSG Harrell served six years in the United States Marine Corps, including two tours in Vietnam. During his service, SSG Harrell was a recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including the Marine Combat Action Ribbon. After being Honorably Discharged, SSG Harrell returned to Texas where he rose to become the Assistant Chief Deputy for Williamson County's Sheriff's Department.

SSG Harrell's love for his country is matched only by his commitment to his fellow service members. After recognizing the needs of our country's less fortunate veterans, SSG Harrell joined his good friend Major Barry Richard, United States Air Force, Retired to help over twelve Williamson County veterans by rebuilding homes, bringing them up to code, doing repairs, and more for over five years. Together, they've made real and lasting impacts on the lives of their fellow veterans.

SSG Harrell serves his fellow men with the same dedication, honor, and humility with which he defended his country. He exemplifies what it means to be an American, consistently placing his country and fellow men before himself. I thank and commend SSG Harrell, a passionate leader with a servant's heart, for his dedication and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a family commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 564, YEA on

Roll Call No. 565, YEA on Roll Call No. 566, NAY on Roll Call No. 567, and YEA on Roll Call No. 568.

RECOGNIZING MARGE MEDELLIN IN CELEBRATION OF HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Marge Medellin's 80th birthday celebration. Marge is the former mayor of Madera, California and a dear friend of mine. She has been an inspiration to many and trailblazer throughout her career in public service. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Marge as she celebrates this special milestone.

Margaret Medellin was born on October 8, 1937 to Mary and James Martinez. She is a lifelong resident of Madera. Marge overcame adversity at a young age and went on to have a successful career at the Madera County Office of Education. She worked there from July 1956 to December 2002.

Marge was married in 1957. She was blessed with four children, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

A call to service and the desire to help the community led Marge to run for the Madera City Council. She was first elected in March 1978, serving two terms from March 1978 to December 1986 and another term from December 1988 to December 1992. Marge served the city of Madera as mayor, beginning in 1982, for two consecutive terms and an additional four-year term. She was recognized by the state as California's first Latina Mayor.

Aside from her career in office, Marge has served on countless boards and commissions throughout the years. She is a founding member of the Pan American Club which provides college scholarships for young Hispanic students. She is also a founding member of Latinas Unidas, an organization that empowers young Hispanic women.

One of her proudest moments came in December 2016, when Marge swore in her son Andy Medellin as the mayor of Madera. Marge and Andy are believed to be the first mother and son elected mayor to the same city in California.

Marge is a true pioneer. She is known as an advocate for equal rights and always leads by example. Marge has served as a mentor and inspiration to many. She has made an indelible mark on Madera and our Valley.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Marge Medellin as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I ask that you join me in wishing her and her family continued health and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF FREDERICK SPENCER CRITTENDEN

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Frederick Spencer

Crittenden, a resident of Virginia's First District, who passed away on September 27, 2017. Fred was a graduate of Syringa High School and Randolph-Macon College, where he is a distinguished alumnus. He played minor league baseball for the Orlando Senators before being drafted into the United States Air Force to serve this great nation. After his service, Fred was a player, coach, and manager of the Deltaville "Deltas" baseball team. He started the Middlesex Baseball League for boys serving as the organizations first president.

Fred and his father ran T.H. Crittenden & Son, Riverdale Farm where they raised hogs, cattle, vegetables, and grain. He went on to start a purebred Duroc Swine herd and found the Virginia Purebred Livestock International promoting the swine industry in Virginia and globally. Fred was inducted into the Virginia Livestock Hall of Fame.

Fred had an impact on the community serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Deltaville Civic Association, Middlesex County School Board, Middlesex County Board of Supervisors, Middlesex County Social Security Services board, and the Airport Committee.

Fred is survived by his wife, Jane; daughter, Susan; sons, Thomas and Gerald; eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Fred's life and his service to Virginia.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT
RUFUS HONEYCUTT, USMC, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Rufus Honeycutt, USMC, Retired for his dedication and commitment to our country. SSG Honeycutt's extraordinary devotion to community and service reflects the best values of Central Texas. He is a fitting and worthy recipient of a Congressional Veterans Commendation.

SSG Honeycutt enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1960, and spent six years proudly defending his country. His military career included wartime deployment with the first combat unit to see action in Vietnam and earned him numerous awards and medals including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for Vietnam Service.

Following his military career, Rufus has served those around him with boundless altruism and exemplary leadership. A profoundly respected pillar of the Round Rock community, SSG Honeycutt has dedicated his time to numerous community organizations, including six years of service on the Round Rock City Council. He continues to support fellow veterans by providing transportation to the VA, working as the Blood Drive Coordinator at Ft. Hood, and much more. He has volunteered countless hours in his community, and has consistently placed his neighbors' needs before his own. For these reasons and many

more, his community came together in 2002 to honor Rufus Honeycutt as Round Rock Citizen of the Year.

SSG Honeycutt is a hero who has devoted his life to defending our freedoms abroad and serving his community at home. Dedicated public servants like him make Central Texas a great place to live. I join his family and friends in saluting his honored work and commitment to our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT DAVID'S
INDUCTION INTO THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTERS HALL

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Novi resident Robert David. For over 38 years, Mr. David has built a distinguished broadcasting career hallmark by his passion for broadcasting excellence, dedication to community service, and political activism.

After an extensive radio broadcasting sales and management career, Mr. David founded Handyman Productions, where as President and General Manager, he produces the award-winning, nationally-syndicated "Handyman Show with Glenn Haege" to help homeowners maintain and improve their homes and neighborhoods.

Both in the control room and outside the studio, Mr. David is a pillar of our community. Raising over \$1 million in scholarships for broadcasting students, Mr. David has helped cultivate the next generation of broadcasters. Furthermore, he is someone dedicated to protecting and preserving our neighborhoods, graduating from the FBI Citizen's Academy, Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy, and Novi Ambassador Academy.

This year, Mr. David's career is bestowed a distinction fitting of his lifetime of accomplishments—induction into the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB) Hall of Fame. Joining the broadcasting icons of our great State of Michigan, he is sure to fit right in with the best of the best.

My heartfelt congratulations to Mr. David on this well-deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LARRY SERVIES

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable Hoosier, Mr. Larry Servies, who is being honored by the community in Montgomery County for his 67 years of service as a volunteer fireman. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to the Waveland community.

Mr. Servies is a lifelong Hoosier and Waveland resident. He was a charter member

of the Waveland Community Volunteer Fire Department and served 30 years as its chief. In those years of leadership, he has been credited with overseeing the purchase of a new fire truck, building a new fire station, steadfastly meeting regulation requirements, and providing quality training to future generations of volunteer firefighters. Though he has already devoted 67 years of service to the Waveland Fire Department, it is my understanding he is not going anywhere and plans to remain a member of the department as long as his good health stays with him.

Mr. Servies embodies the generous spirit and dedication to community like so many of our volunteer firefighters in Indiana and across this country. He is an army veteran, a member of the Waveland Covenant United Methodist Church, and has been active in various community service organizations and trade associations. As a long-time businessman, Mr. Servies owned and operated a furniture store, hardware and lumber business, and funeral home which provided needed products and services to the Waveland community.

I am honored to congratulate Mr. Larry Servies for his dedication to helping make Waveland a safer and better place to live. His commitment to the community serves as an example for all of us on how to be good citizens. May God continue to bless Mr. Servies and the Waveland Community Volunteer Fire Department.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RAUL
VILLARONGA, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service and achievements of an esteemed and valued citizen of Killeen, Texas. Colonel Raul Villaronga, U.S. Army Retired, has dedicated himself to serving his community and is an embodiment of the Army values of honor, loyalty, and selfless service. He is a deserving recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

His commission as an Infantry 2nd Lieutenant in 1959 began his 24 years of service in which he completed assignments in Fort Bragg, the Panama Canal Zone, Vietnam, Germany, and Fort Hood. While assigned to the 8th Special Forces Group, he participated in numerous classified Mobile Training Teams in Central and South America. COL Villaronga deservedly received awards including the Silver Star, the Bronze Star Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Meritorious Service Medal as a testament to his exemplary service.

COL Villaronga is a respected citizen serving in a number of roles showcasing his commitment to community and nation. Returning from the Air Force, COL Villaronga served three terms as Mayor of Killeen. As Mayor, he founded the Killeen Youth Advisory Commission and worked on the Joint Use Agreement for the Robert Gray Army Airfield. As Chairman of the Killeen League of United Latin American Citizens Council 4535 Foundation,

COL Villaronga has been responsible for the donation of over \$175,000 in scholarships for local graduating seniors. He continues to serve veterans in his community alongside his wife. His tireless efforts have made Central Texas a place that we're proud to call home.

COL Villaronga's patriotism and commitment to service reflect the very best values of Central Texas. He is a hero who has devoted his life to defending our freedoms abroad and serving his community at home. I join his wife, Julia, along with his family and friends in wishing him the best in the years ahead.

BAHA'I BICENTENARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on the 200th anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith, it is with great pleasure that I send warm greetings to the Baha'i community of South Florida and beyond.

Baha'is have thrived in the United States for over 120 years, making the world a better place by being good citizens, serving their communities, and working with those around them to promote the common good. With over five million followers around the world, the Baha'i Faith continues to promote Baha'u'llah's message of justice, unity, and peace, as it calls for equality, education, interfaith harmony, and international cooperation, and an end to racial prejudice.

Despite the Baha'i message of peace, Baha'is in Iran continue to endure severe persecution because of their faith. In the last two Congresses, I have been honored to introduce a resolution which condemns "the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights." Last year the House unanimously passed this resolution, sending a strong message that Iran must be held accountable for its actions, and we continue to garner strong bipartisan support for a similar measure, H. Res. 274, this year.

As we celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, let us remember his words: "so powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth." In our quest for justice and peace, we must all work together to combat religious persecution whenever and wherever it is found.

My best wishes to the entire Baha'i community on this very special occasion.

HONORING THELMA COLLINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the retirement of Ms. Thelma Collins, who has tirelessly devoted herself to the betterment of Itta Bena, Mississippi, through her works as a Servant Mayor for 12 years. As a native to this Delta community, Mrs. Collins has always be-

lieved in her dreams to see Itta Bena develop into a vibrant, healthy place for growing up and growing old.

In the pursuit of her vision, Mrs. Collins attended and graduated from Mississippi Valley State University, and then continued her education by receiving a Master's Degree at Mississippi State University. Post-graduation, Mrs. Collins began her career with over 30 years in education—serving as a teacher, an adjunct professor at Mississippi Valley State University, and as a recognized member of many civil and spiritual boards.

In August 1996, Mrs. Collins was elected to serve her first Mayoral term in the city of Itta Bena, Mississippi. After sitting four years out of office, Mrs. Collins' continued vision inspired her to return to office and serve a second term in 2005. Still hopeful to see a progressive Itta Bena, Ms. Collins returned to serve a spiritual led third term in 2009. However, due to the poor economic state of Itta Bena, Ms. Collins refused a salary, and served this final term pro bono.

Amongst Mrs. Collins many noteworthy accomplishments, is her dedication and the success she achieved in not only getting the IRS to remove the city's lien, but also to abate its more than \$200,000 tax debt.

Mrs. Collins has been married to Reverend Johnny Collins for forty-nine years. They have one son, John Paul Collins, a daughter-in-law, and five grandchildren. At this juncture during her retirement, her ultimate aspiration is to continue her works in the improvement and livelihood of her citizens of Itta Bena, while remaining close and led by her relationship with Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mrs. Thelma Collins, for her dedication and service to the great city of Itta Bena, Mississippi.

DALLAS LOVE FIELD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial of Dallas Love Field Airport, which celebrated one hundred years of operation this month. Since the airport's opening in 1917, Dallas Love Field has experienced tremendous growth and positive change that has strengthened the Dallas area in a multitude of ways. Today, Dallas Love Field stands as an invaluable gateway for North Texas.

Dallas Love Field is rich in history and culture. The airport was initially opened as an Army Air Service field, named for Lieutenant Moss Lee Love, the eighth aviation officer to be killed and the 10th fatality in Army aviation. However, as flying became more accessible airlines started conducting commercial flights out of Love Field and eventually the airport was made the headquarters for Southwest Airlines when the company was founded in 1971. Throughout American history, it has stood as an important landmark, not only for the City of Dallas, but for the entire United States as well.

The airport has hosted aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh, after recently finishing the first flight from New York to Paris. In 1959,

Lady Bird Johnson celebrated the launching of the first jet service, an American Airlines 707, out of Love Field. Later, in November of 1963, the airport hosted an historic moment during one of the most shocking days that our country has ever lived through, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. It was at Love Field where First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy stood by Lyndon Johnson's side as he was sworn in as President.

Today, countless Americans rely heavily on Love Field's convenient access to air travel and the first class amenities that it provides for travelers. Love Field stands as a model for other municipalities in how to manage and grow a self-support airport of this caliber. I am proud to recognize Dallas Love Field during this important milestone, and I look forward to experiencing even more positive growth and change at Love Field in the coming years.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALFRED WILLIAM DE SANTIS, SR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alfred William De Santis, Sr. for his 55 years of service to the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1 in Oceanport, New Jersey. Mr. De Santis' outstanding record will be celebrated at the company's 40th annual "Old Timer's Night," which Mr. De Santis himself originated.

Mr. De Santis' leadership and commitment to the department is evident. A Life Member and Ex-Chief, Mr. De Santis began his service with the company in March of 1962. In addition to his election as Chief of the Oceanport Fire Department in 1971, Mr. De Santis also served as Captain, Secretary and Treasurer of the company. He was elected Company President for six terms. He remains an active member of the company and is dedicated to his fellow fire fighters, organizing the annual "Old Timer's Night" celebrating and honoring members for the past 40 years.

In addition to his service with the Oceanport Fire Department, Mr. De Santis was a member of the Fire Police Division for 30 years and served as Secretary of the Oceanport Relief Association and Secretary of the Exempt Association of Oceanport for 35 years. He also held leadership positions with the Ex Chief's Association of Eatontown, Oceanport and West Long Branch.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I join with the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1 in honoring Alfred William De Santis, Sr. on his outstanding record of accomplishment. Mr. De Santis has dutifully served Oceanport for 55 years and his selfless commitment is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING "MOTHER" ROSA MCKIE

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of "Mother"

Rosa McKie, who for the past 50 years has shown tremendous dedication to the community of the Mason Temple Church of God in Christ on Williams Avenue in Brooklyn.

Known as a source of pure kindness, inspiration and fortitude, Ms. McKie's longstanding service to the Church earned her the title of "Church Mother". Ms. McKie migrated to New York in 1943 and has since called Brooklyn her home. A World War II Navy Bride, she married the late Charles McKie as he was on active duty. This summer, on July 17th, she turned 100 years old, proving that age has not slowed her from counseling, nurturing and investing in her community.

Present at nearly every worship service that takes place at the Church, Ms. McKie has fulfilled roles as diverse as usher, Choir Director, and outreach missionary. It is this spirit of willingness to meet every need that has earned her such a warm legacy among congregants.

It is my great honor to wish Mother McKie a joyful birthday and lifetime celebration as she leaves her daily role with the Church to relocate and live with her daughter. For someone who has been a living inspiration for so many, it is my deep hope that this service is a chance for her community to return the love.

HONORING FIRST SERGEANT WILL WILLIAMS, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor First Sergeant Will Williams, U.S. Army, Retired, of Round Rock, Texas, for his selfless dedication and service to our nation and his continued, unparalleled contributions to his community. I'm honored to award him a Congressional Veterans Commendation.

Following his enlistment in 1976, SGT Williams contributed 24 years of service that included deployments from Panama and Somalia, to Desert Shield and Desert Storm as an Army Ranger, Small Weapons Specialist with the 2nd Division. His commitment to keeping our nation safe is in his blood. Three generations of his family served in combat roles in the United States Army, and among the three they share 4 Bronze Star Medals.

SGT Williams' service and sense of duty did not culminate with his military service. Upon returning to Round Rock, SGT Williams dedicated his civilian life to the uplifting and betterment of his community. In 2013, he helped raise \$50,000 for Dell's Children's Hospital and over \$10,000 for the Ronald McDonald House. In Round Rock, SGT Williams organized a food drive, sent out a care package to deployed soldiers, and provided clothing and supplies to 300 foster kids through Project Care.

His service has been recognized and appreciated throughout the community. SGT Williams was recognized with the Service to Mankind Award by the Round Rock Sertoma Club, received the Leadership Award from the "Heart of Texas Award" organization, and was honored with the Governor's Lone Star Achievement Award from Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

I commend First Sergeant Will Williams' selfless service to his community and nation.

His commitment to excellence and citizenship reflect the best values we hold as Americans. I join his family, friends, and colleagues in saluting his great work and dedication to our country.

CHARLESTON HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to congratulate Charleston High School for winning the 2017 IHSA Class 2A Boys State Golf Tournament.

In their State Championship effort, the Trojans set a new school record by six strokes with a team score of 599 over the two day tournament. The members of the Charleston High School Golf team dedicated their State Championship, like they had their entire 2017 season, to their classmate and friend Jordan Holly, who passed away this past May. I commend these young people for selflessly honoring others during one of their greatest achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my congratulations to the Head Coach Randy Hapster and to team members Keegan Gowin, Ben Lanman, Robert Rardin, Preston Smith, Blake Wolfe, and Zach Will. They should all be very proud of their accomplishments this season and I wish them nothing but the best for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHNNY C. TAYLOR, JR.

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding leader and defender of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their students. Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. has served as the President and CEO of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund since 2010, and today, we honor his service to the nearly 300,000 students the organization represents. Named for the first African American justice of the United States Supreme Court, the Thurgood Marshall College Fund honors Justice Marshall's legacy by assisting in the development of tomorrow's leader.

Through Johnny C. Taylor, Jr.'s leadership, this organization has advanced the education of students through scholarships, programs and research initiatives. Thurgood Marshall College Fund member schools confer more degrees than any other Historically Black Colleges and Universities organization and provides access to an extraordinary pipeline of talented individuals as they enter the workforce.

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. has been an instrumental part of Thurgood Marshall College Fund's mission: "Changing the World . . . One Leader at a Time." His impact can never be fully measured, but we appreciate his dedication and service to many of our nation's students.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF CAPTAIN DENNIS DEWINE, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service and achievements of an esteemed and valued citizen, Captain Dennis DeWine, U.S. Army, Retired. He has dedicated himself to his community and nation and is an embodiment of the Army values of honor, loyalty, and selfless service. CPT DeWine is a fitting and worthy recipient of a Congressional Veterans Commendation.

CPT DeWine joined the Army in 1967 as a helicopter pilot and spent the next seven years flying over the treacherous skies of Vietnam. As a testament to his valorous service, the President of the United States presented CPT DeWine with the Distinguished Flying Cross award for his actions above and beyond the call of duty. After being Honorably Discharged CPT DeWine was inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor.

CPT DeWine's leadership skills have been invaluable throughout his post-military career. After rejoining civilian life, he became the founder, broker, and president of ERA Colonial Real Estate and Colonial Residential Properties, Inc. Despite his busy schedule, CPT DeWine remains dedicated to serving his community. He can often be found in jeans and boots working alongside his friends and neighbors. CPT DeWine's passion to serve is evident through his participation and leadership in numerous organizations, such as Central Texas Voices for Life, where he serves as Chairman. CPT DeWine has also proven his commitment to serving others through his company's efforts to successfully raise \$100,000 for Muscular Dystrophy.

Despite his business and charitable commitments, CPT DeWine has found time to raise a close-knit family, volunteer in community organizations, and remain active in his church. With admiration and deep respect, I pay tribute to Dennis DeWine for his sacrifices and the lasting impact he has had on his community and country.

RECOGNITION OF TONY REED

HON. DAVE BRAT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Anthony "Tony" Reed who passed away in June, and was a good friend who had a deep love for America.

Born in the United Kingdom in 1938 as it was hurtling towards the start of World War II, Tony eventually immigrated to Virginia with his mother and stepfather in 1947. Before his 20th birthday, Tony enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve and joined the C&P Telephone Company. Tony's reserve career was distinguished, rising from the rank of Private to Colonel in the Army Special Forces. He also achieved the status of Master Parachutist, logging over 900 parachute jumps.

In 2015, Tony sat down with me and my former Chief of Staff to discuss a white paper he wrote for my attention on China. He was a Senior Fellow at The International Strategic Studies Association and was steeped in world history. Tony was a true gentleman and scholar and gave us many great memories. Tony will certainly be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MERRILL O. NAYLOR BEING NAMED A RECIPIENT OF THE 2017 CARNEGIE MEDAL FOR ACTS OF EXTRAORDINARY CIVILIAN HEROISM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American and my constituent, Mr. Merrill O. Naylor, of Stephens City, Virginia, who is a recipient of the 2017 Carnegie Medal for Acts of Extraordinary Civilian Heroism.

This year, eighteen individuals from throughout the United States and Canada will receive the Carnegie Medal for risking their lives and showing outstanding courage in saving the life of another person.

Through fire and smoke, Mr. Naylor answered the call for help from his neighbor, Ms. Sheryl C. Lewis, on the evening of November 4, 2015, rescuing her from a burning building that she was trapped in. Mr. Naylor's heroic actions and valor are an inspiration to us all, and serve as an example of the qualities of service and selflessness that we should all aspire to have. The determination and resolve he displayed that day speaks volumes about his character and shed light on the definition of true courage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me and the people of Virginia's 10th Congressional District in honoring Mr. Merrill Naylor for his brave service to the people of Stephens City, Virginia. We Americans are so fortunate to have heroes like Merrill Naylor who are willing to put their lives at risk to protect their neighbors, and we honor him on being the recipient of a 2017 Carnegie Medal for Acts of Extraordinary Civilian Heroism.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

Yesterday, October 22, marked the birth of Bahá'u'lláh. During his life, Bahá'u'lláh touched the lives of all those around him and was known for his charity and his message of the unity of mankind, justice, and peace. His message still lives on today in the religion he founded and in over five million Bahá'ís around the world. Wherever they live, Baha'ís strive to be good citizens, serving their communities and the common good and working side-by-side with other faiths to advance education, interfaith harmony, and international cooperation.

The Bahá'í Faith has spread to every state since arriving in the U.S. more than 120 years ago. I want to specifically highlight the Bahá'í community in Cincinnati. Throughout my time in Congress, I have had the opportunity to meet with Bahá'í representatives many times and to learn how they have enriched and blessed our city.

Unfortunately, the Bahá'ís are not free to practice their religion in Iran, Bahá'u'lláh's homeland. Since the Revolution of 1979, Iran has executed at least 200 Baha'is. 10,000 Bahá'ís have been dismissed from their jobs and 700 have been arrested since 2005. Bahá'ís have seen their homes raided, their property confiscated, and their children denied education.

During my service on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I have vocally supported the Bahá'ís rights in Iran. That is why I joined my colleague, Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, to introduce H. Res. 274 earlier this year which once again condemns Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Bahá'í minority. As the Bahá'í celebrate Bahá'u'lláh's birth, we must remember that his followers are not yet free to practice in his homeland.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize this momentous occasion, and wish those Bahá'í in my district, throughout America, and around the world, a joyous celebration.

HONORING REVEREND BARRY W. LYNN OF AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great champion of religious freedom and my friend, the Reverend Barry W. Lynn, who will soon retire after 25 years as executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and an attorney, Rev. Lynn has paired his two callings and been a leader in the fight to protect our civil rights and civil liberties, especially the First Amendment. His work has helped protect our right to believe (or not) as we see fit and guarantee that the government does not promote religion. Rev. Lynn has been on the frontlines of the fight to ensure that religion is not used as an excuse to discriminate against others, dictate people's private lives, tell others whom they can love, or limit people's access to healthcare.

Under Rev. Lynn's leadership, Americans United has grown into one of the most prominent organizations in the country working to protect religious freedom. During his tenure, the organization has led the charge to defend the wall of separation between church and state.

Rev. Lynn's tenure is marked by efforts to ensure that all people feel welcomed in their community regardless of their faith. He led Americans United's fight to ensure that students at public schools were taught science rather than creationism in their classrooms and for the removal the 2½ ton monument to the Ten Commandments erected at the Alabama Supreme Court. During his leadership, Americans United successfully stopped a pro-

posed constitutional amendment to allow public school-sponsored prayers and fought for women's health and equality when it stood up for students when their university cited religion to block their access to birth control.

Rev. Lynn is an author and educator who has shared his expertise with audiences across the country, giving speeches, appearing on television, hosting his long-running radio show, and testifying in Congress, about why the constitutional principle of church-state separation is the only way to ensure freedom of religion for all Americans.

Although he will now have more time to spend with his twin grandchildren, just born this summer, Rev. Lynn's lifelong passion for social justice remains. I feel confident he will continue to engage in social justice issues and stand up for important causes for years to come.

It has been my pleasure to work with Rev. Lynn over the last two decades. I commend him for his transformational service to Americans United, our Constitution, and our country, and I wish him well in his retirement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 25

Time to be announced

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Melissa Sue Glynn, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Enterprise Integration), Randy Reeves, of Mississippi, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, and Cheryl L. Mason, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing naval forces and the Navy's current and planned capabilities to meet those threats.

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the commercial satellite industry.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Michael Dourson, of Ohio, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, and William L. Wehrum, of Delaware, Matthew Z. Leopold, of Florida, and David Ross, of Wisconsin, each to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, Paul Trombino III, of Wisconsin, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine an original bill entitled, "the Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Act of 2017".

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy

To receive a closed briefing on Niger security.

SVC-217

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic outlook.

LHOB-1100

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jeff Tien Han Pon, of Virginia, to be Director, and Michael Rigas, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Personnel Management, and Emily Webster Murphy, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1223, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1870, to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, S. 1953, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and S. 1942, to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians.

SD-628

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine working and aging with disabilities from school to retirement.

SD-562

OCTOBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on Niger.

SVC-217

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 1928, to establish a review of United States multilateral aid, S. Res. 279, reaffirm-

ing the commitment of the United States to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Cambodia, and the nominations of Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Kenneth Ian Juster, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti, Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Kathleen M. Fitzpatrick, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Richard Duke Buchan III, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Andorra, Richard Grenell, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Jamie McCourt, of California, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco, Edward T. McMullen, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein, Peter Henry Barlerin, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, Michael James Dodman, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Nina Maria Fite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, Daniel L. Foote, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, David Dale Reimer, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, and Eric P. Whitaker, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, all of the Department of State.

S-116

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine advanced cyber technologies that could be used to help protect electric grids and other energy infrastructure from cyberattacks.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, Robert Hunter Kurtz, of Virginia, and Suzanne Israel Tufts, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-538

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine free speech on college campuses.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management

To hold hearings to examine improving oversight of the regulatory process, fo-

cusing on lessons from state legislatures.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 807, to provide anti-retaliation protections for antitrust whistleblowers, and the nominations of Allison H. Eid, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Stephanos Bibas, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Liles Clifton Burke, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, Walter David Counts III, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, Michael Joseph Juneau, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, A. Marvin Quattlebaum, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Karen Gren Scholer, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Tilman Eugene Self III, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, and John F. Bash, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, Erin Angela Nealy Cox, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, and R. Andrew Murray, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, all of the Department of Justice.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem for women.

SR-428A

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

OCTOBER 30

5 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the Authorizations for the Use of Military Force, focusing on Administration perspectives.

SD-419

NOVEMBER 1

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Scott Garrett, of New Jersey, to be President, Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be First Vice President, Mark L. Greenblatt, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, and Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, Judith Delzoppo Pryor, of Ohio, and Claudia Slacik, of New York, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors, all of the Export-Import Bank.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine building tribal economies, focusing on modernizing tax policies that work for Indian country.

SD-628

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6703–S6718

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 1536, to designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities. (S. Rept. No. 115–177)

Page S6715

Measures Passed:

SAFER Act: Senate passed S. 1766, to reauthorize the SAFER Act of 2013, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page S6717

House Messages:

Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6703–10

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Page S6703

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with McConnell Amendment No. 1568, to change the enactment date.

Page S6703

McConnell Amendment No. 1569 (to Amendment No. 1568), of a perfecting nature.

Page S6703

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 79 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 246), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Pages S6703, S6709–10

McConnell motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 1570, to change the enactment date, fell when cloture was invoked on McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Pages S6703, S6709–10

McConnell Amendment No. 1571 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1570), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 1570 (listed above), fell.

Pages S6703, S6709–10

McConnell Amendment No. 1572 (to Amendment No. 1571), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 1571 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1570) (listed above), fell.

Pages S6703, S6709–10

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the House message to accompany the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, October 24, 2017; and that all time during morning business, recess, adjournment, and Leader remarks count post-cloture on McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Page S6717

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, with respect to the situation in, or in relation to, the Democratic Republic of the Congo; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–17)

Pages S6713–14

Palk Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Scott L. Palk, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Page S6707

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the

Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the House message to accompany H.R. 2266, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges.

Page S6707

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S6707

McFadden Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. Page S6707

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Scott L. Palk, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma. Page S6707

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S6707

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S6707

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Christopher Caldwell, of Arkansas, to be Federal Cochairperson, Delta Regional Authority.

Kenneth J. Braithwaite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Norway.

9 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral. Page S6718

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Tom Marino, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, which was sent to the Senate on September 5, 2017. Page S6718

Messages from the House: Page S6714

Executive Communications: Pages S6714–15

Additional Cosponsors: Page S6716

Additional Statements: Page S6713

Amendments Submitted: Pages S6716–17

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—246) Pages S6709–10

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:47 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6717.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 12 public bills, H.R. 4090–4098; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 119; and H. Res. 579 and 578 were introduced.

Pages H8075–76

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H8076–77

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4010, to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States and title 28, United States Code, to enhance compliance with requests for information pursuant to legislative power under Article I of the Constitution, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–360);

H.R. 3898, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to place conditions on certain accounts at United States financial institutions with respect to North

Korea, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–361);

H.R. 3972, to clarify that family offices and family clients are accredited investors, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–362);

H. Res. 577, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 469) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 732) to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–363);

H. Res. 555, resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit, respectively, certain documents and other information to the House of Representatives

relating to the executive order on the review of designations under the Antiquities Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–364); adversely; and

H.R. 3279, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide that extraction of helium from gas produced under a Federal mineral lease shall maintain the lease as if the helium were oil and gas (H. Rept. 115–365). **Page H8075**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Kustoff to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8045**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:13 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H8045**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 236 yeas to 158 nays with two answering "present", Roll No. 571. **Page H8063**

Whole Number of the House: The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Murphy, the whole number of the House is 433. **Page H8047**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:12 p.m. and reconvened at 4:31 p.m. **Page H8046**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Department of Homeland Security Accountability Enhancement Act: H.R. 4038, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reassert article I authorities over the Department of Homeland Security; **Pages H8048–49**

Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017: H.R. 3328, to require a study regarding security measures and equipment at Cuba's airports, require the standardization of Federal Air Marshal Service agreements, and require efforts to raise international aviation security standards; **Pages H8049–52**

Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Reauthorization Act of 2017: H.R. 3551, amended, to amend the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 to reauthorize the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 569; **Pages H8052–56, H8062**

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Reauthorization Act of 2017: S. 504, to permanently authorize the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 401 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 570; and **Pages H8056–57, H8062–63**

Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act of 2017: H.R. 4010, amended, to

amend the Revised Statutes of the United States and title 28, United States Code, to enhance compliance with requests for information pursuant to legislative power under Article I of the Constitution.

Pages H8059–61

Recess: The House recessed at 5:29 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H8061**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology Act: H.R. 2142, amended, to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States. **Pages H8057–59**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo is to continue in effect beyond October 27, 2017—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 115–72). **Page H8048**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H8047.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8062, H8062–63, and H8063. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SUNSHINE FOR REGULATIONS AND REGULATORY DECREES AND SETTLEMENTS ACT OF 2017; STOP SETTLEMENT SLUSH FUNDS ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 469, the "Sunshine for Regulations and Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2017"; and H.R. 732, the "Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017". The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a structured rule for H.R. 469. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for the purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature

of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–34 and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part A of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part A of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 2, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 732 under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendments recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted, and provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Goodlatte, and Representatives Raskin and Jackson Lee.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1090)

H.R. 1117, to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an

emergency or disaster. Signed on October 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–69)

S. 178, to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases. Signed on October 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–70)

S. 652, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children. Signed on October 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–71)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David J. Ryder, of New Jersey, to be Director of the Mint, Department of the Treasury, and Hester Maria Peirce, of Ohio, and Robert J. Jackson, Jr., of New York, both to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, focusing on fisheries science, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Jeffrey Gerrish, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Industrial Competitiveness), Department of State, Gregory Doud, of Kansas, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, and Jason Kearns, of Colorado, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, Time to be announced, SD–215.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin K. McAleenan, of Hawaii, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine United States policy towards Burma, focusing on geopolitical, economic, and humanitarian considerations, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to markup pending intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing entitled “The Role of Facilities and Administrative Costs in Supporting NIH-Funded Research”, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Examining HHS’s Public Health Preparedness for and Response to the 2017 Hurricane Season”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled “The Federal Government’s Role in the Insurance Industry”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection; and Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, joint hearing entitled “Public-Private Solutions to Educating a Cyber Workforce”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, begin markup on legislation on the Agricultural Guestworker Act; and H.R. 3711, the “Legal Workforce Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules, joint hearing entitled “Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Information Technology, hearing entitled “Oversight of Federal Political Advertisement Laws and Regulations”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on the Senate Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Energy, joint hearing entitled “American Leadership in Quantum Technology”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, hearing on legislation to establish a permanent Veterans Choice Program; legislation to modify VA’s authority to enter into agreements with State homes to provide nursing home care to veterans, to direct the Secretary to carry out a program to increase the number of graduate medical education residency positions, and for other purposes; legislation to direct VA to conduct a study of the Veterans Crisis Line; legislation to direct VA to furnish mental health care to veterans at community or non-profit mental health providers participating in the Veterans Choice Program; legislation on the Veteran Coordinated Access and Rewarding Experiences Act; H.R. 1133, the “Veterans Transplant Coverage Act of 2017”; H.R. 2123, the “VETS Act of 2017”; H.R. 2601, the “VICTOR Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3642, the “Military SAVE Act”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 24 through October 27, 2017

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2266, Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, post-cloture.

Following disposition of the House message to accompany H.R. 2266, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Scott L. Palk, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Following disposition of the nomination of Scott L. Palk, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: October 25, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing naval forces and the Navy’s current and planned capabilities to meet those threats, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

October 26, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on Niger, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: October 24, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David J. Ryder, of New Jersey, to be Director of the Mint, Department of the Treasury, and Hester Maria Peirce, of Ohio, and Robert J. Jackson, Jr., of New York, both to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, 10 a.m., SD–538.

October 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, Robert Hunter Kurtz, of Virginia, and Suzanne Israel Tufts, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: October 24, Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, focusing on fisheries science, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

October 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the commercial satellite industry, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: October 26, to hold hearings to examine advanced cyber technologies that could be used to help protect electric grids and other energy infrastructure from cyberattacks, 9:45 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: October 25, business meeting to consider the nominations of Michael Dourson, of Ohio, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, and William L. Wehrum, of Delaware, Matthew Z. Leopold, of Florida, and David Ross, of Wisconsin, each to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, Paul Trombino III, of Wisconsin, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine an original bill entitled, "the Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Act of 2017", 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: October 24, business meeting to consider the nominations of Jeffrey Gerrish, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Industrial Competitiveness), Department of State, Gregory Doud, of Kansas, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, and Jason Kearns, of Colorado, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, Time to be announced, SD-215.

October 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin K. McAleenan, of Hawaii, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: October 24, to hold hearings to examine United States policy towards Burma, focusing on geopolitical, economic, and humanitarian considerations, 10 a.m., SD-419.

October 25, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to receive a closed briefing on Niger security, 10 a.m., SVC-217.

October 26, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1928, to establish a review of United States multilateral aid, S. Res. 279, reaffirming the commitment of the United States to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Cambodia, and the nominations of Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Kenneth Ian Juster, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti, Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Kathleen M. Fitzpatrick, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Richard Duke Buchan III, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Andorra, Richard Grenell, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Jamie McCourt, of California, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco, Edward T. McMullen, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liech-

tenstein, Peter Henry Barlerin, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, Michael James Dodman, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Nina Maria Fite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, Daniel L. Foote, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, David Dale Reimer, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, and Eric P. Whitaker, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, all of the Department of State, 9:30 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: October 26, to hold hearings to examine free speech on college campuses, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: October 25, business meeting to consider the nominations of Jeff Tien Han Pon, of Virginia, to be Director, and Michael Rigas, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Personnel Management, and Emily Webster Murphy, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services, 10:30 a.m., SD-342.

October 26, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine improving oversight of the regulatory process, focusing on lessons from state legislatures, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: October 25, business meeting to consider S. 1223, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1870, to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, S. 1953, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and S. 1942, to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: October 26, business meeting to consider S. 807, to provide anti-retaliation protections for antitrust whistleblowers, and the nominations of Allison H. Eid, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Stephanos Bibas, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Liles Clifton Burke, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, Walter David Counts III, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, Michael Joseph Juneau, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, A. Marvin Quattlebaum, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Karen Gren Scholer, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Tilman Eugene Self III, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, and John F. Bash, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, Erin Angela Nealy Cox, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, and R. Andrew Murray, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of

North Carolina, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: October 26, to hold hearings to examine strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem for women, 10:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: October 25, business meeting to consider the nominations of Melissa Sue Glynn, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Enterprise Integration), Randy Reeves, of Mississippi, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, and Cheryl L. Mason, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Select Committee on Intelligence: October 24, closed business meeting to markup pending intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

October 26, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: October 25, to hold hearings to examine working and aging with disabilities from school to retirement, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, October 25, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing entitled "Down Syndrome: Update on the State of the Science and Potential for Discoveries Across Other Major Diseases", 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, October 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Federal Efforts to Combat the Opioid Crisis: A Status Update on CARA and Other Initiatives", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

October 25, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission", 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, October 25, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled "Sustainable Housing Finance: Private Sector Perspectives on Housing Finance Reform", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

October 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Equifax Data Breach", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, October 25, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled "The President's Iran Decision: Next Steps", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, October 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "State Voter Registration List Maintenance", 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, October 25, Full Committee, continue markup on legislation on the Agricultural Guestworker Act; and H.R. 3711, the "Legal Workforce Act", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 26, Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, hearing entitled "Oversight of the United States Refugee Admissions Program", 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, October 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Empowering State Based Management Solutions for Greater Sage Grouse Recovery", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 25, Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on H.R. 215, the "American Indian Empowerment Act of 2017", 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, October 25, Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits, and Administrative Rules, joint hearing entitled "Ongoing Management Challenges at IRS", 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, October 25, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled "Bolstering the Government's Cybersecurity: Assessing the Risk of Kaspersky Lab Products to the Federal Government", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, October 25, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled "GAO Audit Reveals Half-Measures Taken by Small Business Advocates", 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

October 26, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, hearing entitled "Financing Through Fintech: Online Lending's Role in Improving Small Business Capital Access", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, October 25, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled "Examining How VBA Can Effectively Prevent and Manage Overpayments", 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

October 25, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust certain limits on the guaranteed amount of a home loan under the home loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 3018, the "Veterans' Entry to Apprenticeship Act"; H.R. 3634, the "Securing Electronic Records for Veterans' Ease Act of 2017"; H.R. 3949, the "VALOR Act"; H.R. 3965, the "Veterans Armed for Success Act"; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the applicability of certain provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act to housing and business loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the use of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for flight training programs, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways And Means, October 25, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled "Miscellaneous Tariff Bill: Providing Tariff Relief to U.S. Manufacturers Through the New MTB Process", 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: October 25, to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 10 a.m., 1100, Longworth Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, October 24

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, October 24

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2266, Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, post-cloture.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 732—Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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