

the current political crisis, which should include a commitment to hold early elections that meet democratic standards and include international observation;

(5) urges the international community to denounce the human rights abuses and violence perpetrated against the Nicaraguan people by the Ortega regime; and

(6) calls on the President of the United States to exercise the authorities included in the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) to impose sanctions with respect to any person who—

(A) is responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of human rights in Nicaragua; or

(B) is responsible for or complicit in ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing acts of significant corruption in Nicaragua.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3069. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3070. Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3071. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3072. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. JONES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3073. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. JONES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3074. Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3075. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3076. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3077. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3078. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3079. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3080. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3081. Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. SCOTT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3082. Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3083. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3084. Ms. HEITKAMP submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3069. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . TRACKING CASES OF COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS.

(a) REGISTRY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), acting through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall establish a registry for reports of cases of coccidioidomycosis.

(2) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall award grants to States and State and local departments of health for the purpose of supporting the surveillance of cases of coccidioidomycosis within the applicable State, and the reporting of any such cases to the registry established under paragraph (1).

(3) YEAR OF DIAGNOSIS.—In listing cases of coccidioidomycosis in the registry established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall attribute each case to the year in which it was diagnosed.

(b) PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall make publicly available any protocols and guidelines developed by the Department of Agriculture, the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or appropriate professional health care organizations, for purposes of educating health care providers, farmers, and other agricultural workers regarding the most recent scientific and medical information on the etiology, transmission, diagnosis, surveillance, and treatment of coccidioidomycosis.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

SA 3070. Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 12512. SELF-DETERMINATION FOR SNAP.

Title I of the Indian Self-Determination Act (25 U.S.C. 5321 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 112. SELF-DETERMINATION FOR SNAP.

“(a) AGRICULTURE SELF-DETERMINATION AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into self-determination contracts, in accordance with subsection (b),

with Indian tribes and tribal organizations, upon the request of any Indian tribe by tribal resolution, to plan, conduct, and administer any function, service, or activity of a supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) for the Indian tribe.

“(b) SELF-DETERMINATION CONTRACT.—A self-determination contract entered into under subsection (a) shall have the same terms and conditions, and be subject to the same procedures, regulations, and requirements, as a self-determination contract entered into under section 102, except that the Secretary of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture shall be the appropriate Secretary and agency for purposes of a self-determination contract under this section.

“(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Office of Self-Governance of the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall provide technical assistance regarding the self-determination contracts authorized under this section to the Secretary of Agriculture, and to Indian tribes and tribal organizations who request such assistance.”.

SA 3071. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 2204, strike paragraph (1)(B) and insert the following:

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “to the maximum extent practicable,” before “enroll”; and

SA 3072. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. JONES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 12 ____ . COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES.

Section 3a of the Act entitled “An Act Authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton”, approved March 3, 1927 (7 U.S.C. 473a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) HIRING AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee hired to provide cotton classification services under this section may—

“(1) work not more than 240 calendar days in a service year; and

“(2) be rehired noncompetitively each year in the same or a successor position if that employee meets performance and conduct expectations, as determined by the Secretary.”.

SA 3073. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. JONES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 12 . UPLAND COTTON.

(a) **LOAN RATES FOR NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS.**—Section 1202 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9032) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking “In the case” and inserting “Subject to subsection (d), in the case”; and

(B) in paragraph (7), by striking “\$0.7977” and inserting “\$0.95”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **UPLAND COTTON.**—The loan rate determined under subsection (a)(6) shall not equal less than an amount equal to 98 percent of the loan rate for base quality of upland cotton that was applied the preceding year.”.

(b) **SPECIAL COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.**—Section 1208(b)(2) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9038(b)(2)) is amended by striking “134” and inserting “113”.

SA 3074. Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, add the following:

SEC. . OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAIRNESS IN FARMING.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Opportunities for Fairness in Farming Act of 2018”.

(b) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds that—

(1) the generic programs to promote and provide research and information for an agricultural commodity (commonly known as “checkoff programs”) are intended to increase demand for all of that agricultural commodity and benefit all assessed producers of that agricultural commodity;

(2) although the laws establishing checkoff programs broadly prohibit the use of funds in any manner for the purpose of influencing legislation or government action, checkoff programs have repeatedly been shown to use funds to influence policy directly or by partnering with organizations that lobby;

(3) the unlawful use of checkoff programs funds benefits some agricultural producers while harming many others;

(4) to more effectively prevent Boards from using funds for unlawful purposes, strict separation of engagement between the Boards and policy entities is necessary;

(5) conflicts of interest in the checkoff programs allow special interests to use checkoff program funds for the benefit of some assessed agricultural producers at the expense of many others;

(6) prohibiting conflicts of interest in checkoff programs is necessary to ensure the proper and lawful operation of the checkoff programs;

(7) checkoff programs are designed to promote agricultural commodities, not to damage other types of agricultural commodities through anticompetitive conduct or otherwise;

(8) prohibiting anticompetitive and similar conduct is necessary to ensure proper and lawful operation of checkoff programs;

(9) lack of transparency in checkoff programs enables abuses to occur and conceals abuses from being discovered; and

(10) requiring transparency in the expenditure of checkoff program funds is necessary

to prevent and uncover abuses in checkoff programs.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **BOARD.**—The term “Board” means a board, committee, or similar entity established to carry out a checkoff program or an order issued by the Secretary under a checkoff program.

(2) **CHECKOFF PROGRAM.**—The term “checkoff program” means a program to promote and provide research and information for a particular agricultural commodity without reference to specific producers or brands, including a program carried out under any of the following:

(A) The Cotton Research and Promotion Act (7 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.).

(B) The Potato Research and Promotion Act (7 U.S.C. 2611 et seq.).

(C) The Egg Research and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).

(D) The Beef Research and Information Act (7 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.).

(E) The Wheat and Wheat Foods Research and Nutrition Education Act (7 U.S.C. 3401 et seq.).

(F) The Floral Research and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.).

(G) Subtitle B of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

(H) The Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.).

(I) The Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.).

(J) The Watermelon Research and Promotion Act (7 U.S.C. 4901 et seq.).

(K) The Pecan Promotion and Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6001 et seq.).

(L) The Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.).

(M) The Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.).

(N) The Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

(O) The Fluid Milk Promotion Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.).

(P) The Fresh Cut Flowers and Fresh Cut Greens Promotion and Information Act of 1993 (7 U.S.C. 6801 et seq.).

(Q) The Sheep Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).

(R) Section 501 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401).

(S) The Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7411 et seq.).

(T) The Canola and Rapeseed Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 7441 et seq.).

(U) The National Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 7461 et seq.).

(V) The Popcorn Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 7481 et seq.).

(W) The Hass Avocado Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 7801 et seq.).

(3) **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.**—The term “conflict of interest” means a direct or indirect financial interest in a person or entity that performs a service for, or enters into a contract or agreement with, a Board for anything of economic value.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(d) **REQUIREMENTS OF CHECKOFF PROGRAMS.**—

(1) **PROHIBITIONS.**—

(A) **INFLUENCING GOVERNMENT POLICY OR ACTION.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—A Board shall not enter into any contract or agreement to carry out checkoff program activities with a party that engages in activities for the purpose of influencing any government policy or action that relates to agriculture.

(ii) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in clause (i) prohibits a contract or agreement entered into between a Board and an institution of higher education for the purpose of research, extension, or education.

(B) **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.**—A Board shall not engage in, and shall prohibit the employees and agents of the Board, acting in their official capacity, from engaging in, any act that may involve a conflict of interest.

(C) **OTHER PROHIBITIONS.**—A Board shall not engage in, and shall prohibit the employees and agents of the Board, acting in their official capacity, from engaging in—

(i) any anticompetitive activity;

(ii) any unfair or deceptive act or practice; or

(iii) any act that may be disparaging to, or in any way negatively portray, another agricultural commodity or product.

(2) **AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on approval of the Secretary, a Board may enter directly into contracts and agreements to carry out generic promotion, research, or other activities authorized by law.

(3) **PRODUCTION OF RECORDS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Each contract or agreement of a checkoff program shall provide that the entity that enters into the contract or agreement shall produce to the Board accurate records that account for all funds received under the contract or agreement, including any goods or services provided or costs incurred in connection with the contract or agreement.

(B) **MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.**—A Board shall maintain any records received under subparagraph (A).

(4) **PUBLICATION OF BUDGETS AND DISBURSEMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Board shall publish and make available for public inspection all budgets and disbursements of funds entrusted to the Board that are approved by the Secretary, immediately on approval by the Secretary.

(B) **REQUIRED DISCLOSURES.**—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Board shall disclose—

(i) the amount of the disbursement;

(ii) the purpose of the disbursement, including the activities to be funded by the disbursement;

(iii) the identity of the recipient of the disbursement; and

(iv) the identity of any other parties that may receive the disbursed funds, including any contracts or subcontractors of the recipient of the disbursement.

(5) **AUDITS.**—

(A) **PERIODIC AUDITS BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF USDA.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than every 5 years thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall conduct an audit to determine the compliance of each checkoff program with this section during the period of time covered by the audit.

(ii) **REVIEW OF RECORDS.**—An audit conducted under clause (i) shall include a review of any records produced to the Board under paragraph (3)(A).

(iii) **SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.**—On completion of each audit under clause (i), the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall—

(I) prepare a report describing the audit; and

(II) submit the report described in subclause (I) to—

(aa) the appropriate committees of Congress, including the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(bb) the Comptroller General of the United States.

(B) AUDIT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 3 years, and not later than 5 years, after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(I) conduct an audit to assess—

(aa) the status of actions taken for each checkoff program to ensure compliance with this section; and

(bb) the extent to which actions described in item (aa) have improved the integrity of a checkoff program; and

(II) prepare a report describing the audit conducted under subclause (I), including any recommendations for—

(aa) strengthening the effect of actions described in subclause (I)(aa); and

(bb) improving Federal legislation relating to checkoff programs.

(ii) CONSIDERATION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall consider reports described in subparagraph (A)(iii) in preparing any recommendations in the report under clause (i)(II).

(e) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this section or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this section, and the application of the provision to any other person or circumstance, shall not be affected.

SA 3075. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 4112, insert the following:

SEC. 4113. PARTICIPATION OF PUERTO RICO AND AMERICAN SAMOA IN SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012) is amended—

(A) in subsection (r), by inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,” after “Guam,”; and

(B) in subsection (u)(3), by inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

(2) ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS.—Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), in the first sentence, by inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,” after “Guam,”;

(B) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “and Guam,” and inserting “Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and American Samoa,”; and

(C) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,” after “Hawaii,” each place it appears; and

(ii) in paragraph (6)(B), by inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subsection shall be effective with re-

spect to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, as applicable, on the date described in subparagraph (B) if the Secretary submits to Congress a certification under subsection (f)(3) of section 19 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2028).

(B) DATE DESCRIBED.—The date referred to in subparagraph (A) is, with respect to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, the date established by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, respectively, in the applicable plan of operation submitted to the Secretary under subsection (f)(1)(A) of section 19 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2028).

(b) TRANSITION OF PUERTO RICO AND AMERICAN SAMOA TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 19 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2028) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) TRANSITION OF PUERTO RICO AND AMERICAN SAMOA TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

“(1) SUBMISSION OF PLAN BY PUERTO RICO AND AMERICAN SAMOA.—

“(A) SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF PLAN OF OPERATION.—If a State agency is designated by a governmental entity and submits to the Secretary a request to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program and a plan of operation under section 11 (including a date on which the governmental entity will begin to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program), the Secretary shall determine whether that governmental entity and State agency satisfy the requirements that would apply under this Act for approval of that plan if the governmental entity were 1 of the several States.

“(B) DETERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—

“(i) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve a plan of operation under subparagraph (A) if the governmental entity and State agency satisfy the requirements described in that subparagraph.

“(ii) DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary does not approve a plan of operation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall provide to the governmental entity a statement that describes each requirement that is not satisfied by the plan.

“(2) APPROVAL OF RETAIL FOOD STORES.—If the Secretary approves a plan of operation under paragraph (1)(B)(i), the Secretary shall accept from retail food stores located in the applicable governmental entity applications under section 9 for approval to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

“(3) SUBMISSION OF CERTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress a certification that a governmental entity qualifies to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program as if the governmental entity were a State if the Secretary—

“(A) approves the plan of operation under paragraph (1)(B)(i); and

“(B) approves the applications under paragraph (2) of a number of retail food stores located in the governmental entity requesting to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program that would be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of this Act if the governmental entity were 1 of the several States.

“(4) CASH BENEFITS PROVIDED IN PUERTO RICO.—As part of a plan of operation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may submit to the Secretary a request to provide benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program in the form of cash.

“(5) FAMILY MARKET PROGRAM IN PUERTO RICO.—As part of a plan of operation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), notwithstanding subsection (g), the Secretary shall

allow the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to continue to carry out, under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the Family Market Program established under this section.

“(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection and the amendments made by section 2 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 such sums as are necessary for fiscal year 2019, to remain available until expended.

“(g) TERMINATION OF EFFECTIVENESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsections (a) through (e) shall cease to be effective with respect to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, as applicable, on the date described in paragraph (2) if the Secretary submits to Congress a certification under subsection (f)(3).

“(2) DATE DESCRIBED.—The date referred to in paragraph (1) is, with respect to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, the date established by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or American Samoa, respectively, in the applicable plan of operation submitted to the Secretary under subsection (f)(1)(A).”.

SA 3076. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 4103, insert the following:

SEC. 4104. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 6(e) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7) by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (8) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) has an expected family contribution of zero, as determined by the procedures established in part F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk et seq.); or

“(10) is determined to be ‘independent’ based on one of the criteria specified in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (G), and (H) of section 480(d)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d)(1)).”.

SA 3077. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2 __. NITROUS OXIDE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) fertilizer is a significant cost input in many agricultural operations;

(2) opportunities exist for agricultural producers—

(A) to reduce the amount of fertilizer inputs; and

(B) to increase the efficiency of fertilizer use through the development of more effective fertilizer application protocols that maximize the uptake of fertilizer by crops while maintaining or increasing yields; and

(3) improving the application of nitrogen fertilizers at the correct rate, in the correct manner, at the correct time, and in the correct place will provide significant benefits to the environment, including reductions of—

(A) nitrogen runoff, which will improve water quality; and

(B) emissions of nitrous oxide, a powerful greenhouse gas associated with climate change.

(b) NITROUS OXIDE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS.—Chapter 5 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 1240S. NITROUS OXIDE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS.

“(a) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DATA.—

“(1) FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH DATA.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall make available all relevant data relating to fertilizer application in a format that is—

“(i) aggregated so as not to divulge proprietary or confidential business information; and

“(ii) searchable and accessible to the public, including, to the maximum extent practicable, all federally funded research data, including data of—

“(I) the Department of Agriculture; and

“(II) land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)).

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the release of data or information in a format that may divulge proprietary or confidential business information.

“(2) NON-FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH DATA.—The Secretary shall develop incentives to encourage the sharing of non-federally funded research data relating to fertilizer application, including data from—

“(A) research funded through a State program; and

“(B) independent or privately held research.

“(b) NITROGEN UPTAKE PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a 5-year pilot program for the development and optimization of nitrogen fertilizer application rates, timing, location, and formulation for—

“(A) corn;

“(B) soybeans;

“(C) wheat;

“(D) barley;

“(E) cotton;

“(F) oats;

“(G) sorghum;

“(H) rice; and

“(I) potatoes.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The pilot program described in paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) consist of projects in a diverse range of—

“(i) geographies;

“(ii) soil types;

“(iii) drainage conditions;

“(iv) tillage practices; and

“(v) climatic conditions; and

“(B) take into consideration—

“(i) the effect of crop rotation;

“(ii) the use of cover crops;

“(iii) the use of soil amendments; and

“(iv) any other factor that the Secretary determines to be appropriate—

“(I) to enhance the optimization of fertilizer application practices that reduce the generation of nitrous oxide and leached nitrogen; and

“(II) to support high agricultural yields.

“(c) ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM.—The Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall carry out a nitrous oxide reduction initiative within

the environmental quality incentives program established under chapter 4 to foster the adoption and continued use of fertilizer application protocols that reduce the production of nitrous oxide associated with the use of nitrogen fertilizer.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.”.

SA 3078. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ HONEY AND MAPLE SYRUP LABELING REQUIREMENTS.

Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Food and Drug shall revise the regulations with respect to added sugars labeling under section 403(q) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 343(q)), such that pure honey and pure maple syrup are not considered added sugars.

SA 3079. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1672(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925(d)) (as amended by section 7209(a)), add at the end the following:

“(15) NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purposes of identifying, evaluating, and demonstrating innovative nutrient management technologies for animal waste management, water quality, aquatic ecosystems, and animal feed that are focused on—

“(A) rural areas adjacent to urban or suburban areas in connection with waste management activities carried out in urban or suburban areas;

“(B) the development of alternative uses and renewable energy;

“(C) the regional nature of nutrient distribution; and

“(D) downstream markets for recovered nutrients.”.

SA 3080. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2 ____ SOIL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3833 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“Subchapter C—Soil Quality Improvement
“SEC. 1238H. SOIL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

“(a) NO-TILL FARM EQUIPMENT GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, in the Natural Resources Conservation Service, a program to provide grants and loans to agricultural producers with the goal, not later than January 1, 2026, of increasing to 50 percent the total percent of farmed acres in the United States under continuous no-till cultivation.

“(2) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall use not less than 20 percent of the funds made available for the program established under paragraph (1) to make grants.

“(3) PURCHASE OR LEASE OF EQUIPMENT.—An agricultural producer may use funds made available under this section to finance or otherwise incentivize the purchase or lease of equipment necessary to carry out continuous no-till cultivation, as determined by the Secretary.

“(4) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—In establishing the program under this section, the Secretary shall include an education and outreach program, carried out by the Secretary in coordination with—

“(A) State and local farm agencies;

“(B) institutions of higher education;

“(C) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture;

“(D) the National Association of Conservation Districts;

“(E) the Soil and Water Conservation Society; and

“(F) the Agricultural Tri-Societies.

“(b) REPORT ON SOIL CARBON UPTAKE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish a report that includes—

“(1) methodologies and protocols for tracking practices (including conservation tillage, continuous no-till cultivation, and the use of cover crops) that increase the uptake of carbon into soils, including—

“(A) the use of satellite-based and other remote sensing technologies; and

“(B) methods for monitoring net carbon transfer rates between soils and the atmosphere, including biogeochemical process models; and

“(2) an assessment of—

“(A) carbon stocks in United States soils as of the date of the report;

“(B) the potential for United States soils as a reservoir for carbon;

“(C) the net mass transfer rate of carbon between soils and the atmosphere on agricultural land and rangeland, including—

“(i) conservation tillage land; and

“(ii) no-till cultivated land; and

“(iii) land on which cover crops are used in rotation; and

“(D) rangeland management practices that increase soil carbon sequestration.

“(c) ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM.—The Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall carry out a soil carbon uptake initiative within the environmental quality incentives program established under chapter 4 to foster the adoption and sustained use of practices that increase the amount and the rate of carbon uptake in soils.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.”.

SA 3081. Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. SCOTT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of

Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 125 . ELIGIBILITY FOR OPERATORS ON HEIRS PROPERTY LAND TO OBTAIN A FARM NUMBER.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE DOCUMENTATION.—The term “eligible documentation”, with respect to land for which a farm operator seeks assignment of a farm number under subsection (b)(1), includes—

(A) in States that have adopted a statute consisting of an enactment or adoption of the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, as approved and recommended for enactment in all States by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in 2010—

(i) a court order verifying the land meets the definition of heirs property (as defined in that Act); or

(ii) a certification from the local recorder of deeds that the recorded owner of the land is deceased and not less than 1 heir of the recorded owner of the land has initiated a procedure to retitle the land in the name of the rightful heir;

(B) a fully executed, unrecorded tenancy-in-common agreement that sets out ownership rights and responsibilities among all of the owners of the land that—

(i) has been approved by a majority of the ownership interests in that property;

(ii) has given a particular owner the right to manage and control any portion or all of the land for purposes of operating a farm or ranch; and

(iii) was validly entered into under the authority of the jurisdiction in which the land is located;

(C) the tax return of a farm operator farming a property with undivided interests for each of the 5 years preceding the date on which the farm operator submits the tax returns as eligible documentation under subsection (b);

(D) self-certification that the farm operator has control of the land for purposes of operating a farm or ranch; and

(E) any other documentation identified by the Secretary under subsection (c).

(2) FARM NUMBER.—The term “farm number” has the meaning given the term in section 718.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act).

(b) FARM NUMBER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for the assignment of a farm number to any farm operator who provides any form of eligible documentation for purposes of demonstrating that the farm operator has control of the land for purposes of defining that land as a farm.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—Any farm number provided under paragraph (1) shall be sufficient to satisfy any requirement of the Secretary to have a farm number to participate in a program of the Secretary.

(c) ELIGIBLE DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary shall identify alternative forms of eligible documentation that a farm operator may provide in seeking the assignment of a farm number under subsection (b)(1).

SEC. 125 . LOANS TO PURCHASERS OF LAND WITH UNDIVIDED INTEREST AND NO ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION OF BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 333B(h) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1983b(h)) (as amended by section 5301) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2024”.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1981 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 333D the following:

“SEC. 333E. FARMER LOAN PILOT PROJECTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct pilot projects of limited scope and duration that are consistent with subtitles A, B, C, and this subtitle to evaluate processes and techniques that may improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the programs carried out under subtitles A, B, C, and this subtitle.

“(b) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) not less than 60 days before the date on which the Secretary initiates a pilot project under subsection (a), submit notice of the proposed pilot project to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate; and

“(2) consider any recommendations or feedback provided to the Secretary in response to the notice provided under paragraph (1).”

(c) RELENDING PROGRAM.—Subtitle A of title III of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 310I. RELENDING PROGRAM TO RESOLVE OWNERSHIP AND SUCCESSION ON FARMLAND.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make or guarantee loans to eligible entities described in subsection (b) using amounts made available for farm ownership loans under this subtitle so that the eligible entities may relend the funds to individuals and entities for the purposes described in subsection (c).

“(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Entities eligible for loans and loan guarantees described in subsection (a) are cooperatives, credit unions, and nonprofit organizations with—

“(1) certification under section 1805.201 of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations) to operate as a lender;

“(2) experience assisting socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (as defined in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a))) or limited resource or new and beginning farmers and ranchers, rural businesses, cooperatives, or credit unions, including experience in making and servicing agricultural and commercial loans; and

“(3) the ability to provide adequate assurance of the repayment of a loan.

“(c) ELIGIBLE PURPOSES.—The proceeds from loans made or guaranteed by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (a) shall be relent by eligible entities for projects that assist heirs with undivided ownership interests to resolve ownership and succession on farmland that has multiple owners.

“(d) PREFERENCE.—In making loans under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give preference to eligible entities—

“(1) with not less than 10 years of experience serving socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; and

“(2) in States that have adopted a statute consisting of an enactment or adoption of the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, as approved and recommended for enactment in all States by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in 2010, that relend to owners of heirs property (as defined in that Act).

“(e) LOAN TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The following terms and conditions shall apply to loans made or guaranteed under this section:

“(1) The interest rate at which intermediaries may borrow funds under this section shall be equal to the rate at which farm ownership loans under this subtitle are made.

“(2) The rates, terms, and payment structure for borrowers to which intermediaries lend shall be—

“(A) determined by the intermediary in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of operating and sustaining the revolving loan fund; and

“(B) clearly and publicly disclosed to qualified ultimate borrowers.

“(3) Borrowers to which intermediaries lend shall be—

“(A) required to complete a succession plan as a condition of the loan; and

“(B) be offered the opportunity to borrow sufficient funds to cover costs associated with the succession plan under subparagraph (A) and other associated legal and closing costs.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing the operation and outcomes of the program under this section, with recommendations on how to strengthen the program.

“(g) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall carry out this section using funds otherwise made available to the Secretary.”

SEC. 125 . FARMLAND OWNERSHIP DATA COLLECTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall collect and, not less frequently than once every 5 years report, data and analysis on farmland ownership, tenure, transition, and entry of beginning farmers and ranchers (as defined in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a))) and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (as defined in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a))).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall, at a minimum—

(1) collect and distribute comprehensive reporting of trends in farmland ownership, tenure, transition, barriers to entry, profitability, and viability of beginning farmers and ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers;

(2) develop surveys and report statistical and economic analysis on farmland ownership, tenure, transition, barriers to entry, profitability, and viability of beginning farmers and ranchers, including a regular follow-on survey to each Census of Agriculture with results of the follow-on survey made public not later than 3 years after the previous Census of Agriculture; and

(3) require the National Agricultural Statistics Service—

(A) to include in the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land survey questions relating to—

(i) the extent to which non-farming landowners are purchasing and holding onto farmland for the sole purpose of real estate investment;

(ii) the impact of these farmland ownership trends on the successful entry and viability of beginning farmers and ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers;

(iii) the extent to which farm and ranch land with undivided interests and no administrative authority identified have farms or ranches operating on that land; and

(iv) the impact of land tenure patterns, categorized by—

(I) race, gender, and ethnicity; and

(II) region; and

(B) to include in the report of each Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land survey the results of the questions under subparagraph (A).

SA 3082. Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 125. BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) define and enforce any Buy American requirements under the jurisdiction of the Secretary; and

(2) submit to Congress a report on the actions the Secretary has taken and plans to take to comply with paragraph (1).

SA 3083. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 6211. COMMUNITY BROADBAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term “eligible entity” means—

- (1) a local government agency;
- (2) a regional agency;
- (3) a nonprofit organization with relevant expertise; or
- (4) a public-private partnership.

(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make broadband technical assistance and planning grants to eligible entities to conduct assessments and develop action plans for the expansion of broadband services in the area served by the eligible entity.

(c) QUALIFIED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity may use a grant awarded under this section to—

- (1) establish a multi-stakeholder broadband planning team;
- (2) determine the extent to which broadband service is accessible in the community or region served by the eligible entity by—

(A) undertaking a physical comprehensive inventory of broadband infrastructure assets and capabilities; and

(B) developing a geographic information system (commonly known as “GIS”)-based map of existing serviceability;

(3) assess current broadband adoption rates in the community or region;

(4) assess advertised broadband service pricing in the community or region across all available providers;

(5) obtain professional advice or guidance on—

- (A) options to expand broadband service, including public-private partnerships;
- (B) potential sustainable financial models; or
- (C) grant writing; or

(6)(A) identify and analyze government policies, ordinances, or statutes that may be hindering broadband expansion; and

(B) make recommendations for modification.

(d) AWARD AMOUNT LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant awarded under this section shall be not more than \$200,000.

(e) TERM.—A grant awarded under this section—

(1) shall be for an initial term of 1 year; and

(2) may be renewed by the Secretary for a single additional term of 1 year in the same amount as initially provided.

(f) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall carry out this section using—

(1) amounts made available for technical assistance and pre-development planning activities under section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141); and

(2) any other amounts available to the Secretary.

(g) OTHER CONDITIONS.—The requirements under section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) shall apply to grants awarded under this section, except to the extent that those requirements are inconsistent with this section.

(h) PROGRAM DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out this section during fiscal year 2018 and each fiscal year thereafter, subject to the availability of funds.

SA 3084. Ms. HEITKAMP submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 125. STATE AND TRIBAL REGULATION OF FORM OF AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS ENTITIES.

(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—It is the policy of Congress that it is in the public interest for each State and Indian Tribe to continue to regulate the form of a business entity that may engage in farming or livestock production within the State or territory of the Indian Tribe or own agricultural land within the State or territory of the Indian Tribe, including through laws or regulations that restrict or prohibit certain types of business entities from—

(1) engaging in farming or livestock production within the State or territory of the Indian Tribe; or

(2) owning agricultural land within the State or territory of the Indian tribe.

(b) CONSENT TO STATE AND TRIBAL REGULATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A State or Indian Tribe may regulate the form of a business entity that may—

(A) engage in farming or livestock production within the State or territory of the Indian Tribe; or

(B) own agricultural land within the State or territory of the Indian Tribe.

(2) CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph (1) and the policy described in subsection (a) shall be construed to eliminate any barrier under the Commerce Clause of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States to the regulation by a State or Indian tribe described in paragraph (1).

(3) EFFECT OF SILENCE.—Silence in any law of Congress enacted before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act with respect to the regulation by a State or Indian Tribe described in paragraph (1) shall not be construed to preclude that regulation.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator MURRAY, I ask unanimous consent that a fellow on Senator MUR-

RAY's Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee staff, Lori Achman, be granted floor privileges through August 3, 2018.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 6

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6) to provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 26; 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. I further ask that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 2. Further, I ask that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings. Finally, I ask that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postclosure on the motion to proceed to H.R. 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator BROWN.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

GENERAL MOTORS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last Friday was a dark day for American workers and a dark day for the American auto industry. On the very same day that General Motors laid off the entire