

aftermath—step back and find a way to make sure that people who pay undue financial penalties because, through no fault of their own, the government shut down are compensated; and that we can sort through the complicated issues around contractors and those private businesses that are around Federal facilities; that we try to come to some kind of joint agreement, that never again will we use an unconnected policy issue to hold hostage 800,000 folks who work for us and hundreds of thousands of others—and, frankly, millions—who depend upon these services going forward.

I may be being overly optimistic that somehow or other we will get this resolved. If we do, we ought to find—those of us who are part of the groups that find common accord—to put some marker down to never ever do this again.

I have stories from a variety of Virginians here. I know the Presiding Officer wants to get out of the Chair at 1 p.m. I ask unanimous consent that these statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

Rebecca in Chesapeake writes: “. . . I just want my husband to be able to go back to the work he loves and to have stability for my family returned . . . The stress of not knowing how long this will last is eating at both my husband and me.”

Here's what Chad, furloughed NASA engineer from Suffolk, told me: “I'm disappointed to once again find myself barred from doing the job that I love. I find the recent executive order to freeze civil servant pay at 2018 levels, while on furlough no less, to be shockingly disrespectful and wrong.”

Rosemarie in Falls Church shared this: “My husband was diagnosed last week with advanced lung cancer and now on top of that stress, I have to worry about not getting a paycheck . . .”

Lisa in Arlington writes: “I am forced to look for multiple part-time jobs to make ends meet and my savings will soon run out. Creditors and landlords have only so much patience with us.”

Here's how Joanna from Woodbridge put it: “I love my job, but being a pawn for those who have no compassion for me or those I work beside is going to drive me and many, many others out of public service.”

Mr. WARNER. As somebody who has been in the private sector longer than the public sector, like my friend the Senator from Virginia, we both had the honor of being Governors of Virginia. We have both been in executive positions. We have both been in positions where we had workforces. As a business guy, you could tell how well the business would do by how you treated your workforce. That is the most important asset you have, your human capital.

If we think back on the past decade, we found ways, appropriately so, for our military to get funded. We found ways, I think irresponsibly, to dramatically cut our taxes, particularly for folks at the top. Every time we had to try to make cutbacks. Where we made cutbacks has been in what we call domestic discretionary, which in

English are things like the TSA, like air traffic controllers, like the Agriculture Department, like the Coast Guard, and each year, whenever we find short cuts, we cut those programs.

As a matter of fact, domestic discretionary spending is at the lowest percentage it has been since the 1960s. So we asked all these folks who were furloughed or being asked to work without pay, we asked them to do more with less, which isn't great for the workforce morale.

Now we have a White House—and, my gosh, I wish somebody from the White House could have sat there today. I would have loved for them to try to explain how they ought to go back and negotiate with their landlords about the rent due, or how they ought to make do with a side job, or how they ought to do, as some folks were doing, as I was going to report—some Virginians are selling their personal possessions on eBay to pay the bills. The fact that this White House is willing to go to the border for a political photo op—the President's words, not mine—or get on television and blast his political opponents but not be willing to send anyone from this administration to sit down and listen to the concerns of our Federal workforce is disgraceful.

I again thank my colleague from Virginia for his great work on this. I think it is appropriate that we are in session today raising these issues. Think of the level of angst that is going to take place over the next 48 hours as more and more people get those paychecks with zero on it. We haven't seen anything yet. The kind of angst we felt in Virginia, in Maryland, and the District, people will feel all over the country.

We need to bring this government shutdown to an end. We need to put our workforce back to work, and we need to make sure the services they provide are being applied in a way to make our country safer and find a way to make sure that never ever again will we use these folks' lives as what they are being used right now—their words, not ours—political pawns. They are more important, their jobs are more important, their lives are more important than the way they have been treated over these last 21 days.

I yield the floor.

## MORNING BUSINESS

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 115. An act to require the Department of State to establish a policy regarding the use of location-tracking consumer devices by employees at diplomatic and consular facilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 133. An act to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico.

H.R. 192. An act to establish an inter-agency program to assist countries in North and West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes.

H.R. 265. An act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

H.R. 267. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mrs. CAROLYN MALONEY of New York.

At 12:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 24. An act to provide for the compensation of Federal and other government employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

## MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 115. An act to require the Department of State to establish a policy regarding the use of location-tracking consumer devices by employees at diplomatic and consular facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 133. An act to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 192. An act to establish an inter-agency program to assist countries in North and West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 265. An act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

H.R. 267. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

## MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 109. A bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Kansas