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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 28, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL T. KILDEE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, 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.

EXASPERATION/FRUSTRATION

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, this morning about 800,000 Federal employees from the 25 percent of the government that had been shut down for the last 35 days finally were allowed to go back to work and perform the amazing service that they do for the American people in a whole host of different agencies.

All of us heard from such great Americans coming from our districts, and certainly in the Second District of Connecticut, in eastern Connecticut, was no exception.

So, for example, Clark Chapin, who is the head of the Farm Service Agency at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, who, again, for 35 days was unable to work on the different farm programs that are so important to eastern Connecticut farmers, particularly in the dairy sector with the new dairy insurance program, his frustration in terms of not being able to get that program up and running, again, was palpable when I talked to him about a week or so ago.

We also have the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, where, again, that was the one branch of the military that was shut down because they don't reside in the Department of Defense. They are in the Department of Homeland Security.

Even though, as Admiral Carl Schultz, who is the Commandant of the Coast Guard, pointed out on national television, there are Coast Guard cutters serving in Bahrain in the fifth fleet side by side with the U.S. Navy patrolling the territorial waters of the Persian Gulf in the Straits of Hormuz in about the most hazardous waters in the world. Their Navy counterparts were certainly being paid, but the Coast Guard sailors and officers were not.

In addition, we have got Coast Guard cutters over in the Indo-Pacific region doing work in the Straits of Taiwan, again, highly contested waters. The unique skills that coastguardsmen and -women bring to that particular type of patrol is essential to our country's national defense and national security policy.

They, again, are just a couple of examples.

Constituents in the State Department serving overseas in hazardous duty areas—the FAA, the TSA, the IRS, Commerce—this morning, I heard from one of the Commerce employees. She went to work this morning. The payroll system was flooded with folks trying to submit their timecards, and the system crashed. They are still trying to sort that out so that people will get not only their paycheck on Friday, but also retroactive payments.

Last Thursday, again, hours before the settlement finally was reached and the announcement was made from the White House, I held a telephone townhall meeting. We had 8,000 listeners from all across the district and, again, a very vigorous debate, and there was definitely disagreement about whether there should be a wall on the southern border or no wall.

But what there was universal agreement about was that shutdowns are wrong, that shutdowns should never be used as a tool or leverage to force a policy provision and cripple, again, the working lives of people who, again, are patriots for this country, but also the taxpayers who rely on the programs and services that they provide. That is why, again, it was astonishing to see in The Wall Street Journal, over the weekend, that President Trump gave an interview where he said another shutdown is ''certainly an option.''

Mr. Speaker, if we have learned anything as a nation over the last 35 days, it is what those 8,000 folks who participated in my telephone townhall articulated over and over again: This should not be used as leverage to force an issue through the Congress. It should go through normal and regular order.

We have a conference committee from the House and the Senate, from both parties, that will begin their work over the next couple of weeks or so to resolve the dispute. There is overlap. There is agreement in terms of boosting border security.

But no one should be putting down as markers that we are going to again disrupt the lives of these Americans once again just as they are starting to finally get back into the office and get

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the work done for the American people. Instead, what we should be doing is voting, as we are tomorrow, on H.R. 790, which is to overturn President Trump's executive order of December 28 canceling the pay increase for non-DOD employees.

Again, some of the very same people whose lives were turned upside down over the last 35 days are also going to lose their pay increase based on the President's executive order. The bill we are going to vote on tomorrow, H.R. 790, is going to overturn that executive order and give those folks the same pay raise as folks in the Department of Defense: 2.6 percent. These are people who, again, provide essential public services for the people of this country.

If nothing else, it was a learning experience over the last month about how vital that work is in terms of air travel, national defense and military policy, as well as agriculture and processing of tax returns at the height of the tax season.

Let's vote on measures that are going to restore and heal this country over the damage that was done over the last 35 days and take shutdowns off the table. It is time for shutdown politics to come to an end.

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 6 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. KILDEE) 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 people's House returns, we give You thanks for those most responsible for the resolutions reached this past week and for the reopening of government, which has meant so much to the families of those who have chosen to serve their Nation by their work in government.

Bless all those engaged in negotiations now toward a full funding of government for the current fiscal year, that the unfortunate suffering of so many in the past month might remind them of the sacred trust they have: ''to provide for the common defense'' and ''promote the general welfare,'' successive phrases in the same sentence of the Preamble to the Constitution.

Doing these both has always been the challenge of political science. Grant the Members the wisdom to do their best to fulfill this awesome responsibility.

May all that is done here 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. CLOUD. 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. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

U.S.-QATAR STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

(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, this month, Qatar and the United States completed the second annual Strategic Dialogue. The State Department cited the many successes of Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

The Strategic Dialogue highlighted the strength of the relationship to deepen the cooperation to benefit both countries.

The United States welcomed Qatar's generous offer to expand critical facilities at bases used by U.S. forces in the country, enabling expansion at Al Udeid Air Base.

Both sides intend to strengthen their security and counterterrorism partnership to eradicate terrorism and violent extremism.

There was continued support for a strong and united Gulf Cooperation Council promoting a peaceful and prosperous future for the region. Our GCC allies should work together to resolve their differences for the sake of the success and security of the region.

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

Our sympathy to the family of Robert Adams, VI.

HONORING DR. C.H. CHARLTON ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. C.H. Charlton, affectionately known to all of us at home as ''Rev,'' for his 43 years of faithful service as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Johnson City, Tennessee.

A native of southwest Virginia, Dr. Charlton was previously pastor of several Baptist congregations near his hometown of Radford, later moving to Johnson City, where he found his home at Friendship Baptist Church.

Dr. Charlton is also a dedicated public servant. He served as the first African American mayor in southwest Virginia and is recognized by the Virginia Historical Society as contributing significantly to the State's history.

Dr. Charlton continued to serve in Johnson City by sitting on the city's Regional Planning Commission and Board of Education while working as a professor at Northeast State Community College.

Furthermore, I am proud to have served with him on the City Commission, where he served 2 years as vice mayor of Johnson City.

Rev is a shining star on the hill. For nearly six decades, Dr. Charlton has dedicated himself to serving the Lord, his wife, his family, and his community.

I wish my friend the best in his retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by the Speaker on Friday, January 25, 2019:

H.J. Res. 28, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:45 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1647

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE) at 4 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Mariel Ridgway, 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, January 28, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM 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 January 28, 2019, at 2:36 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to Relative to the death of Harris L. Wofford, Jr. S. Res. 31

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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.

PROMOTING TRANSPARENT STANDARDS FOR CORPORATE INSIDERS ACT

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 624) to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 624

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 ''Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act''.

SEC. 2. SEC STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall carry out a study of whether Rule 10b5–1 (17 C.F.R. 240.10b5–1) should be amended to—

(A) limit the ability of issuers and issuer insiders to adopt a plan described under paragraph (c)(1)(i)(A)(3) of Rule 10b5–1 (''trading plan'') to a time when the issuer or issuer insider is permitted to buy or sell securities during issuer-adopted trading windows;

(B) limit the ability of issuers and issuer insiders to adopt multiple trading plans;

(C) establish a mandatory delay between the adoption of a trading plan and the execution of the first trade pursuant to such a plan and, if so and depending on the Commission's findings with respect to subparagraph (A)—

(i) whether any such delay should be the same for trading plans adopted during an issuer-adopted trading window as opposed to outside of such a window; and

(ii) whether any exceptions to such a delay are appropriate;

(D) limit the frequency that issuers and issuer insiders may modify or cancel trading plans;

(E) require issuers and issuer insiders to file with the Commission trading plan adoptions, amendments, terminations and transactions; or

(F) require boards of issuers that have adopted a trading plan to—

(i) adopt policies covering trading plan practices;

(ii) periodically monitor trading plan transactions; and

(iii) ensure that issuer policies discuss trading plan use in the context of guidelines or requirements on equity hedging, holding, and ownership.

(2) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the study required under paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider—

(A) how any such amendments may clarify and enhance existing prohibitions against insider trading;

(B) the impact any such amendments may have on the ability of issuers to attract persons to become an issuer insider;

(C) the impact any such amendments may have on capital formation;

(D) the impact any such amendments may have on an issuer's willingness to operate as a public company; and

(E) any other consideration that the Commission considers necessary and appropriate for the protection of investors.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under section (a).

(c) RULEMAKING.—After the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Commission shall, subject to public notice and comment, revise Rule 10b5–1 consistent with the results of such study.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise in support of H.R. 624 and to recognize the bipartisan fashion in which this bill is being brought to the floor and, in particular, thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for his work on this bipartisan bill.

It is terrific to see the first bill out of the committee and onto the floor be not only a bipartisan bill, but the kind of thing that I think we should be able to find agreement on in this Congress.

We have a robust debate in the committee and in this Congress around the question of how we establish well-balanced regulation on the capital markets and the financial services industry. That is a good debate in which the answer is always moving, but it is terrific to see that we can agree that wherever there is an opportunity either for fraudulent behavior, insider trading, or rent-seeking to occur—that is to say, when there is an advantage for a particular player in the market—that the parties can come together to move legislation like H.R. 624.

Whatever we may think and however we may argue over the proper balance of regulation, if market participants do not have confidence in those markets, we have a huge problem. And nothing erodes confidence so much as the suspicion that there may be players in the market who have an inside advantage who are operating fraudulently.

So, again, I thank Mr. MCHENRY for his work on this bill. I thank Chairwoman WATERS, in particular, for her hard work on this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 624, the Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act.

This bipartisan legislation is critical for protecting mom-and-pop investors from the effects of insider trading while ensuring that the rules are clear, fair, and not unduly burdensome.

I want to first thank Chairwoman WATERS for her sponsorship of this bill and for writing this legislation. I am glad to join her in a meaningful effort to help the Securities and Exchange Commission better understanding illicit trading, and I look forward to working with her in many more bipartisan efforts and her leadership on the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. Speaker, preventing and cracking down on fraud and abuse within our financial system, such as illegal insider trading, is apolitical and should be.

When a corporate insider breaks the rules on trading and profits from trading on insider information, that illegal activity hurts everyday investors who diligently put their hard-earned money away for retirement.

To be clear, most corporate insiders faithfully follow the insider trading guidelines under Rule 10b5–1. I know that is not an everyday quoted thing, but those folks who are abiding by the law are complying with this very complex but important rule from the Securities and Exchange Commission. That allows for them to purchase and sell securities without concern for insider trading liability.

These law-abiding corporate insiders should not be punished or barred from trading just because of the bad actors who succumbed to greed and those who chose to illegally trade on insider information.

When properly adhered to, 10b5–1 insider trading rules are fair tools for allowing folks to help pay for down payments on a home or help pay for their kids' college education or other normal financial transactions.

Moreover, allowing folks to purchase and sell securities at predetermined times on a scheduled basis under that rule ensures market stability and decreases the risk of volatility by preventing fraudulent behavior, such as pump-and-dump schemes that sometimes occur in the financial markets.

By directing the Securities and Exchange Commission to study whether Rule 10b5–1 should be amended and to consider how any amendments to the rule would clarify and enhance existing prohibitions against insider trading, this legislation achieves a bipartisan goal of protecting mom-and-pop investors while encouraging economic growth.

And, again, I want to thank Chairwoman WATERS for her leadership. I applaud her willingness to work in a bipartisan way and in this important bipartisan manner that she is approaching the Financial Services Committee's jurisdiction we both care so much about. That bipartisan activity should help improve Federal oversight and protect American investors as well as enhance economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 624, and I reserve the balance of my time

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) will control the time for the majority.

There was no objection.

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

I am very pleased to have worked with Ranking Member MCHENRY on this bipartisan bill, H.R. 624, the Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act.

The bill is designed to promote strong enforcement against financial fraud by ensuring that corporate executives cannot indirectly and illegally trade on material nonpublic information that they know about their companies.

The Securities and Exchange Commission prohibits insider trading as a fraud that hurts both company investors and the integrity of our capital markets. Those accused of illegal insider trading may defend themselves by using the SEC's rule for trading plans, Rule 10b5–1, and state that any trades that occurred while they possessed inside information were made pursuant to a pre-approved training plan. But the rule for trading plans has several shortcomings that may allow corporate insiders to get away with insider trading.

My bill would require the SEC to study whether to amend its rule for trading plans to limit the ability of corporate insiders to, for example, adopt multiple, overlapping plans or change their plans to indirectly take advantage of inside information. The bill would then require the SEC to report to Congress and revise its rules based on the results of the study.

This bill is much needed as fraudulent stock sales by high-ranking executives can erode confidence in our markets. For example, in November of 2017, the CEO of Intel reportedly sold $39 million in stock after he learned of two security flaws in Intel processors and within days of revising his trading plan for the second time that year.

This bill is supported by investor and consumer advocates, public pension funds, and State securities regulators, including Public Citizen; Americans for Financial Reform; California Public Employees' Retirement System, CalPERS; the California State Teachers' Retirement System, CalSTRS; the Council of Institutional Investors; Healthy Markets; and North American Securities Administrators Association.

I thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for joining me in reintroducing this bill this Congress, and I urge Members to vote ''yes.''

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN), a new Member of this body and a new member of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 624, the Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act.

Introduced by Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY, this bipartisan bill would require the SEC to update regulatory language to ensure corporate insiders are not able to take advantage of loopholes in the system to engage in illegal insider trading.

The language within the bill overwhelming passed the House last Congress as part of the JOBS Act 3.0.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, it should be a top priority for financial regulators to ensure clear guidelines and robust enforcement against any illegal activity.

This legislation, along with the SEC's recent guidance, will help us better understand insider trading, serve as a driving force to hold potential bad actors accountable, and further promote good governance among the leaders of our Nation's financial system.

I strongly support this bill and would like to thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for the time this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, I also look forward to working with all my colleagues on the Financial Services Committee, and I thank Chairwoman WATERS for filing this bill and carrying it forward.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), who is a senior member of the Financial Services Committee and the chairwoman of the Small Business Committee.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 624, the Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act, bipartisan legislation sponsored by Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's financial markets are safer and more efficient when they are transparent.

□ 1700

Unfortunately, those that participate in insider trading damage the structure and integrity of our financial markets by engaging in practices outside of the public's view, profiting on information that is only known to a select few.

This nefarious practice damages ordinary, hardworking Americans who invest in pension funds, 401(k)s, mutual funds, and other retirement vehicles. As lawmakers, we must remain ever vigilant and seek to root out this illegal practice before it starts.

Currently, SEC regulations permit corporate insiders to evade insider trading rules by allowing them to adopt multiple trading plans and make select changes to their predetermined trading plans.

H.R. 624 closes this loophole by requiring the SEC to study and analyze the effectiveness of its current insider trading rules while also considering any rule change's impact on capital formation and a company's willingness to go public. Further, the bill requires the SEC report to Congress on its finding and draft rules consistent with the results.

This carefully crafted piece of legislation is an important step to closing a loophole in our Nation's insider trading laws.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend Chair WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for working in a bipartisan manner on this bill. I hope it is the first of many bipartisan bills we can bring to the floor from the Financial Services Committee in the 116th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the speedy adoption of this important measure.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES), who is a senior member on the Financial Services Committee and on the Intelligence Committee.

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I thank very much Madam Chairwoman for yielding, and, again, to the ranking member. It is a delight, as I said before, to come right out with a bipartisan bill that really addresses the fundamental question of confidence in our markets.

H.R. 624—and I will be proud to vote for it and urge my colleagues to do the same—closes a number of technical loopholes that have allowed corporate

insiders over time flexibility to actually trade possibly on inside information. That, of course, has the effect of causing regular investors to wonder whether they want to compete with that sort of player in the market.

H.R. 624 is a terrific bipartisan, thoughtful bill right out of the gates in the Financial Services Committee.

I want to just take 30 seconds, though, to reflect on the fact that at this point in time, there is currently no Federal law explicitly prohibiting insider trading. That requires the SEC and the Department of Justice to rely on general antifraud provisions in the law to go after people suspected of insider trading.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would just like to urge the committee, the chairwoman and the ranking member, to reflect on the words of U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff, who wrote: ''But if unlawful insider trading is to be properly deterred, it must be adequately defined. The appropriate body to do so, one would think, is Congress.''

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman and ranking member for their hard work on this bill. I hope we can take it to the next step of making it very clear that insider trading itself is a crime for the lack of confidence that it generates in our capital markets.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the chairwoman and the ranking member, and I urge passage of H.R. 624.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN).

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for working in a bipartisan manner to craft H.R. 624, a bill to help the Securities and Exchange Commission better protect hardworking Americans from financial fraud.

As a new member on the Financial Services Committee, I look forward to working together with both the chairwoman and the ranking member on similar commonsense pieces of legislation.

However, we cannot forget that the most recent shutdown all but caused the SEC to shut its doors. If people wanted to manipulate and defraud financial markets that was the perfect time to get away with it.

Now that the shutdown has ended, we have to work together to ensure that the government stays open to protect consumers and focus on proactive measures like H.R. 624 that will strengthen our markets.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 624, and I thank the chairwoman for her leadership.

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

Mr. Speaker, now, being in the minority and the majority, we are both learning something in the organization of control and debate on the House floor. Chairwoman WATERS has been the ranking member of the committee previously to coming to the chair. Now I have to ask her for time, which is a different process.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close on this important bill, the first bill from the Financial Services Committee for this Congress. It is a bill written by Chairwoman WATERS and cosponsored by me as the ranking member.

This is a piece of legislation that we had discussed and worked through last Congress, and she was the lead sponsor and I was the cosponsor of it last Congress, and I held to my word and she has held to her word.

This is proof that we can have bipartisan achievement that is of substance, that is real, that is meaningful, and we can do it representing vastly different districts, having different world views, having our disagreements that we have stated publicly and privately to one another, but still being willing to work through those disagreements to hammer out something that is good for the investor, for the consumer, to make sure that we have important consumer protections while also having vibrant markets of exchange so that we can lift folks out of poverty, to actually make sure people are safe for retirement.

There are wonderful opportunities for us to legislate in a bipartisan way. This is proof of what potential we have in the Financial Services jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairwoman WATERS for her efforts here. I urge my colleagues to support and vote for this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank once again Chairwoman WATERS for her leadership, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I am pleased that I was able to work in a bipartisan manner with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), the committee's ranking member.

This bill shows that protecting our capital markets is something that both sides of the aisle should support. The SEC is indeed our cop on the block, and they need this bill and additional funding resources in order to make sure that our markets and our investors are safe from fraud.

Another thing that the SEC needs is stability. During the recent government shutdown, the longest shutdown in American history, the SEC essentially closed its doors, furloughing 94 percent of its staff and suspending its enforcement efforts.

For 34 days the agency was forced to police the markets with a skeleton crew of 110 enforcement staff. This may translate into unacceptable delays in holding bad actors accountable and obtaining relief for their victims.

The SEC wasn't the only agency impacted. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the Trump shutdown cost our economy $11 billion, and $3 billion of that will never be recovered.

What is more, the White House wouldn't even rule out the chance of another shutdown in 3 weeks.

Mr. Speaker, we should fully fund our government and focus our efforts on bipartisan compromises like H.R. 624.

Again, I am pleased that one of the first bills to be brought to the floor for a vote from the Financial Services Committee is a bill that is cosponsored by Ranking Member MCHENRY that seeks to strengthen the ability of the SEC to punish fraudsters and protect investors.

So, Mr. Speaker and Members, again, I am pleased to have had the opportunity to work with the ranking member and to come together and present a bill that is extremely important and will go a long way to getting rid of insiders who would basically cheat the system.

So Mr. MCHENRY and I have not only worked on this bill together, we developed a relationship some time ago. And I know that there are those who are thinking that, oh, I don't know if both sides are going to be able to get together in an atmosphere that really is not conducive to getting along sometimes, but Mr. MCHENRY and I have shown that it is possible, and we are looking forward to other opportunities.

We are not going to agree on everything and we are going to oppose each other on some things, but this bill here today indicates that we are willing to work together to try and see what we can do as cosponsors and coauthors of important pieces of legislation that both sides of the aisle should be supporting.

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 Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 624.

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. WATERS. 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.

FIGHT ILLICIT NETWORKS AND DETECT TRAFFICKING ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 502) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to buy, sell, or facilitate the financing of goods or services associated with sex trafficking or drug trafficking, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 502

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 ''Fight Illicit Networks and Detect Trafficking Act'' or the ''FIND Trafficking Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 2017 National Drug Threat Assessment, transnational criminal organizations are increasingly using virtual currencies.

(2) In its 2015 National Money Laundering Risk Assessment, the Department of the Treasury concluded: ''The development of virtual currencies is an attempt to meet a legitimate market demand. According to a Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago economist, United States consumers want payment options that are versatile and that provide immediate finality. No United States payment method meets that description, although cash may come closest. Virtual currencies can mimic cash's immediate finality and anonymity and are more versatile than cash for online and cross-border transactions, making virtual currencies vulnerable for illicit transactions.''.

(3) Virtual currencies have become a prominent method to pay for goods and services associated with illegal sex trafficking and drug trafficking, which are two of the most detrimental and troubling illegal activities facilitated by online marketplaces.

(4) Online marketplaces, including the dark web, have become a prominent platform to buy, sell, and advertise for illicit goods and services associated with sex trafficking and drug trafficking.

(5) According to the International Labour Organization, in 2016, 4.8 million people in the world were victims of forced sexual exploitation, and in 2014, the global profit from commercial sexual exploitation was $99 billion.

(6) In 2016, within the United States, the Center for Disease Control estimated that there were 64,000 deaths related to drug overdose, and the most severe increase in drug overdoses were those associated with fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (synthetic opioids), which amounted to over 20,000 overdose deaths.

(7) According to the United States Department of the Treasury 2015 National Money Laundering Risk Assessment, an estimated $64 billion is generated annually from United States drug trafficking sales.

(8) Illegal fentanyl in the United States originates primarily from China, and it is readily available to purchase through online marketplaces.

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to facilitate sex and drug trafficking. The study shall consider—

(1) how online marketplaces, including the dark web, are being used as platforms to buy, sell, or facilitate the financing of goods or services associated with sex trafficking or drug trafficking (specifically, opioids and synthetic opioids, including fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, and any precursor chemicals associated with manufacturing fentanyl or fentanyl analogs) destined for, originating from, or within the United States;

(2) how financial payment methods, including virtual currencies and peer-to-peer mobile payment services, are being utilized by online marketplaces to facilitate the buying, selling, or financing of goods and services associated with sex or drug trafficking destined for, originating from, or within the United States;

(3) how virtual currencies are being used to facilitate the buying, selling, or financing of goods and services associated with sex or drug trafficking, destined for, originating from, or within the United States, when an online platform is not otherwise involved;

(4) how illicit funds that have been transmitted online and through virtual currencies are repatriated into the formal banking system of the United States through money laundering or other means;

(5) the participants (state and non-state actors) throughout the entire supply chain that participate in the buying, selling, or financing of goods and services associated with sex or drug trafficking (through online marketplaces or virtual currencies) destined for, originating from, or within the United States;

(6) Federal and State agency efforts to impede the buying, selling, or financing of goods and services associated with sex or drug trafficking through online marketplaces or virtual currencies that are destined for, originating from, or within the United States, including efforts to prevent the proceeds from sex or drug trafficking from entering the United States banking system through online marketplaces or virtual currencies; and

(7) to what extent can the immutable and traceable nature of virtual currencies contribute to the tracking and prosecution of illicit funding.

(b) SCOPE.—For the purposes of the study required under subsection (a), the term ''sex trafficking'' means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report summarizing the results of the study required under subsection (a), together with any recommendations for legislative or regulatory action that would improve the efforts of Federal agencies to impede the use of virtual currencies and online marketplaces in facilitating sex and drug trafficking.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 502, the Fight Illicit Networks and Detect Trafficking Act, which would advance efforts to counter the illicit uses of virtual currencies and marketplaces in drug trafficking and sex trafficking.

The study in the report designed to drive action from government and its partners is needed now more than ever.

In 2017, more than 70,000 Americans died of drug overdoses, a 10 percent rise from the previous year. The percentage of those deaths from synthetic drugs like fentanyl and its analogs increased sharply as well. It is said that Americans are now more likely to die from opioid overdose than a car wreck, dropping our collective life expectancy.

Further, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are 4.8 million people trapped in forced sexual exploitation globally. Online marketplaces and cryptocurrencies facilitate this abuse, not just abroad, but in our own communities, where victims are exploited by bad actors, forcing men, women, and children into horrifying situations from which it is difficult to escape.

The bill would require the GAO to study how online marketplaces and virtual currencies are being used for drug and sex trafficking.

□ 1715

It will examine the participants in these trafficking supply chains and how they cash in and out of their digital marketplaces, returning their illicitly gained proceeds to the formal banking system.

The study will also tell us about existing Federal and State efforts to impede such activities, so we can identify how to better tackle these crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman VARGAS and Congresswoman WAGNER for introducing this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 502, the FIND Trafficking Act.

Consider this: In 2017 alone, more than 47,000 Americans died from opioid overdoses. Additionally, it is estimated that the total number of human trafficking victims in the U.S. reached into the hundreds of thousands.

These shocking numbers point to a deep, systemic issue happening right in our backyards, where bad actors use any means necessary—even financial products—in order to lure people into horrible situations. One of the ways they do this is by using virtual currencies to evade the oversight of institutions, like government agencies.

While virtual currencies may possess a great opportunity for society, we don't quite know the extent of their utility in human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, these virtual currencies are one of the most versatile payment options available today, yet they are among the least understood. We need to do more work in order to understand their utility and their opportunity.

It is precisely this lack of understanding that risks making virtual currencies ripe for exploitation by these bad actors engaged in human trafficking and the sale of illicit drugs. In its 2017 National Drug Assessment, the

Drug Enforcement Administration concluded that transnational criminal organizations are increasingly using virtual currencies for illicit activities, including drug trafficking. This includes illicit transactions with China, as well as the sale and purchase of narcotics, including those involved in our country's opioid epidemic.

This bipartisan legislation before us is an instrumental first step toward analyzing how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to buy, sell, or facilitate the financing of goods and services associated with human and drug trafficking.

By directing the Government Accountability Office to study how virtual currencies are linked to the supply chain of drugs and human trafficking, this bill will give lawmakers insight in how to sever that link. We need to know how virtual currencies are being used; the scope of their use; and, most importantly, how our Federal and State agencies must respond, and can respond, to impede their use for illicit activities.

Let me add, Mr. Speaker, that nothing in this legislation is meant to demonize the use or the development of virtual currencies for legitimate economic activity. As my colleagues know, there are few Members more committed than I am to how new technologies can facilitate commerce and growth. But in order for such technologies to flourish, we need a rigorous discussion on the risks in enabling new routes for illicit finance.

We need to understand that as policymakers. This bill is important because it enables us to have the measurement tools necessary for us to smartly legislate in this area. Mainstream acceptance of innovation depends on mainstream forms of accountability, and this bill does just that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) for his sponsorship of the bill. I thank my vice ranking member on the Financial Services Committee, my second in command on the Financial Services Committee, Mrs. WAGNER of Missouri, for her sponsorship and leadership on this important issue of human trafficking that she is so very committed to and so smart on legislating around. I thank them both for setting the right tone for our committee jurisdiction, smart legislating, and reaching across the aisle. I know they will continue to lead the fight against trafficking as Members of the House Financial Services Committee this Congress, as they have in previous years as well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 502, the Fight Illicit Networks and Detect Trafficking Act, or, as you heard, the FIND Trafficking Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for their support and their guidance of this legislation.

I also especially thank my colleague, Representative WAGNER, for her leadership on this issue and for agreeing to co-lead this commonsense, narrowly tailored legislation. I thank her for her guidance and her leadership.

As you may know, a virtual currency is a digital representation of value that can be digitally traded. Since the creation of bitcoin, the first and most widely known example of a cryptocurrency, thousands of cryptocurrencies have emerged that are designed to serve a variety of purposes.

Some forms of virtual currency provide a digital alternative to cash that lacks the oversight of a government or a central bank, and, potentially, offers greater anonymity than conventional payment systems.

Just as virtual currencies have grown in use in legitimate commerce, as we heard from the ranking member, they have also, unfortunately, become an increasingly popular financial payment method for criminals.

Virtual currencies have been, and continue to be, exploited to pay for goods and services associated with illicit sex and drug trafficking. These are two of the most detrimental and troubling illegal activities sold online.

According to the DEA 2017 National Drug Assessment, transnational criminal organizations are increasingly using virtual currencies, due to their ease of use and the anonymity they provide. While evidence points to a growth of virtual currencies as a payment method for illicit sex and drug trafficking, the true scope of the problem and potential solutions have not been fully established.

According to the International Labour Organization, in 2016, 4.8 million people in the world were victims of forced sexual exploitation, and, in 2014, the global profit from commercial sexual exploitation was $99 billion.

Unfortunately, virtual currencies are also being used as a payment method for transnational drug traffickers. As we all know too well, and as was stated here, the United States is struggling to combat the rising number of lives cut short by tragic opioid use. In 2016 alone, the CDC estimated that there were 64,000 deaths in the U.S. related to drug overdose, and the most severe increase in drug overdoses were those associated with fentanyl and fentanyl analogs.

Fentanyl is an extremely deadly opioid, about 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. Fentanyl is being illicitly manufactured in China and Mexico, with most of the illegal fentanyl in the United States originating primarily in China, and it is readily available to purchase through online marketplaces.

If we are to craft effective regulatory and legislative solutions to combat these transnational criminal organizations, we need to fully study and analyze how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to facilitate sex and drug trafficking to determine how to best eliminate their use.

H.R. 502, the FIND Trafficking Act of 2019, requires the Comptroller General of the United States to: one, carry out a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to facilitate sex or drug trafficking; and, two, make recommendations to Congress on legislative and regulatory actions that would impede the use of virtual currencies and online marketplaces in facilitating sex and drug trafficking.

It is my sincere hope that this bill is a first step, as we heard, toward crafting bipartisan legislation to impede and, eventually, eliminate the use of virtual currencies by transnational criminal organizations to facilitate drug and sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for the bipartisan nature of this bill—in particular, again, Representative WAGNER—and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the vice ranking member of the House Financial Services Committee, who will be the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion on the Financial Services Committee as well.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the vice ranking member for yielding. And I thank my friend and colleague from California for his leadership and support on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the FIND Trafficking Act. The fight against online sex trafficking has been one of the most important endeavors since I first came to Congress. I have worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to update our Nation's laws to effectively combat contemporary methods used to exploit our Nation's women and children.

The fact of the matter is that sex trafficking has moved from the streets to the internet. Traffickers advertise, buy, and sell women and children, using online marketplaces with impunity.

Last April, my Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, or FOSTA, became law, and many websites engaged in sex trafficking shut down to avoid liability for their crimes. This was a tremendous step forward, but our job is not finished.

The reality is that sex and drug trafficking are extremely profitable, and there are still websites that are knowingly facilitating criminal activity. Traffickers are increasingly using the anonymity of virtual currencies, like bitcoin and others, to finance their networks of exploitation, both online and off-line. These criminals use virtual currencies to avoid detection and

prosecution, a practice that creates an unprecedented challenge for financial regulators and law enforcement.

This is a new playing field, and we need better enforcement of existing laws and more information about how criminals are using virtual currencies to finance their operations. We need to know how illicit funds are being repatriated into the formal banking system. We need to understand whether Federal and State agencies have the tools they need to stop criminal profits from entering our financial system. We also need to know how drug traffickers are using the internet to sell opioids, including deadly fentanyl. We need to understand how websites are using payment methods to facilitate the sale of illegal activities.

This is why Congressman JUAN VARGAS and I have introduced the FIND Trafficking Act. The legislation would give us valuable data on how traffickers are anonymously transferring money to facilitate sex and drug trafficking.

The FIND Trafficking Act will help construct a web of intelligence necessary to protect victims and to prosecute traffickers. Congressman JUAN VARGAS has been a tremendous leader in this space, and I thank him for all the work that he is doing to stop criminal enterprises from exploiting vulnerable populations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join us in standing with the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have been affected by drug and sex trafficking.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the FIND Trafficking Act.

Human trafficking is pervasive across the United States and the world. My own home State of Michigan ranks in the top 10th of States when it comes to this issue.

Sex and drug trafficking is a horrific experience for some of the most vulnerable populations, including children and those who have experienced trauma and violence in the past.

Human trafficking takes form in many ways, ways that we sometimes may not even know exists. With virtual currency becoming more and more common, along with the vast, unknown happenings on the dark web, it is important for us to have access to information to stop this kind of illegal trafficking.

□ 1730

We must find ways to limit financial options for those who seek to exploit and harm others through trafficking. The FIND Trafficking Act will allow us to understand virtual currencies and online marketplaces, especially on the dark web, and how it has contributed to the rise of sex and drug trafficking across this country.

With the popularity of virtual currency, it is important for us to make sure that it is not being used for this in the fight against trafficking. It is my hope that we all stand in support of this bill.

They can try to hide, Mr. Speaker, behind the dark web and these faceless currencies, but under the leadership of Chairwoman WATERS, Member VARGAS, and Member WAGNER, we hope to find you and to stop you from harming our residents.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), a new Member of Congress from Afton, Virginia, and a new member of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to speak in support of H.R. 502, the Fight Illicit Networks and Detect Trafficking Act, or the FIND Trafficking Act.

First, I would like to commend Representative VARGAS for sponsoring this bipartisan legislation, and I would also like to thank my colleague from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), for her important work on this bill.

As the father of three daughters, including one at James Madison University, who is currently working on a project utilizing technology to combat human trafficking, it is deeply concerning to me that sex traffickers and drug smugglers have seamless access to the financial system through the use of virtual currencies.

Virtual currencies were created to meet legitimate market demand, but have increasingly become the preferred method of payment for illicit goods and services facilitated by the dark web. Virtual currencies appeal to criminals because of their versatility and ability to provide anonymity during transactions.

According to the International Labour Organization, in 2016, 4.8 million people in this world were victims of forced sexual exploitation. In 2014, the global profit from commercial sexual exploitation was $99 billion. Additionally, a 2015 Treasury Department report estimated that $64 billion is generated annually just from the United States in drug trafficking sales.

This bill calls for the Comptroller General to conduct a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are being used to facilitate sex and drug trafficking, and how these funds are repatriated into the banking system.

By enacting this legislation, Congress will be taking a much-needed step to better understand the methods and tactics used by criminals. This information will be critical to law enforcement efforts to thwart sex traffickers, drug dealers, terrorists, and other bad actors. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for her lifetime of service and commitment to those who are ignored, left out, and left behind.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 502, the FIND Trafficking Act. Moreover, I rise today on behalf of the survivors of sex trafficking in my district, Massachusetts' Seventh Congressional District, and across our Nation.

The sex and drug trafficking industry is a $150 billion industry across the globe and throughout our communities. This bill would bring us one step closer to combating this pervasive and insidious industry.

I rise today to lift up the lived experience of one of its survivors: Casey, a 13-year old who grew up in the care of the child welfare system after surviving an abusive home. Before being referred to My Life My Choice, a program in my district that is survivor led that works with those impacted by trafficking, Casey had been placed in multiple residential programs.

Just this year, Casey went missing for 1 week. Casey describes an experience that is harrowing and, unfortunately, not unique. Craving friendship, companionship, and safety, she built relationships online that turned into in-person meetings.

Those meetings did not provide the safety or support Casey hoped for; rather, they led to her exploitation. She found herself at parties where men she trusted demanded she have sex with other men. She lived in fear, and endured many indignities. Her safety was compromised and her humanity marginalized.

To Casey and survivors across the Nation watching, I affirm loud and clear: What happened to you is not your fault. We believe you and we are here fighting for you.

We know that trafficking is enabled by many factors. Broken systems destroy the lives of too many. I would like to thank Representative VARGAS and Representative WAGNER for their bipartisan leadership to tackle these issues, and to shed light on the ways that virtual currencies are being manipulated by traffickers to commit horrific human rights abuses, and contributing to our country's drug crisis.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, the FIND Trafficking Act will require the Federal Government to investigate the ways in which sex and drug trafficking rings are capitalizing on the anonymity, such as bitcoin, to finance the worldwide industry of modern-day slavery and sexual exploitation without fear of detection. This would provide policy and regulatory recommendations on ways to crack down on these horrendous abuses.

It is estimated that more than 45 million men, women, and children are affected by sex and human trafficking across the globe. Since 2011, my home

State of Massachusetts has been working to tackle this growing industry. We have been working to end this modern-day slavery and exploitation through coalitions and innovative partnerships between survivor-led, community-based organizations, businesses, and local and State government agencies.

While these coalitions are making progress, they cannot do it alone. The Federal Government has a critical role to play in providing resources and research to guide this work. The FIND Trafficking Act will shed much-needed light in the ways that technology-based currencies have fueled and financed these human rights abuses. We will not rest until every survivor receives justice, and we dismantle these systems of oppression and exploitation that drive trafficking and abuse.

To all survivors: We see you. We believe you, and we are fighting for you.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN).

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FIND Trafficking Act, H.R. 502. Over the last several years, the work of law enforcement has gotten significantly harder. One difference, cryptocurrencies; virtual currencies such as bitcoin, Ethereum, and others, have changed consumers' relationships with money in profound ways, allowing them to conduct anonymous transactions outside the traditional banking sector.

Criminal networks have taken advantage of these new tools using virtual currencies to carry out drug sales and sex trafficking operations. That is why the FIND Trafficking Act is so important.

This bipartisan bill would require the Comptroller General of the United States to study how virtual currencies enable criminal activity and propose solutions to stop it.

Based on these findings, Congress would design legislation to regulate virtual currencies. Our law enforcement officials are already working hard to tackle this challenge.

In November of 2016, for example, during an investigation into an illegal fentanyl operation, Federal law enforcement seized $2 million in virtual currency. Nonetheless, human traffickers and drug dealers have gravitated to virtual currencies because they provide an unprecedented level of secrecy and anonymity.

According to DEA, online marketplaces now use virtual currencies to sell fentanyl, a prime contribution to America's deadly opioid crisis. We are now living and dying through the consequences.

According to the CDC, in 2017, more than 70,000 Americans died from drug overdoses. My own State of Pennsylvania is ravaged with the third highest rate of overdose-related deaths and untold suffering for families in our communities.

The bottom line is we know that virtual currencies are being used to fund sex and drug trafficking, but we don't know the true scope of the problem, nor do we have a full set of tools to address the challenge. That is why we need H.R. 502.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I think it is important that Congress understand. The objective of this bill is to understand the contours of human trafficking that occur here in the United States, and to understand the contours of how drugs are financed. It is incumbent that we have the proper data and the public have the proper data so we can understand how to respond.

That is what this measure is about, the plight of those human-trafficking victims, and the plight of those who are suffering the impairments and the devastating consequences that opioids have brought in our society. We know those in our community.

What we have to understand is the deeper issues around the movement of money, which is what the Financial Services Committee can do. It doesn't fix the full problem, and we should focus on fixing the larger issues around human trafficking and drug overdoses, and the horrible effects of illicit drugs on our society.

But what we can do here is understand the contour so we can cut off that siphon of money that is fueling this epidemic in our communities all across America.

I want to thank Mr. VARGAS and Mrs. WAGNER, who just departed, for their work on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 502, the FIND Trafficking Act, is an important bill in the fight against human trafficking and drug trafficking. There are millions of victims trapped in forced sex exploitation globally, and there were over 70,000 drug overdose deaths in the United States in 2017.

This bill will study how virtual currencies and online marketplaces facilitate human trafficking and drug trafficking, and it will study the participants who are abusing these mediums. The research that results from this bill will assist Congress in finding effective measures to address these harmful, illicit trades.

Lives can be saved because of this legislation. Once again, I thank Congressman VARGAS and Congresswoman WAGNER for introducing this bipartisan legislation.

Again, this is the second bill that we have here on the floor today where we have bipartisan cooperation. They are great bills that both sides can support. Again, I am very grateful for the vision of Congressman VARGAS and Congresswoman WAGNER, in introducing this legislation, and I urge support for the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 502.

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. WATERS. 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.

FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 56) to establish an Independent Financial Technology Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, to provide rewards for information leading to convictions related to terrorist use of digital currencies, to establish a Fintech Leadership in Innovation and Financial Intelligence Program to encourage the development of tools and programs to combat terrorist and illicit use of digital currencies, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 56

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 ''Financial Technology Protection Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Federal Government should prioritize the investigation of terrorist and illicit use of new financial technology, including digital currencies.

SEC. 3. INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND ILLICIT FINANCING.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Independent Financial Technology Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing (the ''Task Force''), which shall consist of—

(1) the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall serve as the head of the Task Force;

(2) the Attorney General;

(3) the Director of National Intelligence;

(4) the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network;

(5) the Director of the Secret Service;

(6) the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(7) 6 individuals appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the members of the Task Force described under paragraphs (2) through (6), to represent the private sector (including the banking industry, nonprofit groups, and think tanks), with at least 2 of such individuals having experience in the Fintech industry.

(b) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall—

(1) conduct independent research on terrorist and illicit use of new financial technologies, including digital currencies; and

(2) develop legislative and regulatory proposals to improve counter-terrorist and counter-illicit financing efforts.

(c) ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Task Force shall issue a report to the Congress containing the findings and determinations made by the Task Force in the previous year and any legislative and regulatory proposals developed by the Task Force.

SEC. 4. REWARDS FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO TERRORIST USE OF DIGITAL CURRENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall establish a fund to pay a reward, not to exceed $450,000, to any person who provides information leading to the conviction of an individual involved with terrorist use of digital currencies.

(b) USE OF FINES AND FORFEITURES.—With respect to fines and forfeitures related to the conviction of an individual involved with terrorist use of digital currencies, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, subject to the availability of appropriations made in advance—

(1) use such amounts to pay rewards under this section related to such conviction; and

(2) with respect to any such amounts remaining after payments are made under paragraphs (1) and (2), deposit such amounts in the Fintech Leadership in Innovation and Financial Intelligence Program.

SEC. 5. FINTECH LEADERSHIP IN INNOVATION AND FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a program to be known as the ''Fintech Leadership in Innovation and Financial Intelligence Program'', which shall be funded as provided under section 4(b)(2).

(b) INNOVATION GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall make grants for the development of tools and programs to detect terrorist and illicit use of digital currencies.

(2) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary may make grants under this subsection to entities located in the United States, including academic institutions, companies, nonprofit institutions, individuals, and any other entities located in the United States that the Secretary determines appropriate.

(3) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—With respect to tools and programs described under paragraph (1), in addition to grants for the development of such tools and programs, the Secretary may make grants under this subsection to carry out pilot programs using such tools, the development of test cases using such tools, and research related to such tools.

(4) PREFERENCES.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give preference to—

(A) technology that is nonproprietary or that is community commons-based;

(B) computer code that is developed and released on an open source basis;

(C) tools that are proactive (such as meeting regulatory requirements under ''know your customer'' and anti-money laundering requirements for any entity that has to comply with U.S. Government regulations) vs. reactive (such as aiding law enforcement organizations in catching illegal activity after the fact); and

(D) tools and incentives that are on decentralized platforms.

(5) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) USE OF EXISTING GLOBAL STANDARDS.—Any new technology developed with a grant made under this subsection shall be based on existing global standards, such as those developed by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).

(B) SUPPORTING EXISTING LAWS OR REGULATIONS.—Tools and programs developed with a grant made under this subsection shall be in support of existing laws or regulations, including the Bank Secrecy Act, and make efforts to balance privacy and anti-money laundering concerns.

(C) OPEN ACCESS REQUIREMENT.—Tools and programs developed with a grant made under this subsection shall be freely accessible and usable by the public. This requirement may be fulfilled by publicly availing application programming interfaces or software development kits.

SEC. 6. PREVENTING ROGUE AND FOREIGN ACTORS FROM EVADING SANCTIONS.

(a) REPORT AND STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO DIGITAL CURRENCIES AND OTHER RELATED EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President, acting through the Secretary of Treasury and in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the appropriate Federal banking agencies and Federal functional regulators, shall—

(A) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that identifies and describes the potential uses of digital currencies and other related emerging technologies by states, non-state actors, and foreign terrorist organizations to evade sanctions, finance terrorism, or launder monetary instruments, and threaten United States national security; and

(B) develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy to mitigate and prevent such illicit use of digital currencies and other related emerging technologies.

(2) FORM; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

(A) FORM.—The report and strategy required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified portion of such report and strategy shall be made available to the public and posted on the internet website of the Department of Treasury—

(i) in pre-compressed, easily downloadable versions that are made available in all appropriate formats; and

(ii) in machine-readable format, if applicable.

(3) SOURCES OF INFORMATION.—In preparing the report and strategy required under paragraph (1), the President may utilize any credible publication, database, web-based resource, and any credible information compiled by any government agency, nongovernmental organization, or other entity that is made available to the President.

(b) BRIEFING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the implementation of the strategy required under subsection (a).

SEC. 7. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) APPROPRIATE FEDERAL BANKING AGENCIES.—The term ''appropriate Federal banking agencies'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

(3) BANK SECRECY ACT.—The term ''Bank Secrecy Act'' means—

(A) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;

(B) chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91–508; and

(C) subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code.

(4) DIGITAL CURRENCY.—The term ''digital currency''—

(A) means a digital representation of value that—

(i) is used as a medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of value; and

(ii) is not established legal tender, whether or not denominated in established legal tender; and

(B) does not include—

(i) a transaction in which a merchant grants, as part of an affinity or rewards program, value that cannot be taken from or exchanged with the merchant for legal tender, bank credit, or digital currency; or

(ii) a digital representation of value issued by or on behalf of a publisher and used solely within an online game, game platform, or family of games sold by the same publisher or offered on the same game platform.

(5) FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR.—The term ''Federal functional regulator'' has the meaning given that term in section 509 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6809).

(6) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The term ''foreign terrorist organization'' means an organization that is designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(7) TERRORIST.—The term ''terrorist'' includes a person carrying out domestic terrorism or international terrorism (as such terms are defined, respectively, under section 2331 of title 18, United States Code).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1745

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

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased that this body will vote on H.R. 56, the Financial Technology Protection Act, which passed the House in the 115th Congress. This bill would strengthen and expand efforts to deter terrorists and illicit abuses of financial technology through interagency coordination and research through collaboration with private institutions and citizens.

As stated in last year's National Money Laundering Risk Assessment from the United States Department of the Treasury, many cryptocurrencies are being designed to make virtual currency transactions untraceable and are increasingly being used by bad actors.

The talent and technological capabilities to track these transactions must keep up so the government can identify terrorists, hackers, and other criminals who try to hide their activities and proceeds using cryptocurrencies and related exchanges.

This bill would establish a public-private sector task force, a grant program to encourage the development of largely open-source tracking technology, and a whistleblower reward program to counter terrorist uses of digital currencies. Also, it would require the government to examine how state and nonstate actors, including foreign terrorist organizations, use these cryptocurrencies to evade sanctions, finance terrorism, and launder money.

I thank Congressmen BUDD and LYNCH for reintroducing this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 56, the Financial Technology Protection Act.

Our number one priority is to ensure the safety of the American people, especially from terrorists and terror organizations seeking to take away the freedoms we hold dear. This bipartisan legislation is a prime example of how we can reach across the aisle and find common ground in the fight against terrorism as well as illicit finance.

H.R. 56 establishes an Independent Financial Technology Task Force, which will improve coordination between the private and public sectors in order to research and develop tools to combat terrorism and the illicit use of financial technologies, including digital currencies.

Recent studies have found evidence that terrorists, especially lone-wolf actors, use digital currencies. A public-private task force as established through this legislation can inform Congress on the legislative and regulatory steps needed to stop these bad actors.

Furthermore, this bipartisan bill would incentivize individuals to come forward with knowledge of possible terrorist and illicit financing involving digital currencies by offering monetary rewards for information that leads to successful convictions. A reward program is just the kind of innovation in policymaking that we need to stay a step ahead of terrorists.

Last Congress, the Treasury Department informed our committee that using such unconventional tools could be critical in generating useful intelligence, and I applaud Mr. BUDD and Mr. LYNCH for thinking creatively in this process and listening to testimony and taking that and putting that in legislative form.

The threat of illicit use of digital currencies is evolving, and policymakers must work together to find best practices and solutions. That is why this bipartisan bill is so important.

Furthermore, I would add that digital currencies have enormous potential benefits. We want to understand those benefits, but we also want to understand those costs involved, as policymakers. We want to be smart about it. I think it is useful and helpful for us to begin with understanding how we stamp out bad actors and their use of digital currencies before we move into that next set of conversation about how we properly enhance their utility in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank, again, my colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) for his work here and my colleague from North Carolina, the great north State, Mr. BUDD, first for their relationship on this important policymaking, and also their willingness to work across the aisle in order to get good legislation that is ensuring the safety of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 56 as a commonsense, forward-looking approach to combating terrorism, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH), who is a strong leader and a strong voice on the Financial Services Committee and the lead Democratic cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 56.

First, I would like to thank our chairwoman, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), for her outstanding leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I would also like to thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) for his energetic support as well. In addition, I would like to thank my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), a colleague of ours on the Financial Services Committee, for working in a bipartisan fashion with me to get this bill to the floor in a better way to safeguard our emerging financial technology sector against its illicit use by terrorists and their financiers, money launderers, computer hackers, and other criminal actors.

I would also like to point out, as evidenced in the course of our ongoing committee investigation to examine terrorist and money laundering activities, that continued innovations in digital currencies, peer-to-peer financing, mobile payments, and other emerging financial technologies—or in today's lingo, fintech—have been met with increasing efforts by malign actors to exploit these digital platforms and services for terrorist and other criminal purposes. According to the Combating Terrorism Center At West Point: ''Given the interest that terrorist organizations have shown in leveraging digital currencies, their use of such mediums for conducting financial transactions will only increase in the future.''

So the growing reliance on digital currency for terrorist financing recently manifested itself in the U.S. in the form of a complex bank fraud scheme perpetrated by a Long Island woman, Zoobia Shahnaz, who pleaded guilty in November of 2018 to providing material support to a terrorist organization.

In an attempt to raise funds for the Islamic State, Ms. Shahnaz fraudulently obtained credit cards which she used to purchase more than $62,000 in bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. After converting the currency to U.S. dollars and transferring the funds to her checking account, she proceeded to execute wire transactions totaling over $150,000 directed to top Islamic State-affiliated individuals and shell entities in Pakistan, China, and Turkey.

The illicit use of digital currency systems has also extended to other criminal enterprises, including cybercrime. According to a six-count indictment returned by a Federal grand jury in Newark, New Jersey, two Iranian nationals engaged in a nearly 3-year international extortion and computer crime scheme involving the deployment of so-called sam sam ransomware against U.S. public and private entities. Acting from inside Iran, these cybercriminals forcibly encrypted the computer systems of more than 200 hospitals, municipalities, and public institutions in the United States, including the city of Atlanta, the city of Newark, and the Colorado Department of Transportation. In exchange for decryption keys, they demanded ransom to be paid in bitcoin. In total, the men collected over $6 million in ransom payments, to date, while causing more than $30 million in losses to their U.S. victims.

Moreover, in July of last year, Special Counsel Bob Mueller indicted 12 Russian intelligence officers stemming from their involvement in cyber attacks against U.S. individuals and entities leading up to the 2016 Presidential election. According to the 11-count indictment, in order to ''facilitate the purchase of infrastructure used in their hacking activity . . . the defendants conspired to launder the equivalent of more than $95,000 through a web of transactions structured to capitalize on the perceived anonymity of cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin.''

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Massachusetts an additional 1 minute.

Mr. LYNCH. So as we continue to witness and embrace rapid digital innovation in the traditional banking and finance sector, it is urgent that government and industry work together to adopt and deploy regulatory protocols such as blockchain technologies to protect the integrity of digital financial systems against abuse.

To this end, our legislation, the Financial Technology Protection Act, would establish an independent task force consisting of both public and private stakeholders to address the threat of exploitation of new financial technologies by terrorists and other malign actors.

It would also authorize innovative fintech grants to enhance the ability of U.S. companies, academic institutions, nonprofit organizations, and other private-sector entities to develop new tools designed to protect against criminal use of cryptocurrencies and enhance U.S. competitiveness in global financial markets.

Moreover, the bill would authorize a rewards program for individuals who provide information leading to the conviction of those who use digital currency systems for terrorist purposes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 56.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), who is from the great metropolis of Advance in Davie County and who is a leader in fintech.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the ranking member, for yielding, and I want to start by congratulating him on his new role on the Financial Services Committee. Certainly, he makes our home State, the Old North State, proud.

I also want to congratulate the new chair on her position as chair of our committee, and I look forward to working with her in a bipartisan fashion whenever I can.

I also have to thank my colead on H.R. 56, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH), for his leadership on illicit financing issues, and this bill in particular. I always enjoy teaming up with him, and I value his input and expertise on these issues. I am hopeful we will see some movement on his kleptocracy legislation soon, and I am proud to be coleading that bill with the gentleman.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bipartisan legislation, the Financial Technology Protection Act. I have said this many times before, but I will say it again because it bears repeating: Illicit financing networks are the linchpin of any terrorist group, criminal organization, or rogue state's operations.

As we move into an increasingly digital and virtual world, criminals and terrorists will start to use new technologies that are available to them. This shouldn't shock anyone. Of course, we all recognize the good that comes with innovation and new technology, but there will always be bad actors as well.

The bottom line is that the Federal Government has to be one step ahead of the illicit actors in this new space without threatening technological innovation, and that is what this bill will do. It will do this by giving the private sector additional tools to protect their new technology, hence the name for the bill, the Financial Technology Protection Act.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 56 is a culmination of months of work with outside groups all over the political spectrum, from national security groups that appreciate the task force to trade and industry groups that appreciate the new tools being given to them that will help them better protect their industry and livelihood.

I think that this bill strikes an impressive balance and is an example of some bipartisan areas that we can work together on in the 116th Congress. Specifically, Mr. Speaker, my legislation will do the following things:

First, and perhaps most importantly, H.R. 56 establishes the Fintech Leadership in Innovation and Financial Intelligence Program, which will be used for grants and rewards in the fintech space for ideas and programs to combat terrorist use of digital currencies. These technologies would be open access and open source. Experts in the private sector can track illicit use of these currencies and perhaps do a better job of leveraging their talent to create tools and programs through the Fintech Leadership and Financial Intelligence Program. We need to give them the ability to try, and that is exactly what this bill does.

Secondly, it establishes the Independent Financial Technology Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, which will improve coordination and start conversations between the private and public sectors for new ways to combat illicit use. In my view, industry and the Federal Government should be coming together to find best practices and solutions to stop this new terrorist funding threat.

H.R. 56 includes language from H.R. 5227, the Preventing Rogue and Foreign Actors from Evading Sanctions Act, introduced last Congress by my friend, MARK MEADOWS of North Carolina. This language directs the Treasury Department to develop a strategy that identifies and describes the potential uses of virtual currencies and other related emerging technologies by states and nonstate actors, terrorist organizations to evade sanctions, finance terrorism, or launder monetary instruments and threaten the United States' national security. Again, the development of a national strategy to combat illicit use strikes me as common sense; therefore, we are excited to have it included in the bill and to have Mr. MEADOWS' support.

Finally, this Budd-Lynch legislation establishes a targeted rewards program for information leading to the capture of terrorists or illicit actors involved with terror digital currency networks. The government should be encouraging individuals with knowledge of illicit use of virtual currencies to come forward through the offerings of rewards for successful convictions.

Here is the bottom line: H.R. 56 is legislation that sparks private-sector innovation to deal with terror and illicit financing when it comes to virtual currencies, which ultimately benefits the underlying technology, the blockchain.

□ 1800

I think that Congress should be promoting programs and technologies that give industry the tools they need to save their technology and industry from illicit use and, hopefully, save them from further negotiation down the road.

I am very excited that this bill is up for a vote in the House today and has such strong bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of my bipartisan legislation and, once again, thank everyone who has had a hand in bringing this to the floor. It is an exciting day when we can focus on fintech, and I am hopeful for the future of this committee and the 116th Congress.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to close.

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

Mr. Speaker, three for three—the House Financial Services Committee comes out with the first three bills, and they are bipartisan. I would hope the House would adopt them tonight.

I think this is a great first step in this long road of legislating that I think we can be about in the Financial Services Committee. The chairwoman has shown that will, that interest, that inclination to work together where we can, where we can achieve consensus across the aisle.

I mean that as a compliment. In the politics of today, when you are working across the aisle, it seems as though that is dealt as an insult in some factions.

I know that Chairwoman WATERS has worked intently to get to the position of chairing this committee, for a little longer than I have to be the ranking member of the committee; but, as she will show me on opening day of the House Financial Services Committee, she has the gavel and I do not, but where we can work together, I am honored to be able to do so.

I want to thank my colleague, Mr. BUDD, for working so intently on financial innovation and on fintech as well as cryptocurrencies, which are of great interest to him, and I appreciate Mr. LYNCH being engaged in this subject matter as well.

I look forward to more bipartisan legislating coming out of this committee as well as a number of more interesting activities that I am sure will be a part of this.

I am now informed that we do have one Member to close. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), a new Member who has a great deal of experience in national security.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, special thanks to the chair and to the ranking member for their leadership on this. I would also like to thank Representative BUDD for sponsoring this bipartisan legislation and thank my colleagues across the aisle, Representatives LYNCH and SOTO, for their important work on this bill as well.

While I may be new to Congress, I am all too familiar with terrorist threats and the danger they pose to the safety and security of our Nation. I served my country in the Air Force as an intelligence officer and worked to track down terrorists after 9/11. I also supported ''follow the money'' analysis and operations related to terrorist financing.

One of the key components that allows terrorists to organize and execute their missions is financing. As financial technology, or fintech, evolves, so do the opportunities for criminals to take advantage of the financial system.

H.R. 56 calls for financial regulators, law enforcement, and private-sector experts to come together to create the Fintech Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Finance. This task force is charged with developing innovative methods to track, prevent, and prosecute terrorists that use digital currencies and other financial technologies to advance their agenda.

Technology is integral to everyday life for consumers, businesses, and governments, which is why it is critical that experts from law enforcement and the private sector come together to protect our financial system from terrorists and other bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and many others, I strongly support this bill.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative BUDD and Representative LYNCH for the work that they have put forth on this legislation, and I would like to take a moment to thank Mr. LYNCH for not only this legislation, but all of the efforts that he has put forth on the Financial Services Committee that have benefited this Congress and our country.

Let me just say that I rise again to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote for H.R. 56, the Financial Technology Protection Act. This bipartisan bill aims to improve our efforts to deter terrorists and criminal abusers of financial technology, including cryptocurrencies, through its support of interagency coordination and research and through collaboration with private institutions and citizens.

The measure created by this legislation will give the U.S. a better understanding of how bad actors, including terrorists, use cryptocurrencies to evade sanctions, finance terrorism, and launder money. These state and nonstate actors are always looking for new ways to get around our protective and investigative measures, and this bill will help us to stay at least one step ahead.

So, again, my sincere gratitude and thanks to Congressmen BUDD and LYNCH for reintroducing this bill, which was passed by this body in the last Congress.

I would like to, again, follow up on statements that were made by the ranking member, Mr. MCHENRY, to remind everyone that the first three bills of this Congress that have been introduced by the Financial Services Committee are bipartisan bills where we have shown that we are willing to provide leadership and send a message to all of the Members of Congress that we have to work hard to try and get good, viable, strong legislation through this Congress, working together in ways that perhaps we have not done before.

I am very pleased and proud to stand here as the chairperson of the Financial Services Committee, helping to make sure that the first three bills that we introduce are bipartisan and urging my support for these bills and this bill now that it is before you.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 56, 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.

TAKING ADDITIONAL STEPS TO ADDRESS THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO VENEZUELA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116–8)

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:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order with respect to Venezuela that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015, and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13808 of August 24, 2017, Executive Order 13827 of March 19, 2018, Executive Order 13835 of May 21, 2018, and Executive Order 13850 of November 1, 2018.

The Executive Order I have issued accounts for the swearing in of a legitimate Interim President of Venezuela, and addresses actions by persons affiliated with the illegitimate Maduro regime, including human rights violations and abuses in response to anti-Maduro protests, arbitrary arrest and detention of anti-Maduro protestors, curtailment of press freedom, harassment of political opponents, and continued attempts to undermine the Interim President of Venezuela and undermine the Venezuelan National Assembly. The Executive Order amends subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13692, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13808, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13827, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13835, and subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13850, to read:

''(d) the term ''Government of Venezuela'' includes the state and Government of Venezuela, any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, including the Central Bank of Venezuela and Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), any person owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the foregoing, and any person who has acted or purported to act directly or indirectly for or on behalf of, any of the foregoing, including as a member of the Maduro regime.''

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 25, 2019*.

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 6 o'clock and 10 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. KILDEE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 624, by the yeas and nays;

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 502, by the yeas and nays; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROMOTING TRANSPARENT STANDARDS FOR CORPORATE INSIDERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 624) to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes, 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 gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 3, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 52]

YEAS—413

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Fudge
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose (NY)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—3

Amash
Biggs
Massie

NOT VOTING—16

Armstrong
Bass
Davis, Danny K.
Frankel
Jones
Kind
Lowey
Payne
Porter
Ratcliffe
Richmond
Roby
Rush
Sensenbrenner
Tipton
Wilson (FL)

□ 1857

Messrs. AMASH and BIGGS changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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.

FIGHT ILLICIT NETWORKS AND DETECT TRAFFICKING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 502) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to buy, sell, or facilitate the financing of goods or services associated with sex trafficking or drug trafficking, and for other purposes, 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 California (Ms. WATERS) 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 412, nays 3, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 53]

YEAS—412

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Fudge
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest

Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose (NY)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—3

Amash
Gaetz
Massie

NOT VOTING—17

Armstrong
Bass
Davis, Danny K.
Frankel
Jones
Kind
Lowey
Payne
Porter
Ratcliffe
Richmond
Roby
Rush
Sensenbrenner
Tipton
Waltz
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1905

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. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 234, nays 170, answered ''present'' 2, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 54]

YEAS—234

Adams
Allred
Amodei
Arrington
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Buck
Budd
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Cuellar
Cummings
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Katko
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kinzinger
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Matsui
McCarthy
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Moore
Morelle
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Pascrell
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rose (NY)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Titus
Tlaib
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wexton
Yarmuth

NAYS—170

Abraham
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Babin
Balderson
Biggs
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Casten (IL)
Chabot
Cheney
Cisneros
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Costa
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crow
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Foxx (NC)
Fudge
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gibbs
Golden
Gonzalez (OH)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Horsford
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kilmer
Kim
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirkpatrick
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luria
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McAdams
McCaul
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meng
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moulton
Mullin
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Peters
Peterson
Rice (NY)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Scalise
Schrier
Shimkus
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spanberger
Spano
Steube
Suozzi
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Torres Small (NM)
Turner
Upton
Van Drew
Walberg
Walden
Waters
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wild
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—2

Gohmert
Tonko

NOT VOTING—26

Armstrong
Bass
Blumenauer
Davis, Danny K.
Flores
Foster
Frankel
Harder (CA)
Houlahan

Jones	Porter	Schrader
Kind	Pressley	Sensenbrenner
Lowey	Ratcliffe	Tipton
McBath	Richmond	Walker
Meuser	Roby	Wilson (FL)
Payne	Rush	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1913

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

RANKING CERTAIN MEMBERS OF CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 80

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, ranked as follows on the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Mr. Walker (to rank immediately after Mr. Banks).

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: (Mr. McCaul (to rank immediately after Mr. King of New York); and Mr. Higgins of Louisiana (to rank immediately after Mr. Walker).

Ms. CHENEY (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NO MORE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, last Friday the 25th of January, 2019, was a day of celebration for 800,000 Federal workers. They joined me at the Federal office building which my office is in, and we stood together listening to their pain and their stories of trying to survive. Many said: We don't want to be held hostage again.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that no Federal employee over a policy question should not be paid. And as we have been saying, open the government and pay the workers. That same day, I went out to visit TSO officers and air traffic controllers.

When I came back today, I stopped to speak to air traffic controllers, and I thanked them and said, America now knows for all of the Federal workers what great patriots and servants of the Nation that they are. We must thank them.

I want to say to the officer who asked me about his pay being frozen that I hope Republicans will join Democrats in raising that pay to 2.6 percent. This is my answer to you, that we will pay you, and we will increase your pay.

As I close, Mr. Speaker, I want to offer sympathy and concern for five Houston police officers who have just been shot. I offer my prayers and concern and sympathy for their families, and a speedy recovery during this time.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF OFFICER SEAN TUDER

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life of an Alabama hero, Officer Sean Tuder, of the Mobile Police Department. Officer Tuder was tragically killed on January 20 while conducting an investigation.

Officer Tuder joined the Mobile Police Department in 2016. He was named Officer of the Month for his exceptional work in improving public safety. As another sign of his commitment to service, Sean was a member of the Alabama National Guard.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Tuder was the second Alabama police officer killed in the line of duty this month.

Police officers are the peacekeepers of society. They go to work every day in an effort to keep our families in our community safe. Sean's story reminds us that we should never take their sacrifices for granted.

To Sean's wife, Krissy, and his entire family, know that you are in our prayers and will continue to be in our prayers in the months and years ahead.

We will never allow Sean's legacy of servant leadership and sacrifice to be forgotten. May the words written in Matthew's Gospel comfort all of us:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, it is simply unacceptable that the Nation's total student loan debt has surpassed credit card debt in our country. Student loan debt can follow a person for life, making it more difficult to raise a family, start a business, buy a home, or save for retirement.

That is why I introduced the Student Loan Repayment Assistance Act which will help college graduates more easily repay their student loan debts by incentivizing more employers to offer student loan repayment assistance.

This bill will help alleviate the financial and emotional burden of a student loan debt, and help employers attract and retain skilled, qualified employees. It is a win-win for all.

In Congress, I will continue to fight for a strong middle class where everyone can achieve the American Dream.

REMEMBERING THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER AND CREW

(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, 33 years ago today, we lost the Space Shuttle Challenger.

I rise to remember and honor the seven crew members whose passion for exploration has inspired generations of Americans.

On January 28, 1986, the 25th mission of the United States space shuttle program was set to transport cargo and crew into orbit. Tragically, the mission was cut short over the skies of Cape Canaveral.

More than three decades later, we remember the sacrifice of each crew member: Dick Scobee, Michael Smith, Ellison Onizuka, Judith Resnik, Ronald McNair, Gregory Jarvis, and Christa McAuliffe. Their legacy is forever enshrined in our Nation's Capital with the Space Shuttle Challenger Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

As President Reagan said in his address to the Nation: ''The Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we'll continue to follow them.''

Mr. Speaker, may our American curiosity for space exploration never fade, and as we continue to seek farther horizons, it is my hope that we fuel the interest of future generations.

Today, we honor and remember the brave crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR CONGRESSMAN WALTER JONES

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives has a Member in great distress, and it causes all of us who are aware of that—and I think most of us are—sorrow.

Representative WALTER JONES is the Congressman from the Third Congressional District of North Carolina. He is a man of courage, a man who speaks truth to power, and has been a Member of this body since 1995.

Representative JONES has a condition that has caused him to go into hospice care. He likely will not be joining us on this floor. But he is a man who I have had the great privilege of knowing, because he is a good human being and an honorable man, who made a mistake in a vote for the Iraq war and after he realized that that was a mistake, having voted for that war, he voted against war and conflicts ever after, and wrote

personal notes to the families of the victims of military deaths.

He supported veterans. He supported our country. He was a man of conscience. He still is. Our thoughts are with him, and I thank him for his service and his friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my friend: Fair winds and following seas.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF J. GENE FAILE

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize J. Gene Faile for his outstanding career and his impending retirement after 30 years of dedication to healthcare administration.

A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Faile began his career at Yokota Air Base in Japan. Afterwards, he earned degrees in finance and business, and became a sought-after hospital administrator and advisory board member around the country.

For 10 years, Faile has served as the President of Wake Forest Baptist Health-Wilkes Medical Center in my district, championing excellent patient care and strengthening the hospital's finances. During his tenure, Wilkes County has been blessed by his generosity and leadership, including with the March for Babies, Wilkes Community College, Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, and The Health Foundation, Inc.

Although he will be missed in the Fifth District, I wish him and his wife, Peggy, a wonderful retirement with his family in Raleigh.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN PABLO DUARTE

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Juan Pablo Duarte, the founding father of the Dominican Republic. Duarte was instrumental in the war of Dominican independence, and he fought for a liberal democracy.

January 26, this past Saturday, marked Duarte's birthday, a day that is celebrated in the Dominican Republic as a national holiday, and Dominicans celebrated it across the world.

Last week, I introduced H. Res. 64, which supports the ideals of Juan Pablo Duarte Day, and urges the recognition of this day in the United States, as many Dominican Americans celebrate here as well.

This resolution is one of three I introduced last week to mark the beginning of Dominican Heritage Month to honor the Dominican American community in my district and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my many colleagues join me in recognizing this important day and the contributions of Dominican Americans across the United States.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK T. BRINKLEY, SR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Young Harris College trustee emeritus and former United States Representative from the Third District of Georgia, Mr. Jack T. Brinkley, Sr., who passed away on January 23 at the age of 88.

Mr. Brinkley was a true public servant who quietly helped numerous individuals. Before his 16-year career as a Member of Congress, he taught school, piloted planes in the Air Force, and moved to west Georgia to be close to his wife's family.

After serving in Congress, he returned home to work in his family law firm. Even with his low profile, Mr. Brinkley did significant work. He introduced over 650 bills, most of which involved veterans. He had a gift for remembering names and key qualities of his constituents, but most importantly, Mr. Brinkley was a genuine, selfless, high-character public servant who will be deeply missed.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this time.

□ 1930

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, January 27, we observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This day marks the 74th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Today I rise because we have a sacred duty to remember the lives lost to Nazism, an abominable evil.

We must remember so that we never forget.

We must never forget the events of the Holocaust so that we may stand together against anti-Semitism and against any such acts leveraged in the future against the Jewish people and all people everywhere.

CONGRATULATING COACH KEN LEONARD

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Ken Leonard, head coach of the Sacred Heart-Griffin Cyclones, for being nominated by the Chicago Bears for the 2018 Don Shula NFL High School Coach of the Year Award. This year, he follows his son, Derek, who was nominated last year.

Coach Leonard was nominated for this prestigious award because of his leadership, dedication to the community, and his commitment to the health and safety of his players and their on-field success. This past year, Coach Leonard became the all-time leader for victories in Illinois high school coaching history—ironically, beating his son's very good Rochester team to get that record.

As the head coach since 1984, Coach Leonard has an outstanding 379 win and 74 career loss record, including five State championships in eight title game appearances. He has spent countless hours on the field, in classrooms, and in chapels teaching players about character and helping prepare them for a very successful future.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ken for his service to the Springfield community over the years and congratulate him, his family, and his team on this great honor.

WE ASK GOD'S BLESSINGS ON CONGRESSMAN WALTER JONES

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join my remarks along with those of Congressman STEVE COHEN of Tennessee to reach our beloved colleague, WALTER JONES of the Third District of North Carolina, and his family as they walk through these difficult days. I wish to say thank you to the people of North Carolina for sending such an honorable and dignified gentleman to this House to serve for over two decades, 12 terms.

I can remember how hard WALTER worked when Hurricane Florence hit—his district includes the Outer Banks of North Carolina—and spending his time with the citizens of his district.

I can't count the number of times he talked about Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, and I can't think of anyone who fought harder for veterans or those in our military than WALTER JONES. He is such a man of conscience and such a moral man. I know that the weight of this country's concerns fell on him very heavily.

WALTER, if you are listening to our words this evening, know that we walk with you in spirit. We know you are a man of deep faith, and we know that that faith will carry you through all of the most difficult shoals of life.

We miss you very much on this floor, but we can see your presence and feel your presence. It lingers and lasts among us. Know that we walk with you.

We hope you can hear our words, and we ask God to bless you, to bless your family, and to give you His everlasting strength.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DICK SHELLENBERGER

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dick Shellenberger, a wonderful man who dedicated his life to serving Lancaster County.

Dick recently passed away and left an enormous legacy in our community. I attended a memorial in his honor on Friday, and you could tell how well-loved he was in the community by so many people who showed up to pay their respects.

Dick first ran a dairy farm with his father. He was a graduate of Lancaster Mennonite High School. He worked for Kreider Farms and established the farm's ice cream business, operating its four family restaurants, two dairy stores, and wholesale milk business. He then was a restaurateur, but he eventually became Lancaster County Commissioner.

He was a strong proponent of farmland preservation because he knew the importance of agriculture and farming in our community. He served on many community boards and on his church boards and was always looking for ways to give back.

He is survived by his wife, Pam; a son, Richie; a daughter, Missy; and his six grandchildren.

Dick's legacy will undoubtedly live on in our community. We are grateful for his service to Lancaster County. We also know that he is in a better place, but we will certainly miss him here. It is humbling to be able to honor his life.

CELEBRATING MAYOR ALLEN OWEN

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mayor Allen Owen and his almost 40 years of faithful service to a great city in Texas-22, Missouri City.

Allen served as the mayor for the better part of 20 years. He always led in a crisis, like the recovery from Hurricane Harvey, one Memorial Day flood, and two tax day floods. He even cut the locks at a gas station to give fuel to first responders during those floods.

Allen and his wife of 51 years, Jane, have raised three amazing kids in Missouri City.

I will close with praise from a Texas icon, the great Texas philosopher and the coach of the Houston Oilers, Bum Phillips:

> Allen Owen may not be in a class by himself, but whatever class he is in, it don't take long to call the roll.

Thank you, Al and Jane. May you always have fair winds and following seas.

KANSAS DAY

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

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Kansas Day. As Kansas celebrates her 158th birthday, I would like to take a minute to celebrate her.

Our State motto is ''Ad Astra per Aspera,'' through hardships to the stars. This motto captures our State and the spirit of our people.

We have had frontiersmen, space explorers, and leaders in agriculture and digital technology.

We have won sports championships and Academy Awards.

Leaders like Eisenhower, Dole, Roberts, and Pompeo have helped make the world a better place.

From our history of Bleeding Kansas to Brown v. Board of Education, we are never afraid to fight for what is right.

For 158 years, Kansas, you look great.

BORDER SECURITY

(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, I rise today to commend President Trump for coming together with this 3-week deal that will allow us to open the government, as it has, and continue the discussion on the border security issue we so desperately need.

It is time to put up or shut up. This has been a bipartisan effort in the past with previous legislation to build the border fence and a lot of rhetoric and a lot of talk by the other side of the aisle supporting a controlled border and legal immigration.

It is time to go ahead and do it—no more talk, no more obfuscation, and no more pointing fingers in the other direction. We need to have border security in a bipartisan way, as it has been done in the past.

Who cares that it is President Trump or someone else in the White House only because it is a political fight? This is something our Nation needs.

So, again, 3 weeks to get it done, 3 weeks to come together and acknowledge that a barrier system on our border is one important component of many to have a secure border and allow legal immigration in this country.

CBO REPORT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I am going to try to do a couple of things tonight, and some of this is actually to answer some correspondence we had into our office when we did part of our, we will call it, unified theory presentation a couple weeks ago on what we see happening.

I have two key points I really want to try to drill home tonight. I am going to say them over and over, and I am going to use a number of different slides to talk about them.

Mr. Speaker, one is, it is obvious. You see what is happening in our mandatory spending, but that mandatory spending is substantially driven by our demographics. We are getting older as a society, and we need to just deal with that. That is not Republican or Democratic; it is basically math.

Those of us from the baby boom—there are 74 million of us—the peak of the baby boom, I believe, right now, is about 63 years old. A lot of the reforms should have happened a decade ago. Now it is almost too late.

So how do we deal with the fact of the matter? We are going to see a number of slides of what is about to happen in our mandatory spending curve and what that means to the financial impact of our debt and our economic growth in our society, because much of the debate you will see behind these microphones, I believe, is actually missing the point.

We joke in our office that D.C. is substantially a math-free zone. We are going to try to actually do some math.

The reason we put up this slide is very, very simple: just to visualize it. It is about a year old.

This new CBO report update came out today. We are grinding through it. We have a couple slides here from that.

But just to visualize, this is 1965, and that is 2018.

Mr. Speaker, do you see the red area on the 2018? That is to give you a sense that we don't vote on that. That is on autopilot. The blue area is actually the defense spending; that is about 15 percent. The green is basically everything else.

So remember, 70 to 75 percent of all of the spending around here is on autopilot. I am going to show you, Mr. Speaker, in a number of these slides how much of that is actually really based on our demographics.

This slide is very powerful—and I am going to bend it just a bit to try to understand.

Now, this is done by the Manhattan Institute. It was done about a year ago. So we are going to try to get the numbers updated.

Now, this is not adjusted for inflation. So when it says what is causing an $84 trillion deficit, functionally, over the next 29, 30 years, you can take off about one-third if you want to do the inflation adjustment in your head.

But when you look at it, the point is up here. You see the first bar; that is Social Security. The middle bar there is Medicare, and the third bar is everything else.

Mr. Speaker, you will notice everything else over the 30 years is actually positive in its impact on revenues, but Social Security and Medicare are the

vast, functionally, almost all of that $84 trillion of debt.

It is demographics, it is math, and we need to deal with it, because as a society and as a government, we have an obligation to keep our promises. These are earned benefits. But how do we do it?

We are going to talk about how we keep our promises in the last part of these slides.

But, once again, I am trying to make the point that the scale of the problem, if you have a political person, an academician—anyone—and they are talking about the future of this country, if they are not talking about what is happening to us demographically and our entitlement promises, then they are not telling you the truth, Mr. Speaker, because this is going to drive all policy around it.

Now, I will have lots of conversations with folks back home in Arizona—which is just beautiful; I think it was 74 degrees today in Scottsdale—and I will get: Well, I paid into the program.

And you did, and we have a social contract with you on those benefits, but we do need to understand some of the actual math.

□ 1945

This is sort of the average person who will be moving into retirement over this decade. For Social Security, you will have paid in about $540,000 in Social Security taxes. You are going to get about $616,000 back out.

Those two are fairly in balance, even though all that money that went to the trust fund then is loaned to the Federal Government, and then the Federal Government—actually, Treasury—puts special T-notes. The last time I checked, they were paying like 3 percent, so they had a reasonable rate of return.

But the one that causes most of the deficit over the next decade, two decades, three decades, you look at Medicare. The average person will have paid about $140,000 in Medicare taxes. They are going to get $422,000. So 140 in, 422 out.

When you see that number, it is an understanding that we need to do the things that would bring price disruption to the delivery of those health services. If not, think of this: 74 million baby boomers—74 million baby boomers—and, on average, we will have put in $140,000 in Medicare taxes, and we are going to get $400-some thousand in benefits back out. The math is just devastating for our economic future.

This is a brand-new slide. This is in today's CBO report. The reason I had this one printed is to understand, in 9 years, according to today's CBO report—9 years—50 percent of all Federal spending, not counting interest, just 50 percent of all Federal spending, will be to seniors.

Just understand what that means. I believe, in the early 1970s, for every dollar that went to seniors, $4 to $5 went to our children. It has, obviously, more than doubled in the other direction.

It is just demographics. We are getting older. Birth rates have substantially collapsed in the country.

But this is in today's CBO report, just to get our heads around it. The dark brown you see on top, that is those who are 65 and older. What is more of a rust color, those are 20 to 64, just to give you an idea of the population differences. Yet, the brown part, in 9 years, is 50 percent of all Federal spending. We need to understand that it is demographics.

Another slide, just to sort of make the point here, if you were to go from 2008 to 2028, take those years, 91 percent—91 percent—of the increased spending of the Federal Government is, functionally, interest, Social Security, and the healthcare—we will call it healthcare entitlements, healthcare delivery. That can be Social Security. It can be Medicare. It could be Indian Health Service.

Think of that. Ninety-one percent of all the spending growth from 2008 to 2028, over those 20 years: Social Security, interest, healthcare entitlements. Ninety-one percent. It gives you a sense of where the spending is.

Yet, we will have hours and hours of debate on this floor over this coming year on trivial issues, because this is really difficult. This is hard. No one really wants to talk about it because the math is difficult. There are lots of zeroes.

The elements of it mean some very difficult things for someone like me who believes one of the greatest issues of our time is retirement security. Yet, 91 percent of the increased spending from this Federal Government over that 20-year period: Social Security, interest, healthcare entitlements.

Now, this is a brand-new slide. We are going to, over the next couple weeks, come back and do some more analysis on the CBO report today, the Congressional Budget Office report, and what it is telling us.

This is a little awkward. We have never printed one this direction. I hope it works. This is directly from today's information, the budgetary policy release.

See those lines? The only reason I put that up is to understand, whether it be what you all think of as the Social Security trust fund, the Social Security disability trust fund, or the Medicare trust fund, you will notice, in the next couple years, all of them go below zero.

We need to understand the impacts, that demographics spending promises have now caught up with us, and we are emptying out those trust funds.

This one is a good one. If you are like I am—and I know I am blessed to have some folks who correspond with me after we do these presentations. They have a fixation on: Well, what is the spending as a percentage of the size of the economy?

In many ways, when you have someone throw out a debt number, the number that is most important to most economists, actually, is: How much is that dollar amount as a percentage of the size of the economy? That is why there is this fixation for many of us here that we have to grow the size of this economy, because that is how we can digest the amounts of debt that are, demographically, about to come to us.

Do you see this number out here, that 15.1? Understand that is, functionally, 9 budget years from now. That is saying, 15.1—and this is from, I believe, today's CBO report. It is saying, in 9 years, 15.1 percent of the entire economy will be Federal Government mandatory spending and 5 percent will be discretionary. Remember, discretionary is things like the military, parks, healthcare research.

All those things will be 5 percent, and 3 percent of the entire economy's value will be what we are spending just to cover interest. Add those together, and you start to understand: In 9 years, Federal spending, we are over 23 percent of the entire GDP.

What should blow off this page to you: In 9 years, over 15 percent of the entire Nation's economy is just covering the mandatory spending here. That is under today's policies.

Now, in the next couple weeks, we will do more of this, and I am going to find a way to print some boards that become more digestible, because I will get calls that will say: Well, David, just do this. Lift the caps on Social Security.

Well, let's look at some of those numbers. If we come over here and start to say to eliminate FICA caps from the 15 percent payroll tax, so just lift the caps, you have to understand that it covers 0.78 percent of the 6-plus percent of GDP shortfall.

These are all the pop solutions that I hear often from my friends on the left. You start to add them up, and they cover only fractions of the avalanche of debt and spending that are coming at us.

We will do some more breakdowns on these over the next couple weeks, just to understand where the real math is, because we have a classic problem around here. Our rhetoric doesn't actually fit our calculators.

Let's walk through some of the other things that are going on. I have repeatedly come behind this microphone and talked about something we in our office refer to as the unified theory. I believe there are, functionally, five things out there we have to do to sustain the future and survive, those of us who are baby boomers, and our earned promises, our entitlements.

The first one we talk about is: What are you going to do to maximize economic growth? What are you going to do to keep people in the labor force?

This one here that I put up, this is a chart of what we call labor force participation.

We were all joyful when we found out in December that we crossed over 63

percent participation. But, remember, it was only like a decade ago that we were close to 67 percent of our population participating in the labor force, working.

There is a great article today, if you have a chance to look at it, in the Wall Street Journal, talking about, in this incredibly robust job market we have today, where we have, functionally, hundreds of thousands—millions, if you actually do the average out—of positions looking for workers, that we are starting to see something that is really good for society. Those who have had a rough time are moving into the labor force. Those who have designations of having handicaps, maybe on Social Security disability, others, are moving into the labor force.

I am fixated on this particular slide because we have to do better. I ask every policymaker, whether you are on the left or the right, to think about how we design these programs that are meant to be our safety net. How do we design them to encourage work, to encourage that participation in the labor force? We have to have that on this end, if we are going to have the resources on the other end to keep our promises.

We are going to go through all five things that I believe, optimistically, can get us there.

This one I put up just because it is from Arizona. A bit of trivia: You saw the numbers a few months ago talking about the collapse, functionally, in U.S. birthrates, you know, down to 1.67. Do you know what State had the largest fall of birthrates? It was actually my home State of Arizona.

You start to see this and understand the scale we are at. We are substantially below replacement rate right now.

When you see this slide, you immediately should start thinking about what we can do as incentives in our society for family formation with children, but also what are the levers within immigration that would help us move to certain types of population stability.

Before we go to the next slide—let's hold off on that one—let's walk through sort of an optimistic vision of what we can do. It is big; it is complicated; and it is going to require a lot of us to explain really difficult things to constituencies that have heard politicians for decades now saying: Well, if we just take care of waste and fraud.

You understand, there are problems out there. It needs to be fixed. I believe there are technology solutions to stop the waste and fraud. It is a fraction of a percent of what is actually happening out there.

So let's walk through our five.

We have to grow our economy. That is why we did tax reform. That is why we also now have to fix our trade situation. That also is why we have to continue the proper types of education in our society.

There is a series of things you do as a society to maximize economic expansion, because we are talking more than just this year, next year, the next decade. We really need to have a window that goes out at least 30 years.

Remember our baby boom population of 74 million with the peak being 63 years old? We need to be thinking at least 30 years out of what we do to maximize economic expansion over that time.

A lot of it is going to be tax, regulatory, education, trade, those types of things that we have the levers on that can maximize that expansion.

The next thing we were just talking about is labor force participation. Let's fixate on that.

As we start to go through these, what do you also do within the incentives?

You are 65. You are healthy. What could we do as incentives within Medicare, Social Security, certain of our tax rules, to encourage someone to stay in the labor force?

If you have an interest in this, read some of the articles about things Japan has been doing to try to create some labor force participation stability, even though their population is aging out very, very quickly.

The next slide I want to go to is one of my favorites, just conceptually. That is, much of the explosion in the costs, you see, is in the Medicare area. The debates that happen on this floor about healthcare, if you take a step backward and can strip your mind a little bit from being a Democrat or a Republican, you do understand that much of the debate around here is not about what changes the cost, but it is about who gets to pay.

□ 2000

The ACA created a world where we are saying: Okay. We are going to create all these government subsidies; we will move it this way.

But it didn't remove any costs. Then we will actually do things that are saying: Well, we believe this will actually get more participation in the marketplace, and that will actually create actuarial stability.

But, ultimately, if you actually take a step backwards and think about, in society, what do any of these do to actually remove costs? And I want to argue there is a technology disruption revolution about to hit in healthcare.

The poster next to me actually is a handheld ultrasound. Think about an ultrasound that is the size of your phone. You take it, you actually plug it into your phone, and you have an ultrasound; something that, just a few years ago, was really expensive, you can have in your pocket.

It is under a couple of thousand dollars, and, apparently, the prices are crashing because there are now multiple competitors in this technology because of the development of new types of sensors. Think about a world where it is much more than you are wearing a smartwatch that helps you with your heart arrhythmia, but think about something where you can blow into it, and it tells you if you have the flu and automatically could order your antivirals. Well, it turns out that is actually in testing right now.

How many of you went to Blockbuster video last weekend? Of course not. There was a technology revolution—feels like it happened overnight—where we used to go stand in line, get a little box with a little disc in it, get movie recommendations from the person behind the counter. Today, we go home, we hit a button, and it is HBO Go, it is Netflix, Hulu, whatever you ultimately watch. We were quite willing to accept that technology in our homes almost overnight.

I am going to continue to ask Congress, the regulators, the people in our society, think about what we could do to disrupt the costs of the delivery of healthcare, and I will argue with you that it is technology. There is an experiment going on in Arizona right now where I think they are up to five little clinics that are substantially autonomous. It is a powerful thought experiment.

You will hear people; Members of Congress talk about telemedicine. I will argue with you, some of the research we have been doing out of our office, telemedicine now is already out of date. There is now algorithmic, where it can read these sensors that you wear on your body. It can actually read with the thing you blow into, and the algorithm is amazingly accurate.

Would that concept help us in our issues in rural healthcare, but also in our ability to have the cost collapse that technology potentially brings? And I know it is uncomfortable because we are used to the system we have, but we can't afford the system we have. You have seen it in the chart. You see what is coming at us.

Then the last thing of the five is we are going to have to have an honest conversation about the way Medicare, the way Social Security, the way many of these programs are designed. Do we need to look out into the future and build a shock absorber into them that has to do with life expectancy? What would happen tomorrow if we were blessed to have a cure to Alzheimer's and life expectancy suddenly—what is the term? Like a punctuated equilibrium, we had a sudden pop of a few years in life expectancy, what would that mean to actuarial tables?

Do we need to start designing in shock absorbers policy-wise today, the incentives to actually stay and work so we have the labor force participation, but, also, can we build some spiffs, some incentives?

So if you start to look at everything from fixating on the growing of the economy, fixating on participation in the labor force, fixating on the adoption of technology as a price disrupter, and then the actual structure we use on the delivery of entitlements, and we understand the scale and how fast this is coming at us, I will argue with you, it is something we need to do almost immediately.

My goal is, over the next few months, every week, every other week to come behind this podium, and we are going to start to get more granular in how the policies would work and what drives them.

So my point, once again, is understanding it is mandatory spending. It is substantially, remember, 91 percent, delivered by our demographics, and demographics isn't political. It is just what we are as a society. So what do we do?

Last bit, because I skipped it, and I want to come back to it. Immigration; designing an immigration system that substantially promotes a talent-based model. Why? If everything we do policy-wise has a fixation on economic expansion, on economic growth, so we actually have the resources to keep our promise as a society, you actually have to think about, even immigration, and a model within that both looks at population stability—because you saw what was happening to our birth rates—but a talent-based system so you get the maximum multiplier effect of economic growth.

When we do the math in our office, we see a way to stabilize the debt. It doesn't go away. It keeps growing, but the economy grows so that percentage of debt to GDP actually keeps us so our interest rates don't explode off the charts because no one will take the risk on our debt, but think of the number of policy decisions I am asking this body to make.

There is a path. It is going to be hard. We are going to have to explain a lot of very difficult mechanics of why we need to do what we are going to do, but it is the path that saves our country.

I have a 3-year-old little girl, best little girl ever. I want her to have the same opportunities I have had. And the way our demographics pile up our debt over the next 30 years, she won't have the same opportunities I have had, and that just isn't fair. That is not fair to anyone. We have got to find a way to keep our promises and have the next couple of generations also have the same opportunities.

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

NECESSARY BORDER WALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have another weekend gone by and another speech of our President on the issue of illegal immigration and what to do with the wall on the southern border.

I take this opportunity, after spending the weekend talking to several constituents of the Sixth Congressional District, to deal with some misconceptions in this debate.

The first misconception I would like to talk about is whether Donald Trump can compromise, because there are some people out there who feel that the delay in opening the government was because this, admittedly, type A individual could not compromise.

The shutdown was caused because we had not passed an appropriation bill that both, I can say, sides, both the pro-wall and anti-wall people could agree with. President Trump previously—this is his third year—signed two appropriation bills funding the Department of Homeland Security and the rest of the government without getting a wall. It was not until the third time that President Trump and Congress could not reach an agreement on the Homeland Security bill. And I will point out that was largely because Congress couldn't get along, not President Trump.

After a delay of over 30 days, President Trump has, one more time, compromised. He compromised to allow 3 more weeks of the government to be open on the promise, or the implied promise, of the Speaker that she will, in good faith, negotiate about a wall.

President Trump, during this time, also agreed to an extension, a DACA extension, which the border patrol, quite frankly, would disagree with, because they feel it will encourage more people to be optimistic and come here illegally across the border. He also extended temporary protected status, another thing which may or may not be right, but was a further olive branch towards people, who, so far, would refuse to vote for a budget with the funding of a wall.

In any event, I think, if you look at the past, President Trump has been more than willing to compromise, signing bill after bill in his first 2 years, despite not making due on his number one campaign promise, extending temporary protected status, a DACA extension, and now a 3-week extension.

You can say a lot of things about Donald Trump, but you cannot say he is not willing to compromise. I think very, very many people feel he has compromised more than enough.

The next question is: Do we need a wall? Is a wall necessary? And the fact is it is. We need a wall because we need secure borders.

First of all, as has been pointed out, 70 percent of the heroin in this country, which has caused tens of thousands of deaths, comes across our southern border. Some of that heroin comes across points of entry, and at the points of entry, it is not unusual to catch people sneaking in heroin. Some people have made something of the fact that not a lot of heroin is caught in the 60 percent of the southern border that has no barrier at all up.

That is because there is no barrier. We have no idea how much heroin is coming across there, but common sense will tell you, if you wanted to sneak illegal drugs in this country and have a choice between going across a regular point of entry with perhaps dogs and border control agents or somebody out in the middle of nowhere, you would go somewhere out in the middle of nowhere. It is hard to tell me that anyone cares about the heroin crisis in this country if they do not want a wall.

The next thing to look for is all the people sneaking into the country. The border patrol itself will tell you they have no idea how many people are coming across the border. We can say, at a minimum, we have 11 or 12 million people in this country illegally, but for all I know, talking with somebody from the border patrol today, it could be 20 million.

And the question is, if we are going to let more people in this country, are we going to let people in this country who are sneaking across the border or people who are coming here legally?

Another problem with people coming here legally, I would argue, is they may be more likely to use welfare or that sort of thing when they come to the country. Talking to the customs agents, I have found evidence, when they looked at people's purses, when they looked at people's wallets, of evidence of people using EBT cards or Medicaid cards, taking free goods from the American taxpayer.

People are committing crime. One can see when more walls are built on the southern border; crime goes down on the other side of the wall. A large percentage of people who are in Federal prisons are illegal immigrants, which is not surprising, given that they broke the law to come here.

It is a dangerous way to get in. Thousands of people have been found dead trying to sneak across areas not at a point of entry. And having been down in the desert in Arizona, I can easily see why that would happen. People are giving children to other people to come across the border, knowing it is easier to stay here if you come with children.

Obviously, that is a dangerous thing. As President Trump says, it is a humanitarian crisis not to shut off the flow of people who are coming across the desert hoping to get to America.

Finally, it is a huge cost to the American taxpayer. Something is said about the almost $6 billion President Trump is asking for a wall. A variety of different organizations make different guesses as to the cost of illegal immigration every year. It is probably more than $50 billion. It is not surprising when you take into effect the free healthcare, the free education, the welfare given out, and the cost to our criminal justice system.

In any event, do we need a wall? If we care about heroin, we need a wall. If we care about the cost to government, we need a wall. If we care about people who are hurt by criminals who come across the border, we need a wall. And I should point out that, right now, that border is controlled by the drug cartels in Mexico. We need a wall.

The third issue I would like to address is there are some people who feel that Donald Trump is anti-immigrant or America is becoming nativist by requiring a wall. That is not true. Every

year, in this country, over 700,000 people are sworn in legally to become citizens in this country. Almost 4 million people are given work visas to come into this country. Another close to 2 million people come into this country hoping to be students or to become students in this country.

All we are asking, if people want to sneak across the border, is do it legally. Get in line to be one of the 700,000 people who are going to be sworn in legally. Get in line to be one of the almost 4 million people who get work-type visas to come here.

I think compared to other countries, quite frankly, there is no comparison. You look at other countries—Mexico, Germany, countries like that—you will find the number of people that they are allowing to naturalize into their country is percentage-wise much less than the United States of America.

□ 2015

It is incredibly open-minded, and with open arms, that the United States continues to let these large numbers of people come into this country to naturalize, to become students, or to work in this country, and nobody is talking about reducing those very large numbers. All we are saying is: Don't skip in line.

The next issue I hear people talk about is: Do walls work? If you build a wall, will it prevent people from coming across the border?

We can look at the southern border already, and we can look at walls around the world.

Look at the southern border. In the 1990s, we built a border wall between San Diego and Tijuana. People crossing at that point dropped 92 percent, an incredible success.

We have built other walls, walls near El Paso, walls near Tucson, walls near Yuma. All of these walls currently built have reduced illegal immigration by over 90 percent.

Look around the world in other countries building walls. Israel built a well-known wall around 2010 between themselves and Egypt. Before they built the wall, they were having about 1,500 people come across their border illegally. After they built the wall, bit by bit, that number has dropped all the way down to nothing. That is a pretty good success rate, going from 1,500 a week to nothing.

You don't hear those people saying: Oh, people are sneaking across. They're going over the wall or going under the wall.

No, a well-done wall reduces immigration almost entirely.

Right now, 10 EU nations in Europe, countries similar to ours, have walls. Hungary built a wall on its border with Syria and had a 90 percent drop in the number of people crossing the border, another example of a very successful wall.

The other thing I will point out, having spent last week down on our southern border, the Border Patrol, every one of them who I talked to, says they want a wall. They live with it every day. The Border Patrol would not want a wall if it was not effective.

The next thing I would like to point out is the cost of a wall. President Trump is asking for $5.7 billion. $5.7 billion is a lot of money. But now we have to put it in context with what we are spending in other parts of our budget.

What President Trump is asking for is one-seventh the cost of foreign aid that we spend year after year after year, and all the people who are keeping the government closed because they refuse to vote for a wall, they have no qualms—or almost all of them have no qualms—about voting for seven times as much every year on foreign aid.

It is about one-twelfth the increase in defense spending under President Trump, one-twelfth just the increase. For the protection of our country in the future, I can think of few things that are more important than stopping the invasion from south of our Nation.

It is about 0.1 percent—one-tenth of 1 percent—of our overall Federal budget, and about four-tenths of 1 percent of what we refer to as the discretionary part of our budget.

So while $5.7 billion is a lot of money, when you look compared to the other money that Congress appropriates again and again, year after year after year, they usually don't object to the money being spent on other things.

Now, you hear it said that walls are immoral. I will point out that I think this is a new and rather silly argument. I think keeping heroin out of this country; I think keeping a potential criminal class out of this country; I think making sure that our future immigrants are people who stand in line coming here are not considered immoral. But I will detect a little bit of hypocrisy of people who make that argument.

I mentioned a second ago the wall between Tijuana and San Diego, which was built during the term of Bill Clinton. I am sure, if you go back and check the papers of the time, when Bill Clinton felt it was necessary to build a wall between San Diego and Tijuana, nobody said it was immoral.

Later on, more of the wall right now was built on an appropriation passed when President Bush was President. Some of that wall, or improvements in the wall, were built when President Obama was President.

I have a feeling, if we go back, we won't find anybody saying the wall was immoral when it was built by President Clinton or President Bush or President Obama.

So one of two things is going on here. Either we have partisanship rearing its ugly head, and people are perfectly happy to vote for a wall under other Presidents, or some people, both Republicans and primarily Democrats, are becoming a lot more radical since parts of the wall were built in the 1990s or the zeros or the teens.

The next thing I would like to deal with is that you sometimes hear it said by people who have kept the government closed by their refusal to build a wall that everybody wants border security. Sadly, that is not true.

You would feel any citizen with common sense would want to enforce our borders, but if you look, the Governor of California has said that he wants illegal immigrants to be given free medical care in his State. The mayor of New York has said much the same thing.

There are over 500 sanctuary cities in the United States of America. A sanctuary city is a city where the local mayor or city council has said that we are not going to ask citizens in our jurisdiction whether or not they are here illegally.

Look, if you have a city, or a county, or a whole State like California that has become a sanctuary city, those governors or mayors or legislators or city councils of course do not want immigration laws taken seriously.

In the last 2 years, a bill was brought forth to try to end sanctuary cities. A few Republicans voted against the bill, and all but three Democrats voted against the bill.

I try to put in my mind, what would cause someone, if they really cared about enforcing the border, to say we have no problem with counties or cities, in essence, putting up a sign to say: We are not going to ask people whether they are here illegally.

The point is that, obviously, there are a lot of people out there who don't care about border security. We have several Congressmen getting elected on the platform of saying that they don't want to fund ICE, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

Why would somebody not want to enforce the immigration and customs authority and, at the same time, want to have our borders taken seriously?

The answer is, they don't want our borders taken seriously. There are a lot of people who believe, as the Minnesota Attorney General and former Congressman KEITH ELLISON say, that national borders themselves are an injustice. They want the idea of a separate United States of America, I guess, to permanently change.

You may think it is ridiculous to say that the idea that we shouldn't have national borders is a disgrace, but this has become, sadly, mainstream among the left wing segment of the political class.

The Oakland mayor recently sent an alarm, telling people, including particularly people with a criminal background in Oakland, that ICE was going to make a sweep and try to pick up criminals. Why would she do that if she wanted our immigration laws enforced?

The answer is, more and more people are getting elected in this country who do not want immigration laws enforced.

Now, I have a few more suggestions for President Trump. I think it is unfortunate that we have not built the

wall yet, but having talked to some members of the Border Patrol, perhaps, in some ways, it is a blessing in disguise.

The $5.7 billion that President Trump wants will be nowhere near enough to secure the entire border. It will secure more of the border than now, and it will be a big step in the right direction. That is true. But I think perhaps President Trump, now that they have kind of bit his hand after he has compromised and compromised and compromised, rather than build for just $5.7 billion, should try to increase the size of the wall, so that we are covering all of the easy entry points on the southern border, which would take about $8 billion. I do feel it is important enough to secure our borders that that would be an appropriate thing to do.

There are other things that, having been at the border, are suggested. We are right now not making anywhere near a good enough effort to see if cash is going from the cartels back from north of the border to south of the border. I would ask President Trump to include cash-sniffing dogs that can detect this cash. If people try to sneak across the border without declaring that cash, that cash can be taken, and it can be very devastating for the cartels.

We could use more density meters for cars, in which you can detect whether there are drugs within cars. That is another thing that would help our Border Patrol become more effective.

Finally, he can try to engage people, if there are any people out there who care about our borders, about the ridiculous asylum laws. I don't know if everybody is aware out there—not enough Americans are aware—that anybody who comes to the southern border can say they are fleeing from violence or religious persecution and, after being detained briefly, they eventually will be let go for a court date, which might be years in the future. As long as that law continues in effect, we will continue to have millions of people stream across the border.

I want to look here at some of the walls that we already have, walls that were built by other Presidents and proved to be very effective.

Here we have a wall in San Diego built by President Clinton. It is not an immoral wall. It is a very effective wall that has decreased illegal border crossings in the San Diego-Tijuana area by over 90 percent.

We have another wall here that ends in Nogales, in the Arizona area. I think this wall was built under President Bush. It might have been somewhat improved under President Obama, another very moral wall that is protecting people on the north side of the border.

I want to point out another reason why we need the wall. I talked to some ranchers in the area. They came across the Salvadoran gangs that we know are so brutal, and they fed them. They weren't harmed. But can you imagine living near the border where we have people crossing the border, either south to north or north to south, who are members of the violent El Salvador gangs?

Here is another picture and a wall near Sasabe and another point where the wall ends. This is an area in which, even if President Trump gets the wall he wants, they will not be funding an extension of this wall. It is one of the reasons why we should ask for a little bit more than $5.7 million for this wall.

I will point out that the new walls they build will be better than walls in the past. We can make walls higher than this, and we can make walls in which we have sensors designed to track people coming up, and walls in which we have flat areas on top of the wall that would be very difficult to climb over. It will be very difficult to get over these new high-tech walls.

In any event, here is another picture of a wonderful wall in Sasabe. We just wish the wall was a little bit bigger.

Here we are going to look at another couple walls that countries feel are effective.

Here we have a picture of where a wall is in Jordan. The feeling is that the United States may have built part of that wall to protect the poor Jordanians from terrorists coming across. I don't remember anybody objecting to that wall.

Here we have the wall in Israel that was built and has cut illegal immigration coming across the border from Egypt down to literally zero.

Now, looking at these walls, these effective walls in the past that have been built by other Presidents, and thinking that I do not want to have another shutdown in 3 weeks, the tremendous inconvenience for the government workers, the inconvenience for people who are relying on the government for inspections and that sort of thing, I will ask my colleagues who refused to vote for a border wall during the last shutdown to just imagine, stop and think for a minute, and pretend that, instead of President Trump, we have a President Clinton, or a President Bush, or a President Obama, and maybe, to help you pretend, you can pretend that the border wall is not there to protect the residents of Texas, or New Mexico, or Arizona, but it is there to protect the residents of Jordan.

Just like in the past, when you voted for bills to protect the residents of Jordan, or voted for Presidents to build walls other than President Trump, just sit back, close your eyes, and pretend we are building a wall to protect another country, or building a wall at another time, and just vote ''yes,'' so that we don't have to go through another shutdown, and so that we can protect American citizens from drug lords and protect them from people coming across the border out of line, to be fair to those people who are coming to this country legally.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of travel delay due to weather.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 28. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 29, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 56, the Financial Technology Protection Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, a letter from the Assistant Director, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Secretary (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Veterans' Group Life Insurance Increased Coverage (RIN: 2900-AQ12) received January 25, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868), was taken from the Speaker's table, referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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. CARSON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. SOTO, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 804. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to award grants to eligible entities to establish, expand, or support school-based mentoring programs to assist at-risk middle school students with the transition from middle school

to high school; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. FOXX of North Carolina:

H.R. 805. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to revise the regulations regarding the ''do-not-call'' registry to prohibit politically- oriented recorded message telephone calls to telephone numbers listed on that registry; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DUNN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MAST, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL):

H.R. 806. A bill to require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCK (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. CROW, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 807. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to facilitate water leasing and water transfers to promote conservation and efficiency; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. REED):

H.R. 808. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes; 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. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 809. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Ms. MOORE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. NADLER, Ms. MENG, Ms. OMAR, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. HAALAND, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. COOPER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H.R. 810. A bill to block the implementation of certain presidential actions that restrict individuals from certain countries from entering the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. BUDD):

H.R. 811. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the disclosure of the annual percentage rates applicable to Federal student loans; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 812. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require individuals nominated or appointed to Senate-confirmed positions or to positions of a confidential or policymaking character to disclose certain types of contributions made or solicited by, or at the request of, the individuals; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Miss GONZALEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico (for herself, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SOTO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 813. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for temporary stabilization of Medicare Advantage payments following Hurricane Maria; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 814. A bill to provide a bonus to any Federal employee excepted from furlough during the lapse in appropriations beginning on or about December 22, 2018, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 815. A bill to provide, in the event of a Government shutdown during fiscal year 2019, continuing appropriations to members and employees of the Coast Guard and law enforcement officers and custom and border protection officers within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BACON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 816. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide death benefits for campus police officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire:

H.R. 817. A bill to combat the heroin epidemic and drug sample backlogs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California (for himself, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 818. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to enhance medical device communications and ensure device cleanliness; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California (for himself and Mr. GALLEGO):

H.R. 819. A bill to protect the public from the harmful consequences of the Federal Government shutdown by prohibiting certain actions, to provide enforcement for such prohibition by the Federal Trade Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 820. A bill to require criminal background checks on all firearms transactions occurring at gun shows; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 821. A bill to require records of the national instant criminal background check system to be retained for at least 90 days; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 822. A bill to prohibit the sale of a firearm to, and the purchase of a firearm by, a person who is not covered by appropriate liability insurance coverage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 823. A bill to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 824. A bill to provide back pay to Federal contractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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. REED (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. MORELLE, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 825. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. BASS, and Mr. MEEKS):

H.R. 826. A bill to facilitate effective research on and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, including Ebola, through coordinated domestic and international efforts; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Financial Services, 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. SOTO (for himself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 827. A bill to promote a 21st century artificial intelligence workforce; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. TONKO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. REED, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. COLLINS of New York):

H.R. 828. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 Route 111 in Smithtown, New York, as the ''Congressman Bill Carney Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. TONKO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. REED, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. COLLINS of New York):

H.R. 829. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1450 Montauk Highway in Mastic, New York, as the ''Army Specialist Thomas J. Wilwerth Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. WEXTON:

H. Res. 79. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Government shutdowns are detrimental to the Nation and should not occur; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H. Res. 80. A resolution ranking certain Members of certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. KATKO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TURNER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BALDERSON, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H. Res. 81. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need for State legislatures to pass comprehensive sexual assault kit reforms by 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H. Res. 82. A resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Members of the House of Representatives of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI:

H. Res. 83. A resolution recognizing the Eagle Staff, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI (for himself and Mr. MITCHELL):

H. Res. 84. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress must amend the United States Code to prevent any future lapse in appropriations, and to permanently end government shutdowns; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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.

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. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 804.

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

Clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. FOXX of North Carolina:

H.R. 805.

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

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution which states ''Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 806.

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

Article 1

By Mr. BUCK:

H.R. 807.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 states that 'the Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.'

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 808.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 809.

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

Article I, section 8 of the U. S. Constitution, which grants Congress the power to ''lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common defense and general Welfare of the United States.''

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 810.

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

Article I, Section XIII of the Constitution

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 811.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 812.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 813.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; [and . . .]

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 814.

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

Article I, Section 9 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 815.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 816.

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

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause I; and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire:

H.R. 817.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 818.

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

Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 819.

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

Article I Section VIII

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 820.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 821.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 822.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 823.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. NORCROSS:

H.R. 824.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 825.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: ''To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.''

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 826.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. SOTO:

H.R. 827.

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

Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 828.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 829.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 1: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 8: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 38: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee and Mr. CLOUD.

H.R. 40: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 69: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 93: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 94: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 95: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 117: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 120: Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 125: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 127: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.

H.R. 129: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 141: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 196: Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 197: Mr. VISCLOSKY.

H.R. 203: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 211: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 218: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 219: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. CLOUD, and Mr. BANKS.

H.R. 262: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 270: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 275: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 276: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 295: Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 296: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. WALTZ, and Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 301: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 310: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 339: Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. KEATING, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 341: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 344: Ms. PINGREE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 367: Mrs. LURIA, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 369: Mr. ROY, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. LONG, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 372: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MEEKS, and Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 414: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.

H.R. 428: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 437: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 444: Mr. ROSE of New York and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 445: Ms. MOORE and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 449: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 465: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 479: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, and Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 489: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 500: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. LONG, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. REED, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 504: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.

H.R. 510: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 526: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 527: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 535: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 553: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 555: Ms. WILD, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. MURPHY, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 570: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 587: Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 592: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 596: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 613: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. SPANO, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 615: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 621: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 641: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 647: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 663: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 664: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia and Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 669: Mr. TAKANO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 673: Mr. MEEKS, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 674: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 678: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGS, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 684: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 714: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia and Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 724: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. COX of California, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 728: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 732: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 739: Mr. PENCE and Ms. FRANKEL.

H.R. 748: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. RYAN, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. FLORES, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. HECK.

H.R. 750: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 761: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 763: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 769: Mr. HURD of Texas and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 770: Mr. PETERS and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 776: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 780: Mrs. TRAHAN and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 781: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 783: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 787: Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 790: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 791: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.J. Res. 20: Mr. BURCHETT.

H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. RASKIN.

H. Con. Res. 5: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. SIRES.

H. Res. 23: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.

H. Res. 33: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MENG, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Mr. VELA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BOST, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. RUSH.

H. Res. 35: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H. Res. 36: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. COOPER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MOULTON.

H. Res. 54: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SOTO, Mr. LAMB, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. RYAN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. MENG, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BOST, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. KING of New York.

H. Res. 58: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHRADER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H. Res. 72: Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. WALKER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. LAMALFA.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019 No. 17

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, You continue to hear and answer prayers. You have empowered us to catapult daunting hurdles, and we continue to depend on You to strengthen us for the difficulties ahead.

Be near to us during this challenging season, as our lawmakers work in an effort to accomplish Your purposes.

Supply the needs of our Senators, providing them with wisdom to navigate to Your desired destination for our Nation and world.

Do for our legislators more than they can ask or imagine.

We pray in Your holy 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAWLEY). The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 648

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 648) making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar on the next legislative day.

THE MIDDLE EAST

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, later this afternoon, the Senate will hold its fourth cloture vote on a package of important foreign policy legislation that was introduced back on January 4. For weeks, Senate Democrats have effectively filibustered this legislation and blocked it from moving forward.

At first, my colleague the Democratic leader said his party was simply opposed to considering any other business during the partial government shutdown, but then just a few days later, he actually sought to move ahead with a foreign policy vote of his own. In other words, though Senate Democrats were filibustering this pro-Israel legislation with the thin excuse that they didn't want to take up any other business, it turns out it was just the pro-Israel legislation that was actually off-limits.

While Senate Democrats were filibustering this legislation, by the way, the Democratic House had no problem considering one component of it, which it passed by voice vote.

So I remain curious as to the real reason why the Democrats insisted on filibustering these critical bills. Maybe we will get a better explanation this week, assuming Democrats finally drop the filibuster and allow this body to get back to work. This is an important piece of legislation. It comes at an urgent time.

For the past 8 years, the world has seen a despotic regime wage brutal war upon its own people. The conflict in Syria has taken more than 400,000 lives and driven more than 5.6 million civilians to flee the country, straining the capacity of nations in the region, as well as Europe, to deal with the refugee and humanitarian fallout. Bashar al-Assad and his cronies have paved the way for the persistent terror of the Islamic State and invited the chaotic influence of foreign powers, especially Iran and Russia.

Of course, this is a region that already contends with persistent—persistent—instability, including Iran's meddling, financial support for terror, and explicit threats against Israel, but the legislation at hand addresses these challenges actually head-on. It tells our ally Israel that our commitment to its security is ironclad. It tells our partners in Jordan that we have their backs as they grapple with the flow of refugees and other ongoing effects of the Syrian crisis. It makes a crystal clear statement to the Syrian regime and those who abet it: Your brutality needs to end.

Here is how the legislation accomplishes all that: It makes sure the United States walks the walk when it comes to supporting Israel by authorizing military assistance, loan guarantees, and teamwork on missile defense.

Another bipartisan provision would preserve communities' rights to combat the destructive BDS movement by ensuring that States and local governments can choose not to funnel taxpayer dollars to companies that push anti-Israel boycotts.

With respect to Jordan, the bill before us reauthorizes legislation to deepen our cooperation with this key regional partner, which has faced grave challenges from the chaos that continues to unfold in its neighbor to its north.

With respect to Syria, this legislation includes the bipartisan Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act. As I mentioned earlier, this passed the House on a voice vote just last week.

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

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It would create new pathways to hold accountable the individuals and institutions that have tortured and murdered countless Syrian civilians over the course of the civil war. It would ensure that unless the Syrian regime shifts course and ends its brutality, the nation's major industries and financial institutions would pay a heavy price due to American sanctions.

So if it weren't obvious, these are critically important issues, and none of them have been put on pause because the Democrats' political strategy has blocked this body from taking action.

Due to the Democrats' filibuster, Israel, Jordan, and the innocent people of Syria have already had to wait 24 days for the Senate to proceed to these largely noncontroversial and widely supported bipartisan bills.

I hope our colleagues across the aisle don't keep them waiting much longer.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S SECURITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST ACT OF 2019—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the consideration of S. 1, a bill to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 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. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as the dust settles from the longest shutdown in American history, we have work to do to get our country back on track. Hundreds of thousands of Federal workers who endured a month without compensation need to get their paychecks and backpay as soon as possible. So I have written a letter to President Trump urging him to expedite the delivery of those paychecks.

At the same time, we must be mindful of the hardships that persist for Federal contractors, who may not receive the backpay they have missed and who may have lost health insurance during the shutdown. We need to find a solution as well for those contractors. Senator SMITH of Minnesota is working on that, and I hope we can do something to help them. It is of no fault of their own that they lost pay.

But there are some costs from the Trump shutdown that cannot be recouped. The CBO today released a report about the lasting damage that the Trump shutdown has done to the American economy. According to the CBO, the 5-week shutdown cost the U.S. economy $11 billion overall, including $3 billion in economic activity that can never be recovered.

Let me repeat that. The Trump shutdown has cost the U.S. economy $11 billion. What a devastating and pointless exercise this has been. If President Trump didn't appreciate the error of his ways already, his CBO ought to set him straight—no more shutdowns. They accomplish nothing. They only inflict pain and suffering on the country, our citizens, our economy, and our national security. That is a lesson we all must keep in mind.

The continuing resolution we passed on Friday only runs until February 15. In 3 weeks, we must pass additional appropriations to avoid another shutdown. Let the CBO report be a dire warning to President Trump and my Republican colleagues in the Senate against shutting down the government again.

Now, in these next 3 weeks, House and Senate appropriators named to the conference committee on Department of Homeland Security will endeavor to strike a bipartisan deal on border security. The good news is that we begin this process with plenty of common ground. Democrats and Republicans alike agree on the need for stronger border security. Though Democrats sharply disagree with the President on the need for an expensive and ineffective border wall, we agree on the need to strengthen our ports of entry, as well as the need to provide more drug inspection technology and humanitarian assistance. Since so many of the drugs come through the portals, a border wall will do no good at all, but strengthening those portals is vital.

Because we have set this up as a conference, Democratic and Republican leadership—House and Senate—will be involved, as well as the appropriators from those committees. Everyone has skin in the game. So in the next 3 weeks, the goal of the committee should be to find areas where we agree and work on them together.

In the past, when the President has stayed out of it, when the President has given Congress room, we have been repeatedly able to forge bipartisan agreements, including two budget agreements and the Russia sanctions. When the President injects maximalist partisan demands into the process, negotiations tend to fall apart. The President should allow the conference committee to proceed with good faith negotiations. I genuinely hope it will produce something that is good for the country and acceptable to both sides.

I yield the floor.

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

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

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, after a 35-day government shutdown, more than 800,000 Federal workers and their families are finally back at work. Their families have endured unnecessary and needless hardship over the past several weeks because, frankly, the Speaker of the House, Ms. PELOSI, was more determined to try to win the political battle than solve the problem. I could give the same comment to our friend the Democratic leader here in the Senate. I hope now, after we have been through this exercise in futility, that our colleagues will take seriously our responsibility to solve the problem before us, and that is to reach an agreement so we don't end up in the same position 3 weeks hence when this continuing resolution expires.

I tell people that we solve problems like this every single day here in the Congress. You don't read about it, necessarily, or hear about it because when we build consensus and negotiate compromises, it is not news. The only time it is news is when we disagree and when it is broadcast across cable TV or the subject of talk radio or social media.

It is unfortunate that dedicated public servants were caught in the crosshairs over a partisan fight on border security. What we have seen over the last months is that many Members desire to score those political points and win a fight against the President, and that desire is much greater than their desire to build legislation that benefits the American people.

There is a solution to be had. As I said, we do it every day. The only question is, Are we willing to work together to find it? I know I am.

I have been speaking with many Members of the Texas delegation, both Republicans and Democrats, to try to find that common ground for our constituents for border security. We don't consider these to be political footballs or talking points; we consider these matters to be part of their daily lives and part of our responsibility as their elected representatives.

In the last few days, I have had the chance to be in Dallas, TX, and also in

Austin, TX. I was in Austin, TX, to talk about the CyberTipline we reauthorized working with Facebook and Microsoft and other social media platforms to talk about how we can work together to combat child pornography and child exploitation, using the authority of the CyberTipline. We were joined by the new U.S. attorney there, John Bash. I asked him whether his prosecutors who were prosecuting these cases or the FBI agents who would investigate them or his support staff who support the U.S. attorney's office—whether any of them were getting paid, and he said no. But everybody showed up at work, doing their job, fighting the scourge of child exploitation, even though they weren't getting paid.

Ditto in the Northern District of Texas, where I visited with the U.S. attorney, who gave me the same story. We were there talking about the scourge of human trafficking. Erin Nealy Cox, the U.S. attorney in Dallas, pointed out that, yes, the prosecutors were there at work, the investigators were there, and the support staff were there, even though they were the ones probably earning the most modest paychecks of anybody in the office. Everybody was there, doing their job, even though during these 35 days they had missed two different Federal paychecks.

Thinking now about the solution to our standoff on border security, I wanted to mention that a couple of weeks ago the President flew to McAllen, TX. Senator CRUZ and I joined him in the Rio Grande Valley to hear from the experts. By ''the experts,'' I don't mean folks who run for office here in Washington, DC. I mean the Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, and Department of Homeland Security experts who actually work on the ground there along the border.

We also met with mayors and county judges and other folks who live in those communities and are most concerned about safety and security but also the economy of the border region. We discussed with them what sensible border security actually looks like.

We know that physical barriers didn't use to be a partisan issue when the Senator from New York—the Democratic leader—Barack Obama, and Hillary Clinton all voted for the Secure Fence Act back in 2006. We called it a fence then and not a wall, but it was a physical barrier, and it was a nonpartisan issue.

That was then and this is now. When we were talking about physical barriers along the border, my friend Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino said something that stuck with me, and I have repeated it a number of times, and I think it could be a lesson to all of us about how to approach this entire debate. He said that if law enforcement officials say where barriers are needed, he is all in, but if politicians say where they are needed and they are trying to micromanage border security, consider him a skeptic.

I think what people want—and my sense is what my constituents along the border region and across the State of Texas want and, I dare say, across the country—is to come up with effective solutions that will make our border more secure. Since Texas has 1,200 miles of common border with Mexico, of course, I have thought about this a lot, and I have listened and learned a lot about this. What I have been told and I believe is that at any given place along the border, you are going to have some combination of three elements: physical barriers, technology, and personnel. We need a complement of each of those things in this border security bill that hopefully we will be voting on in the coming weeks.

Many areas along the border are subject to high pedestrian traffic. They need physical barriers. That is why they make sense in El Paso and San Diego and Tucson, for examples. All of these saw a massive drop in apprehensions after fencing or physical barriers were put in place, along with a complement of technology and border agents when they were deployed in the 1990s and 2000s. We know that barriers can work. We have seen it proven time and again.

We all agree that we don't need barriers across the entire 2,000-mile southwestern border. We don't need a great wall from sea to shining sea across the border. One example comes readily to mind. Big Bend National Park, for example, is home to massive canyons, and some of the cliffs reach more than 3,000 feet high along the Rio Grande River. It is a spectacular and beautiful place. It would not only be impractical but completely wasteful to build a physical barrier on top of a towering cliff. That is just one example of where you might want to use some other parts of that triad of technology and personnel because a physical barrier wouldn't make much sense.

There are others who have suggested that we use the natural barrier of the Rio Grande River. Right now, much of that river is filled with something called carrizo cane, which makes it harder for the Border Patrol to actually locate people trying to enter the United States illegally. It reduces the effectiveness of that natural physical barrier of the Rio Grande River. We need to find a way to eradicate that in a way that will not only allow that river to be more of a natural barrier but also provide greater visibility for the Border Patrol.

In some areas, as I said, physical barriers, either new, repaired, or replaced are desperately needed. In others, surveillance technology, such as sensors or drones, will do the trick. Many additional personnel are needed to improve efficiency or alleviate staffing shortages. It doesn't make sense to have a physical barrier if there is no Border Patrol agent to detain somebody entering the country illegally or to interdict the drugs that come across the border.

As my friend Judge Trevino said, politicians shouldn't be the ones deciding exactly where along the border each of these three elements is applied. That is why we have asked and will continue to ask Customs and Border Protection—the experts—what we need and provide funding to implement the changes they have asked for.

I think it is a statement of the obvious to say that, in addition to improving the physical security across our border, we need to make changes in our border security approach and immigration system as a whole. Unfortunately, we are not even dealing with the larger problem of our broken immigration system.

Several years ago, I introduced legislation to the so-called Gang of 8 immigration bill that we were debating at the time. The legislation I introduced was called the RESULTS amendment. I believe the foundation of that legislation should be incorporated in any future legislation we come up with here in the next few weeks. One of the main requirements was for the Department of Homeland Security to come up with a plan to achieve operational control of every single border sector, meaning a 90-percent border apprehension rate. Requiring this sort of metric or apprehension rate will provide a clear, objective way to measure border security. Ironically, the way we measure border security now is that we know how many people are detained, but we don't know how many get away. It is a strange way to count effectiveness by counting the ones we detain but not the ones who get away—which obviously we can't do. If we come up with a better way to measure border security with a clear-cut metric like a 90-percent operational control requirement, I think it would provide a better way for us to determine how to efficiently spend the tax dollars we are talking about, which we are stewards of here in the Congress, and ensure that we are focusing our resources on the highest priority areas. This requirement would allow us to do that.

That particular legislation, the RESULTS amendment, would also require increased surveillance and provide solutions to commonsense problems. For example, it would have prevented violent criminals from acquiring legal status, provided law enforcement with critical national security and public safety information, and mitigated the problem of visa overstays. This RESULTS amendment would have strengthened biometric requirements.

It is ironic, as we talk about border security and immigration, that we turn a blind eye to the 40 percent of illegal immigration that occurs when people enter the country legally and overstay their visas. Unless they commit some other crime in the course of their time here, they are largely not located. So we need to find a better way to enforce all of our immigration laws, including visa overstays.

We can't ignore the fact that our border is not only a place that needs security but that is important to the economic vitality of not only my State

but of our country. The financial impact of legitimate trade and travel is enormous. As a matter of fact, $300 billion worth of goods flow back and forth through Texas's ports of entry alone in a given year. That is why this type of legislation is so important—because it provides resources to significantly reduce wait times at border crossings, which makes the movement of people and goods faster but no less secure.

Finally, this legislation took a stand against the brutal human rights violations we see along the southern border by stiffening penalties on abusive human smugglers and transnational criminal organizations. There may have been a time when the so-called coyotes were a mom-and-pop operation. ''Coyotes'' is just the name for human smugglers. Now it is big business, and the same criminal organizations that move drugs and economic migrants also traffic in human beings for sex and other involuntary servitude. It is no longer a mom-and-pop operation, to be sure, and we need to make sure the penalties for this illegal activity are increased and stiffened to meet the challenge of transnational criminal organizations.

I believe that all of these points still deserve a place in our debate today. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the coming weeks to create meaningful and lasting change to strengthen our border security as well as to fix longstanding problems with our immigration system. I believe we can find common ground, and I hope our Democratic colleagues will follow through in their commitment to negotiating in good faith so that we do.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ERNST). The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, after the longest shutdown in government history, Federal employees across the country are finally returning to work. National parks are reopening, grant programs are up and running again, and those who depend on essential government services are now being helped by our Nation's public servants.

One of the things that impressed me the most during the shutdown was, as I met with our Federal employees who were affected, their dedication to their jobs and to the services they were providing to the American people. Like the rest of the Members of Congress and people in this country, I was thrilled when we were able to end that shutdown last week, and I was especially pleased to work with my colleagues to make sure government operations would return to normal. This shutdown should never have happened.

For 35 days, partisan gamesmanship forced government Agencies to close their doors, and more than 380,000 Federal workers were furloughed and another 450,000 employees worked without pay.

These Federal workers, some of whom live paycheck to paycheck, were forced to have very difficult conversations with their families on what bills will not be paid this month and how to make ends meet. I remember I was at the Coast Guard station in New Hampshire last week meeting with members of our Coast Guard who were talking about the Coast Guard cutter that is stationed there—the *Reliance*—heading out that morning and the families of those Coast Guard members who were on the *Reliance* not having any idea when they would again be paid.

Thankfully, these 800,000 employees and thousands more Federal contractors are returning to work. Unfortunately, the prolonged economic effect of the shutdown and the morale of the Federal workforce is going to last much longer.

A report released today by the Congressional Budget Office found that during the shutdown, the economy took an $11 billion hit, including $3 billion that is gone forever, which we are never going to be able to recover. When people aren't paid, they don't shop. They don't travel. They miss payments. They default on loans. They can't participate in our economy if they have nothing in the bank.

Although the shutdown has ended, some Federal employees who have gone without a paycheck for over a month still may not get paid until the end of this week. I know everybody is trying to make sure those paychecks go out as soon as possible. They can't go out soon enough for those workers who have missed their paychecks.

As the President continues to threaten another shutdown in the coming weeks, Congress needs to take additional action to protect Federal workers. I am cosponsoring three bills that would provide some financial security to those employees. These bills would eliminate penalties for Federal workers who make early withdrawals from their savings plans, require the government to pay back all Federal employees with interest, just as the private sector does, and they would ensure that excepted Federal employees are eligible for unemployment insurance compensation.

What we know happened during the shutdown is that those people who were working couldn't collect unemployment because they were working, even though they weren't getting paid. That is something we would never allow the private sector to do.

I was very disappointed to hear the President and White House officials say over the weekend that if the President doesn't get what he wants, he is going to shut down the government again. The American people, our economy, can't afford another partisan shutdown that jeopardizes our Federal workforce and does nothing to increase border security. Our focus now needs to be on working together to pass bipartisan legislation that secures our borders and funds our government.

Protecting our borders shouldn't be an exercise in partisanship. In the past, in the Senate, we have been able to garner support from across the ideological spectrum to fund commonsense proposals that provide effective security.

If we look at this chart that traces appropriations for Customs and Border Protection from 2014 to 2018, we can see that Congress has consistently increased funding for Customs and Border Protection each of the past 5 fiscal years, providing nearly $60 billion for the Agency. In 2014, we provided $10.6 billion; 2015, $10.7 billion; 2016, $11.2 billion; 2017, $12.1 billion; and 2018, $14 billion. It is consistently increasing the dollars that are available.

Just last year, Congress provided $1.3 billion for border fencing on our southern border—$1.3 billion last year. I am not sure everyone in the administration knows that is how much money we have provided. The money has yet to be spent on the actual construction of proposed fencing projects.

As we are thinking about how we spend our money on border security, we need to be spending it in a way that is smart. We should not be putting aside money we can't spend yet when there are other needs we have for those dollars.

We need to build on these proposals moving forward. We need to focus on technology, on infrastructure, and we need to focus on the personnel who are needed at the southern and northern borders to provide actual security that works. We need to make targeted investments and innovative technologies that provide comprehensive surveillance at our borders and ports of entry, along with increasing personnel and physical infrastructure where necessary.

As a member of the Appropriations subcommittee that funds Homeland Security, I have supported these investments in the past and so has the majority of the members of the committee. We have worked in a bipartisan manner to secure our borders.

I have supported funding for targeted fencing in vulnerable areas, funding for more Border Patrol agents, for better surveillance, for screening technologies, and for increased security at ports of entry. I intend to continue to support commonsense efforts such as these.

Unfortunately, providing billions of dollars to fulfill a campaign promise to build a wall that has no plan that has been presented for how to do that is really not a serious proposal. It is unlikely to solve the problems it seeks to address.

Our efforts to secure the border should focus on solutions that will stem the flow of opioids, fentanyl, and other drugs that have decimated our communities. Last year, New Hampshire had the second highest rate of

overdose deaths due to opioids, primarily fentanyl.

Physical infrastructure and some fencing in high-risk areas can help to disrupt drug trafficking across our borders, but it should be done in conjunction with and not at the expense of other technologies that allow law enforcement to identify and disrupt criminal activity.

Several years ago, Senator HOEVEN and I—when he was chair and I was ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee—visited the southern border. We had a chance to talk to Customs and Border Protection officials, to immigration officials at the border. They talked about the drugs that come across at the ports of entry. In Laredo, we saw dogs and CBP agents looking in a pickup truck for an area in front of the gas tank where they thought drugs were being secreted.

We are not going to intercept those drugs that are affecting our States and communities by building a wall. We have to have new screening technologies at our ports of entry, new technologies that utilize artificial intelligence and advanced imaging so they can assist in identifying contraband and weapons that are hidden in commercial cargo.

Sensor technologies and other surveillance techniques, such as unmanned aerial systems, or drones, allow our border agents to expand their region and respond immediately to illegal activity at our borders. When resourced and deployed appropriately, these types of smart investments are far more likely to interrupt the flow of narcotics than a costly and ineffective border wall.

It is also important to remember that the United States and Canada share the longest international border in the world, and the northern border may not face the same threats as those posed at the southern border, but transnational criminal organizations and other bad actors still attempt to exploit vulnerabilities and enter the country illegally through our northern border.

Coming from a State that shares a small portion of our border with Canada, I have heard from law enforcement authorities in New Hampshire. Our law enforcement officials face unique challenges with enforcement and security. These challenges include a lack of broadband in highly rural areas that impedes law enforcement activities. If we see somebody coming across the border in northern New Hampshire from Canada, we can't pick up a cellphone and call law enforcement because we don't have cell service in northern New Hampshire along our border.

Truly comprehensive border security must recognize the threat at our northern border and invest in technologies to address the unique challenges that law enforcement faces there. We need broadband access in northern New Hampshire and all along our northern border.

We also need to improve the functioning of our immigration port system. We really need comprehensive immigration reform, but we are not going to get there, I don't think, by the February 15 deadline. We can look at what is slowing down our immigration court system and help support those efforts to adjudicate immigration cases fairly and expeditiously and reduce the enormous immigration court case backlog.

Again, as a ranking member of the Appropriations subcommittee that funds the Department of Justice, I have supported strong funding to increase the number of immigration judges, including an increase of $59 million for fiscal year 2019. This increased amount is, in fact, the President's request that would support new immigration judge teams. We already put that money into the 2019 budget, if we are allowed to go forward with what the Appropriations Committee in the Senate agreed to.

Our immigration courts currently have a backlog of more than 800,000 cases waiting to be heard, and the shutdown exacerbated this problem by forcing more than 80,000—80,000—court hearings to be canceled. The average wait time to hear an immigration case is already longer than 2 years, and these unnecessarily canceled hearings will be rescheduled into 2020 and beyond.

This shutdown-caused delay means years longer that people who should be deported, who may pose a threat in this country, will be able to stay here and years longer that the people who may deserve relief, who should be allowed to stay in the United States, will have to wait in limbo.

Now that the shutdown has ended, now that cooler heads can prevail, and we can look at what makes sense to secure our borders, look at what we have already done, how we can build on that and how we can address legitimate concerns about what is going on at our borders, it is time for all of us—Republicans and Democrats—to put aside gamesmanship and to support commonsense proposals.

It is my hope that the conference committee that has already been appointed to negotiate funding for the Department of Homeland Security will focus on the solutions that work rather than proposals that score political points. This shutdown took an enormous economic and emotional toll not only on our Federal workforce but on everyone who accesses government services.

As we craft a bipartisan proposal to fund the government and secure our borders, let's not forget the impact that has had on the people we serve and on the potential impact if we don't get this resolved by February 15.

I yield the floor.

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.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

(The remarks of Ms. COLLINS pertaining to the introduction of S. 240 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I come to talk about the bill before us, S. 1. We have had multiple attempts to get onto this bill. I am hopeful that today will be that day.

VENEZUELA

Mr. President, I wanted to briefly, for just a moment, divert to a different topic on Venezuela that was in the news about an hour and a half ago. The administration announced additional measures. It has been covered in the press, largely as sanctions on the regime of Nicolas Maduro, the illegitimate usurper and head of the criminal syndicate that controls the security agencies in that country.

While it most certainly is going to hurt him, I think it is important to point out that the more accurate way to describe it is that Venezuela sends about 500 billion barrels of crude oil a day to the United States to be refined. That belongs to the Venezuelan people. What has been happening is that U.S. refineries pay for it. It is about three-quarters of the cash generated by the state-run oil company.

Then, Maduro and his cronies steal that money—not to build roads or feed people. They steal it to bribe and keep people loyal to him. If you are a high-ranking general in Venezuela, with the fancy uniforms and the stars and bars, in those pictures that you see—why are they loyal to Maduro? They are ''loyal'' to him because he keeps providing them access to corruption. One way is by pilfering and completely taking all that cash out of the state-run oil company. That ends today.

What is going to be done now is that U.S. refineries are still allowed to buy crude, but the payments, instead of being made to Maduro so he can steal it, will be set aside in an account to be used by the legitimate government of that country. If you are one of these corrupt officials who has been ''loyal'' to Maduro up until today because of the money, that is about to end, as well, and perhaps you should reevaluate your loyalty, for lack of a better term.

S. 1

Mr. President, the topic before us today is S. 1. This bill, among other things, is a response to decisions that were made recently on the U.S. presence in Syria. I believe that the decision to draw down is a mistake. I have communicated that to the President, and he invited us to the White House a couple of weeks ago to have a conversation with a group of us. Irrespective of what ends up happening, there are going to be byproducts of that decision. There will be consequences of it. Several of those consequences are going to directly impact our allies in the region.

Let me begin by saying that it will directly impact the United States. We already see that ISIS in Syria was on the path to morphing into an insurgency. An insurgency is different than what they used to be. ISIS used to take over big pieces of land and fly their black flag, and they had buildings. In some ways, that is terrifying because they control land and they have people under their command. In some ways, it is easier to target them. They are telling you where they are, and you can see it, and it is out in the open.

Insurgency is different. It is when you blend into the population. By day, you might be a baker or guy who runs a cafe. By night, you are an ISIS killer. They sort of come in and out of the population. They don't control large swaths of territory. They sort of embed themselves. This insurgency is the threat we face and the challenge we had in Iraq that led to the surge to have to come back in and rectify it. ISIS was already on the path to doing that. This will make it easier for them. It is harder to target an insurgency than it is to target the caliphate.

I am deeply concerned that the U.S. withdrawal will make it easier for them not to just establish an insurgency but, worst of all, it will provide greater operational safety. That means more space in which they can plot to attack the United States and our interests around the world, and even here in the Homeland. There is real reason to be concerned about that. You know, 9/11 doesn't happen if al-Qaida doesn't have a safe haven in Afghanistan. I fear what ISIS might be able to do if, in portions of Syria, they are able to establish a safe haven from which they can raise money, produce videos, recruit, try to inspire terrorist attacks abroad, and even direct them.

But one of the other byproducts is the impact it has with regard to Israel. Envision for a moment a small country whose narrowest point is only 9 or 10 miles wide, and it faces a threat to its north in Syria. In Syria already, in addition to ISIS and all of these other criminal and terrorist elements that are there, you have a growing Iranian presence. That growing Iranian presence begins with Iran itself. If current trends continue, Iran is going to base within Syria surface-to-air missiles designed to shoot down airplanes. They are going to base ballistic missiles even closer now to Syria. They don't have to launch them up to Israel. They don't have to launch them from Iran. They can now launch them from Syrian territory, just off the Israeli border. They have UAVs. We have seen how the Houthis have helped to operationalize those. All of that is sponsored by Iran operating out of Yemen.

One of the mortal enemies that Israel faces is Hezbollah. They are headquartered primarily in Lebanon, but there are Hezbollah elements all over Syria. For a long time now, they have been getting their armaments and weaponry from Iran, but it had to be flown, especially in the middle of this conflict.

Imagine that now Iran has the ability to arm and equip Hezbollah with all of these things, not just from the air but through a ground route where they can actually ship things to them from the ground. That is why they so desperately care about what is happening in Syria. It gains them operational space—not to mention that Hezbollah is in Syria.

There is a wing of Hezbollah that is inside of Syria. Imagine that now, if you are Israel, you already face the threat of Hezbollah. Hezbollah has already developed rockets that they are now making. They are not shipping them anymore. They are now building these rockets. They are developing these rockets in Lebanese territory. They are not the rockets from the last time they had a war with Israel. These new rockets are precision guided, meaning they can actually aim them to hit certain areas and avoid hitting others.

They have a lot more than they used to have. Just by volume, they can overwhelm Israeli defenses very quickly or potentially. You already have that problem in Lebanon. Imagine that exact same problem, not just from Lebanon but to the north of you, coming from Syria, just across the Golan Heights.

Imagine you are Israel and you have your mortal enemy Iran, your mortal enemy Assad, your mortal enemy Hezbollah, and these other radical Shia groups all to the north of you in that country. Israel is taking action. They are increasingly and openly acknowledging this as they launch these attacks into Syria to try to degrade their capabilities and put themselves in that position. They cannot allow people and they cannot allow organizations whose very existence is justified by the destruction of the Jewish State to openly operate and increase their capacity just north of their borders. That is what is happening, and that is why Israel is increasingly striking.

Listen to the words in a broadcast that I believe was yesterday or the day before. The head of Hezbollah was on television in an open television interview, and he basically warned Israel. He said: If Israel continues to strike within Syria in this way, it is going to lead to a war. It is going to lead to a war because Syria and its allies, including them, but also Iran, are going to have to retaliate for these attacks.

Walk through this with me. Israel attacks out of self-defense because they have to. Syria, Hezbollah, and Iran, and a gang of others respond against Israel. Then, Israel has to respond in kind, potentially, even hitting Hezbollah inside of Lebanon, and suddenly we have another Israel-Hezbollah war, but much broader than the last one because it will involve Syria and it will involve Iran, and it will be far deadlier because, unlike the last time, they now have a lot more of these missiles and these missiles are precision-guided.

This is the threat that Israel faces. It is very real. Events there can quickly spiral into that. One of the things our bill does is it puts in law the memorandum of understanding between the United States and Israel that says that, in the case of conflict, the United States will be there to help Israel rearm and reequip itself, and we will work hand-in-hand with them on things like missile defense, which are mutually beneficial, by the way, because all these innovations happening there can also benefit us here or by protecting our presence around the world.

Why is this bill important? First, because of the practical implications of it. We want Israelis to be able to defend and protect themselves. It sets aside, in our arsenal, weapons that are held there for purposes of if Israel ever needs them. For those who are worried about whether that would degrade our own capability, the law says it has to be done in a way that doesn't degrade our own capabilities to defend ourselves. It sets in place the assurance that if Israel gets into one of these wars that quickly escalates against multiple parties—Hezbollah, Iran, potentially Syria, themselves—and they start running out of weaponry—rockets to defend themselves, munitions and the like—we will be there to quickly rearm them. That is just the practical implication of it.

Here is the other: Israel's adversaries will know this too. They would know that if their goal is to overwhelm Israel and deplete Israel, it will not work because the United States is committed to them.

Our hope here is two-fold. One is to strengthen Israel so they would be able to withstand such an assault, but the other is to hopefully deter a war by making it very clear that Israel will never run out of missiles. They will never run out of munitions to defend themselves because the United States will be there to support them every step of the way.

One of the first things this bill does is it establishes that into our law because this is not a threat that is going to go away in 2 years or even 5 years. This threat is an ancient one. It has grown more dangerous.

This bill was held up because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said they didn't want to hear any bills until the shutdown was over if the bill didn't have to do with the shutdown. The shutdown is over. I am hopeful today that this bill, which I believe enjoys wide bipartisan support, when we finally get the vote on it and passage, that we will have an extraordinary number of votes across the aisle and across this Chamber and that we will finally begin debate on this important topic.

There are other elements in this bill involving human rights violations that occurred in Syria, supporting Jordan, and the BDS movement, which we will talk more about tomorrow. At its core, the linchpin is helping Israel defend itself.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, let me associate myself with the remarks made by my friend and distinguished colleague from Florida.

The importance of this bill cannot be overstated. It is an incredibly important bill. I rise today, once again, to bring it to my colleagues here in the Senate. This time, hopefully, we can get enough votes to move it forward. It is the Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act of 2019. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support moving ahead on this commonsense bipartisan legislation.

This package of bills is important and time sensitive. Israel and Jordan are our steadfast allies and friends in the Middle East, and they need support and the critical aid that this legislation would deliver. Our nations depend on one another, and we should not let them down.

Included in this legislation also is a very important bill, the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act, which, as I have noted numerous times before, very nearly passed the full Senate by unanimous consent last year. We were within one vote of getting unanimous consent on it.

This legislation is long overdue. Half a million Syrians have died at the hands of the Syrian dictator, Assad, his friends, and their allies, and it is past time that we put an end to it.

This bill includes strong financial sanctions to target those responsible in the Assad regime for the terrible loss of life and destruction in Syria. Further, it extends sanctions to those who would support the Syrian regime's actions in the war in Syria, such as Iran and Russia. The tragic loss of life in Syria has gone on far too long. We need to take action now to pressure those who have the ability to bring this war to an end—and they do have the ability to bring this war to an end.

The State of Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. It is surrounded by oppressive nations, many of which, like Iran, wish to do Israel harm. Their security and stability in the region is of extreme importance to all Americans. This legislation would protect Israel where we can here in the United States by rejecting anti-Israel boycotts.

I hope that today you will all join me in a bipartisan way in moving forward on this important legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 is agreed to, and the motion to reconsider the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 is agreed to.

CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill 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 proceed to Calendar No. 1, S. 1, a bill to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes.

Todd Young, Mike Rounds, Richard C. Shelby, James E. Risch, Mike Lee, Josh Hawley, John Boozman, Shelley Moore Capito, Mike Crapo, Tim Scott, Cory Gardner, Roy Blunt, Steve Daines, Marco Rubio, Rob Portman, John Barrasso, Mitch McConnell.

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 proceed to S. 1, a bill to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close upon reconsideration?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted ''yea'' and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 74, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 11 Leg.]

YEAS—74

Alexander	Fischer	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Risch
Bennet	Graham	Roberts
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blumenthal	Hassan	Rosen
Blunt	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Isakson	Schumer
Cantwell	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Jones	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Kennedy	Shelby
Casey	King	Sinema
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Lee	Sullivan
Cornyn	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	Markey	Thune
Cotton	McConnell	Toomey
Crapo	McSally	Warner
Cruz	Menendez	Whitehouse
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Duckworth	Murkowski	Wyden
Enzi	Murray	Young
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—19

Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Udall
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Peters	
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—7

Booker	Hoeven	Tillis
Cramer	Paul	
Harris	Schatz	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 19.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion was agreed to, upon reconsideration.

The senior Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. What is the pending business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed to S. 1.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

DATA PRIVACY DAY

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, today is Data Privacy Day, a day set aside to raise awareness about how personal information is being used, collected, and shared in today's digital society. It is also an opportunity to educate the public about how to safeguard individual data and also an opportunity to encourage businesses to respect consumer privacy when correcting and dealing with data.

As we all know, data-driven innovation is exploding today, and that is a good thing. It allows developers, entrepreneurs, small businesses, and large companies to create applications, products, and services that are increasingly customized for users. This is great for consumers and great for the economy.

The benefits from this explosion of data come in the form of increased productivity, convenience, and cost savings. The benefits also extend to our

very health and safety. In using data and in using this data economy, we can serve to improve the daily quality of life for every American.

All in all, opportunity in this digital era is potentially limitless. However, to realize our Nation's economic and societal potential in the global digital economy, consumers need to have trust and confidence that their data will be protected and secure in the internet marketplace. That is the reason we are emphasizing data privacy today.

I want to talk briefly about the potential for legislation in this Congress. Over the last decade, there have been numerous calls at all levels of government in the United States and elsewhere for baseline privacy legislation to protect consumers in a world of Big Data. Some jurisdictions have already acted. For example, the European Union recently enacted the General Data Protection Regulation—commonly known as GDPR. California has enacted and signed into law the California Consumer Privacy Act, CCPA. We see some American companies, not based in California, certainly not based in Europe but who are dealing with data across the board, calling on Congress to act and enact baseline privacy protections across the board in the United States of America.

I say that we have reached a point where Congress needs to act to develop Federal privacy legislation, and this is a viewpoint that is accepted and supported across the aisle by Democrats and Republicans in both Houses of the Congress. Strengthening consumer data protections will be a top legislative priority for the Commerce Committee during this Congress. We will continue to build on the current momentum in the Senate as we discuss how to approach the development of bipartisan privacy legislation in this Congress.

This is one of the best opportunities in this Congress, will be one of the best opportunities for Democrats and Republicans to work together and put something on the President's desk for his signature. I know that through collaboration, we can develop a legislative proposal that provides consumers with meaningful choices and strong protections of their data, both online and offline. We need a legislative proposal that will be balanced, balancing the need for flexibility, for businesses to innovate, invest, and compete. This issue is critical to maintaining U.S. leadership in the global digital economy.

I hope next year, at this point in time, we will be discussing and celebrating the enactment of bipartisan legislation to ensure both consumer protection and continued innovation in the United States. Happy Data Privacy Day.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, there has been a lot of conversation about the damage to our economy and to the basic operations of government from the shutdown. Rightfully so, it is something we should talk about and spend some time trying to figure out how to manage this for the future, what shutdowns do to our future.

What has been interesting is how absent that same conversation has been over the last 2 years as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle actively worked to shut down the basic operations of government by not allowing nominations to proceed in the normal process.

In December, with little fanfare and into early January, 386 nominations from the Trump administration were returned back to the Trump administration with a ''no action''—386 people. Those were judges, those were potential board members, those were individuals, many of them Deputy Assistant Secretaries of different Agencies, individuals who keep the basic functioning of government open and working. Three hundred and eighty-six of those nominations had no action on this floor because something very different was happening during the last 2 years. It had not happened like this before in the beginning of any Presidency—in the first 2 years—that his nominations were blocked on the floor not with a vote, with time.

In the past, with nominations, a person would be nominated by the President. They would go to the committees. They would get a full background check investigation. There would be questions for the record. The committees would then have an open debate in the committee. They would vote as a committee. If they were voted out of committee, there would be additional questions for the record. Then, once those were done, they would get an up-or-down vote. Often those were voice votes, even here. It was something that was assumed because they had been approved by committees, and the background checks had been done.

In the last 2 years, 128 times, Members of the Senate required what is called a cloture vote—one more hurdle to go through—so that literally they would have to file cloture on those, allow for an intervening day for them to sit out there, and then 30 hours of debate on that person—30 hours of additional debate. That is after the intervening day. You have 24 hours, plus another 30 that is all set out there, to add a little additional time.

With over 1,000 nominees whom the executive branch would do, it is not possible to get through all of those if you continue to request an additional 2 days in the process to work on each of them.

For individuals to prevent these different Agencies from working and functioning, to prevent the activities of government, you can just request cloture votes over and over again—128 times to basically slow down the Senate so much and to slow down the workings of government all over DC so much that it can't operate at its capacity.

This has to be resolved.

Two years ago, I saw this trend that was moving in the Senate, and I said that long-term for the Senate, this will damage the functioning of government and of the Senate. We have to address it.

So 2 years ago I asked for a reach-out to say: How do we actually resolve this? We had some ongoing meetings. We had a full committee hearing dealing with the issue of the nominations process and how to resolve this in December of 2017. That was after months and months and months of meetings in preparation for that.

We had a markup in April of 2018 to talk about how we could resolve this and what proposals are out there.

I had numerous conversations with Republican and Democratic Members of the Senate to be able to resolve the issue in the Senate because, although in the past you could always request a cloture vote on someone if there was someone truly controversial, this was being used differently. This was not being used to address someone truly controversial; this was being used to shut down the functioning of government.

Many of those individuals—once they did get their cloture vote and that obligatory time—passed with 80 and 90 votes. They weren't people—I have heard people say that if Trump would put up better nominees, then this would be easier. It wasn't that. It was purely dilatory, to slow down or shut down Agencies' operations based on not allowing them to hire staff to actually do the job. That government shutdown, which has been ongoing for 2 years' time, will continue to go until this Senate resolves it.

So after 2 years of meetings, I am making a proposal to this body: We need to fix this. We need to fix the nomination process to have an orderly process so that when there is a controversial nominee, they can be addressed with additional time on the floor, even past the committee time, even past the background checks, even past the additional questions they are asked—to give additional time but in a reasonable way so we can continue to operate as the Senate.

My simple proposal is that we have 2 hours of additional debate, if additional time is allotted, and, quite frankly, that is after the intervening day, so there would be a full day of debate and then an additional 2 hours on the next day that would be allotted to give full time to anyone who may be a problem. That is 2 hours of additional blocked-off time in addition to the additional day that is put in place. I think that is plenty of time.

If it is a Supreme Court Justice we are talking about, if it is a Cabinet official, maybe 30 hours would be the best option for that, as well. So we would do 2 hours for most nominees, 30 hours for Cabinet level and for the Supreme Court or circuit courts. That

would give plenty of time to do additional debate, and it would simplify the process.

This proposal is not really all that controversial. I have talked to many of my Democratic colleagues, and they seem to nod their heads and say: Yes, this is a better way to resolve it. The answer I am getting back is: Let's vote for that now but let it not start until January of 2021.

Their assumption is that they are going to beat President Trump in an election, and they will take over, and they certainly don't want the Senate to function when there is a Democratic President the same way it is functioning when there is a Republican President.

My gentle nod back to them is that there is absolutely no way we should ever agree to that. Why would we ever do that? What is happening is, the last 2 years of this shutdown—the slowdown of all of these Agencies, which has happened by blocking all of these nominees—have created this muscle memory in the Senate, and if we don't fix it now, it is going to keep going.

My Democratic colleagues who say ''We are going to continue to block you for the next 2 years the same way to shut down the functioning of Agencies'' with some delusional belief that 2 years from now this will not happen to them if they happen to win the Presidency—that is false, and they know it. If we don't resolve this now and allow this President to be able to function with his nominees, as any President in the past has, then this is going to just keep going, and it will hurt the long-term functioning of our government. So it is an absurd thought to say: We will vote on it now, but it will not actually take effect until 2021. The reasonable thing is, let's resolve it now.

This simple proposal I am putting out in the next few days will make it public, and in February I hope there will be a meeting with the Rules Committee to allow open debate in the Rules Committee, for Republicans and Democrats alike to look at this issue and resolve it, to make any edits or changes. If there is a different way to resolve this, I am open to any other resolution. But for the long-term health of our government and of the Senate and how it operates, we have to resolve this because we can't have individuals hanging out there for over a year and expect that this is going to get better.

Let me give you some examples. For over a year, the Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services sat out there and then was returned back to the President at the end of the session and will have to start all over again. It is the same with the Chief Counsel for Advocacy in the Small Business Administration, the inspector general in the Office of Personnel Management, Governors for the U.S. Postal Service, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce, the Ambassador to Colombia, the Ambassador to Morocco, and the General Counsel for the Department of Navy. These were all individuals who were out there for over a year with no action, waiting.

We will not get the best and brightest in our country to set aside their life for a nomination process that is over 1 year and then goes back to the White House, and then they have to start all over again the next year, and maybe it goes another year. Who in America can put their life on hold for all of that time? We want the best and brightest to be able to serve. Blocking them with slowdown tactics will prevent that from happening in the future.

I am trying to be fair in this process. Let's do this the right way, the way we all know it should be done. Let's take it to the Rules Committee. Let's put a proposal out there to fix the nomination process. Let's get the 60 votes that are required to resolve the nomination process through the Rules Committee to the floor of the Senate and actually fix that as a standing order. Let's resolve it now, lest this drags on for another 2 years and it never gets better.

This has been a 2-year process to get to this point, and in the days ahead, when we release this text, I hope my colleagues will engage in reasonable conversation to resolve that. I am open to that, but I want us to fix the problem and admit that a problem needs to be fixed and solved.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas (Mr. SULLIVAN).

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ACT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss legislation that Senator CARDIN and I introduced last year and successfully worked to move through the legislative process, with lots of help from many others.

The Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act was passed by the House and Senate near the end of the 115th Congress and was signed into law in January of this year. We are thankful that our colleagues in both Chambers joined us in supporting this meaningful legislation focused on improving the lives of women and families around the world.

Because women make up the majority of the world's poor and are often held back by gender-specific constraints to economic empowerment, such as lack of access to financial services and credit, it was important to recognize that it is within our power to help elevate and enable them to achieve their economic dreams and aspirations.

In many corners of the world, cultural and historical barriers that make it difficult for women to start businesses, build savings, and make meaningful economic contributions to their communities are long established and serve to prevent many women from attaining greater stability in their everyday lives—to the detriment of their own societies as well as the global economy.

Building on our own past and experiences in the United States, we can help women in the world overcome obstacles that impede their ability to substantially contribute to economic activity and industry at home and, more broadly, within the world economy.

The Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act provides an avenue to address this inequality by tapping into the proven abilities of existing U.S. Agencies for international development programs.

USAID, which uses strategic investments to promote growth and development while advancing U.S. interests and influence, is perfectly situated to implement this initiative because it understands how to effectively deploy resources to—as its mission states—''lift lives, build communities, and establish self-sufficiency.'' The WEEE Act will help the more than 1 billion women who are left out of the world's formal financial system by working to close the nearly $300 billion credit gap that exists for women-owned small and medium-sized businesses.

Expanding USAID's microenterprise development assistance authority to include small and medium-sized enterprises with an emphasis on supporting those owned, managed, and controlled by women is critical because if these promising, industrious entrepreneurs and innovators are given the opportunity to succeed, the benefits will undoubtedly reach far and wide.

The WEEE Act will also modernize USAID's development assistance toolkit to include innovative credit scoring models, financial technology, financial literacy, insurance, and more to improve property and inheritance rights—all of which are vital in helping to overcome deep-rooted cultural and institutional hurdles that preclude women from accessing the resources necessary for economic success.

Finally, the law directs USAID to include efforts that promote equality and female empowerment throughout its programs. This may seem like a small step, but in reality, it can help transform the way international aid is implemented to the benefit of many women across the globe, poised to succeed when provided the same tools and resources as their peers in nations where those hurdles are absent.

USAID, especially under the leadership of Mark Green, the Administrator, does an exceptional job of stretching a finite amount of resources to achieve meaningful results in some of the world's most impoverished nations.

I have complete confidence that Administrator Green and his team will implement the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act in a way that will simultaneously, and even necessarily, work to the benefit of our international aid mission, while also helping to uplift and empower women in countries all over the world to succeed in a way that has been just beyond their reach until now.

Research shows investing in women has a high rate of return, and that is

exactly what the WEEE Act recognizes and seeks to capitalize on.

As Senator CARDIN, senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, noted when we introduced the bill: ''Investment in women creates a positive cycle of change that can lift women, families, communities, and entire countries out of poverty, and this legislation will help us make inroads toward that important goal.''

I would like to thank former Chairman Ed Royce and Congresswoman FRANKEL, as well as their staffs, for their leadership on this bill in the House.

I would also like to thank Senator CARDIN for joining me in sponsoring the bill here in the Senate, as well as our former colleague and Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker, for his work to move this bill through the committee process.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by the White House, particularly from Presidential Advisor Ivanka Trump, who worked tirelessly to advocate for this bill, garner support from NGOs, and ultimately helped us see it across the finish line.

All of those who worked on this bill share an understanding that because women in some parts of the world are pushed so far to the margins that they are denied access to even the most basic financial services, much less business loans, leveling the playing field is the right thing to do. If we can achieve this goal, the world economy stands to grow significantly.

Now that the WEEE Act has become law, we have taken one significant step forward to realizing this laudable aim, and women in developing nations stand to benefit from USAID's upcoming efforts to help them find and secure their place in our global economy.

The Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act advances U.S. values and stimulates real, lasting economic opportunities around the globe for women. It will change lives and communities, promote equality, and help entrepreneurs and innovators thrive—all of which will benefit the global economy and the pursuit of prosperity.

Once again, I extend my thanks and gratitude to all who have worked so hard and helped this bill become law, and I look forward to following its implementation and results.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. 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.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LEEPER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for more than 30 years, the men and women of Paducah, KY, have prospered with the leadership of my friend, Bob Leeper, in city, State, and finally county government. There are few individuals more appreciated for their public service in western Kentucky. At the end of last year, Bob completed his term as McCracken County judge-executive, and I would like to take a moment to offer my gratitude and reflect on his many years of service.

There is a common expression identifying two types of people who are elected to office: show horses and work horses. The first kind thrives when driving home a point in front of the camera or in making a bold headline. On the other hand, a work horse will forgo acclaim in favor of accomplishment and reject praise for progress. Without a doubt, Bob has spent his career as a work horse. His achievements will leave a lasting impact on the area and our Commonwealth.

To say the least, Bob cared little for party labels. As a matter of fact, during his distinguished career, Bob hit the political ''trifecta'' of sorts, having been elected by his constituents as a registered Democrat, then a Republican, and lastly as an Independent.

In his first elected office as Paducah city commissioner, Bob also served as mayor pro tem and quickly earned his colleagues' respect. From there, Bob won a seat in the Kentucky State Senate. In Frankfort, Bob set himself apart as a constructive leader and a problemsolver. His reputation for handling complex issues with fairness garnered the appreciation of his fellow senators on both sides of the aisle.

Reelected five times, Bob served for 24 years in Kentucky's legislature including as the chair of the senate appropriations and revenue committee. His work from this important post displayed his integrity, skill, and his characteristic nature as a work horse.

Bob chose to leave the Senate in 2014, but that didn't end his career of public service. The same year, he was elected as the McCracken County judge-executive, the top job in county government. In that role, Bob had the opportunity to continue serving his community and making positive impacts on the lives of his neighbors. Among his proudest accomplishments, he includes a number of infrastructure improvements at the courthouse, jail, road department, and in the local parks. I enjoyed partnering with him on behalf of workers at Paducah's U.S. Department of Energy site.

For his decades of service in Kentucky, the current members of the Paducah City Commission wanted to express their gratitude to Bob at his retirement with a lasting testament to his work. The commission unanimously voted to name a footbridge in his honor in Paducah. When completed, the Bob Leeper Bridge will connect the city and county's trail systems, a fitting tribute to a man who spent his career working to benefit his community.

As he enters his retirement from public service, Bob plans to return to his first calling: treating patients at his chiropractic clinic. He also will spend more time volunteering, playing tennis, and relaxing with his beloved wife Gina. It is my privilege to join so many in McCracken County to thank Bob for his three decades of committed vision and leadership. I ask my Senate colleagues to help me congratulate Judge-Executive Bob Leeper on this milestone and to extend best wishes in his retirement.

Mr. President, the Paducah Sun recently published an editorial expressing appreciation to Bob. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Paducah Sun, Jan. 17, 2019]

SINCERE APPRECIATION: WORDS OF THANKS FOR LONGTIME ELECTED LEADER BOB LEEPER

(By the Editorial Board)

The inspirational quote was painted on Bob Leeper's office wall at the McCracken County Courthouse in 2015, shortly after he took over as county judge-executive.

''Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate,'' the quote from author Marianne Williamson reads. ''Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.''

The motivational words stayed on that wall all four years, serving as daily affirmation.

''It's a reminder that we all have purpose and sometimes it's bigger than we even realized and we kind of have to accept that place that we are in life, and sometimes it's important you take a stand,'' Leeper said.

A case could be made Leeper's life purpose, or at least one of them, was serving his native Paducah and McCracken County, which he did in his quiet, transparent and dignified way for more than half his life across three offices.

Leeper, 60, served 31 years total—three as a Paducah city commissioner, 24 as a state senator, and a sole four-year term as judge executive.

He did not run for reelection, and turned over the county's top leadership post to current judge-exec Craig Clymer earlier this month.

Leeper, a chiropractor by trade, is now enjoying his ''political retirement,'' spending his time treating patients at his clinic, volunteering in the community, and enjoying one of his favorite hobbies—playing tennis.

He doubts very seriously his name will ever appear on another ballot, which is sure to be a healthy change for him but an unfortunate one for the local community.

''Today, I'd say no, I don't think that's going to happen,'' he said of someday running again for office. ''I learned from four years ago that you never say absolutely no, but I don't have any vision of anything right now.''

Now is the time for us, and we hope area residents, to thank Leeper for all his hard work on the public's behalf at the local and state levels. He served us honestly and admirably, often eschewing publicity or attention, and with his constituents' best interests in mind.

Frankly, leaders who put their communities first are rare these days, and Leeper's presence and influence will be greatly missed.

No one could have blamed Leeper if he's chosen to call it a career back in 2014, when he left the Kentucky General Assembly. However, he stepped up to lead McCracken County, returning much needed stability to an office that had seen turbulence during the previous administration.

''It was an opportunity for us to use some of the contacts I'd made in Frankfort and make things better for the community I grew up in,'' he said. ''It was difficult at times, but we made some positive changes.''

His proudest accomplishments as judge-executive, he told The Sun this week, were largely centered on infrastructure at the courthouse, jail, road department, and parks. They weren't glamorous, didn't beg for bold headlines or TV spots, but they needed doing.

Leeper's next words are true to his laid-back personality:

''Sometimes you don't get to cut ribbons and that's OK with me,'' he said. ''I was proud this court took that same attitude and we were able to do things that needed to be done, even the kind that you don't cut ribbons on.''

''We did it all without raising taxes and I think the county is in a better place from Judge Clymer and the new court.''

Join us in congratulating Leeper on a distinguished successful career. Through his leadership, we have a great example for future leaders to emulate.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. LOUIS BALART

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, today I want to speak as a Senator and a physician. Many know that I am a doctor, but specifically I am a hepatologist. I studied and treated those with liver disease. One of my colleagues, Dr. Louis Balart, just passed away; a friend who treated many patients with liver disease and made an incredible impact upon the lives of those whom he treated in the State of Louisiana and indeed across the Nation. Dr. Balart has a remarkable story. His family came to the United States from Cuba when he was a child. His father escaped Cuba after his family was sent ahead to the States by drinking blood that he had drained from his own body. He went to the Cuban captors and said, ''I'm bleeding internally, I need to go to Miami to get treated.'' As a doctor himself, he knew that this would happen. With this remarkable story, he was able to rejoin his family that had moved to the United States, fleeing Castro's Cuba. As is the case of many such stories, the family succeeded tremendously, Louis Balart being among them. I mentioned before that he was an influential physician, but he was also a teacher with LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans and Tulane School of Medicine. He also headed the liver transplant unit at the Tulane Medical Center. He passed his gifts down and now his son, Carter Balart, is a gastroenterologist in Baton Rouge, whom I have had the pleasure of working on patients with. Today I honor Dr. Louis Balart, a father, husband, and physician who contributed greatly to his adopted country, the United States of America. He left it richer because of his presence.•

TRIBUTE TO BERNADINE REED

• Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, today I want to recognize school bus driver Ms. Bernadine Reed, whose heroic actions ensured the safety of 40 schoolchildren last week in Darlington County, SC.

When a car ran into her stopped school bus on Tuesday, January 22 and caused the bus to catch on fire, Ms. Reed took action to make sure each and every child got off the bus safely and quickly. Because of her leadership and quick action, no one on the bus was injured, although the bus itself was consumed by flames minutes after the crash.

Although Ms. Reed had spent only 45 days on the job, the actions she took in this scary situation ensured the complete safety of all 40 of her schoolchildren. While she insists she is ''just a mother,'' Ms. Reed certainly deserves the title of hero.

I would like to join in the rest of the Darlington community and the State in recognizing her act of heroism and thanking her for assuring the safety of her schoolchildren.•

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREENWOOD INDEX-JOURNAL

• Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, today it is my pleasure to honor the Greenwood Index-Journal, a newspaper that is celebrating 100 years in the Greenwood, SC, community.

Founded in February 1919, the Index-Journal started as an office above a movie theatre and a printing press on a dirt floor. Although much has changed 100 years later, the Index-Journal's commitment to keeping the residents of Greenwood informed has not.

The Greenwood Index-Journal remains owned and operated by local residents themselves, with family members of the original co-owners still running the paper today. It is truly a paper run by the people, for the people. The Index-Journal has remained vigilant in its coverage of the Lakelands area, and continues to be a vital part of the Greenwood community.

I congratulate all of the Index-Journal leadership and staff for 100 years of committed and meaningful journalism and look forward to their presence in our State for years to come.•

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER WITH RESPECT TO VENEZUELA THAT TAKES ADDITIONAL STEPS WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13692 ON MARCH 8, 2015—PM 2

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:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order with respect to Venezuela that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015, and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13808 of August 24, 2017, Executive Order 13827 of March 19, 2018, Executive Order 13835 of May 21, 2018, and Executive Order 13850 of November 1, 2018.

The Executive Order I have issued accounts for the swearing in of a legitimate Interim President of Venezuela, and addresses actions by persons affiliated with the illegitimate Maduro regime, including human rights violations and abuses in response to anti-Maduro protests, arbitrary arrest and detention of anti-Maduro protestors, curtailment of press freedom, harassment of political opponents, and continued attempts to undermine the Interim President of Venezuela and undermine the Venezuelan National Assembly. The Executive Order amends subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13692, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13808, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13827, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13835, and subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13850, to read:

''(d) the term ''Government of Venezuela'' includes the state and Government of Venezuela, any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, including the Central Bank of Venezuela and Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), any person owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the foregoing, and any person who has acted or purported to act directly or indirectly for or on behalf of, any of the foregoing, including as a member of the Maduro regime.''

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 25, 2019.*

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 25, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 28) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 25, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 28. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the enrolled joint resolution was signed on January 25, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. MCCONNELL).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 31) making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes, agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. LEE of California, Messrs. CUELLAR, AGUILAR, Ms. GRANGER, Messrs. FLEISCHMANN, GRAVES of Georgia, and PALAZZO, be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 648. An act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 232. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require individuals nominated or appointed to Senate-confirmed positions or to positions of a confidential or policymaking character to disclose certain types of contributions made or solicited by, or at the request of, the individuals; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 233. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Amendments of 1977 to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to report certain hiring to carry out the Safe Drinking Water Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 234. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the disclosure of the annual percentage rates applicable to Federal student loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. JONES, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. REED):

S. 235. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to establish teacher leader development programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 236. A bill to require a Special Counsel report, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 237. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 238. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 239. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. JONES):

S. 240. A bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to establish, incrementally over five years, a nationwide program to provide personal identification numbers to taxpayers to help prevent tax-related identity theft; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 241. A bill to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 242. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to release reversionary and reserved interests in certain land in the Coconino National Forest in the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 243. A bill to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a land exchange in Bullhead City, Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MCSALLY:

S. 244. A bill to provide for the unencumbering of title to non-Federal land owned by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida, for purposes of economic development by conveyance of the Federal reversionary interest to the University; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 245. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 246. A bill to block the implementation of certain presidential actions that restrict individuals from certain countries from entering the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 247. A bill to designate additions to the Rough Mountain Wilderness and the Rich Hole Wilderness of the George Washington National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 248. A bill to ensure that the Secretary of the Interior collaborates fully with State and local authorities and certain nonprofit entities in managing the Corolla Wild Horse population on Federal land; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 32. A resolution recognizing January 27, 2019, as the anniversary of the first refugee and Muslim ban, and urging the President to demonstrate true leadership on refugee resettlement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 33. A resolution supporting the contributions of Catholic schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1, a bill to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes.

S. 30

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 30, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services for certain covered beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

S. 39

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 39, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 64

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 64, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products.

S. 97

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 97, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the importation of affordable and safe drugs by wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and individuals.

S. 104

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 104, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

S. 113

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 113, a bill to appropriate funds for pay and allowances of excepted Federal employees, and for other purposes.

S. 152

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 152, a bill to direct the President to impose penalties pursuant to denial orders with respect to certain Chinese telecommunications companies that are in violation of the export control or sanctions laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 162

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 162, a bill to provide back pay to low-wage contractor employees, and for other purposes.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

S. 200

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 200, a bill to prohibit the conduct of a first-use nuclear strike absent a declaration of war by Congress.

S. 201

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 201, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to make clear that each decennial census, as required for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States, shall tabulate the total number of persons in each State, and to provide that no information regarding United States citizenship or immigration status may be elicited in any such census.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit, and for other purposes.

S. 226

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 226, a bill to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian Tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act.

S.J. RES. 3

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 3, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to balancing the budget.

S. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 22, a resolution condemning the terrorist attack in Nairobi, Kenya on January 15, 2019, and offering sincere condolences to all of the victims, their families and friends, and the people of Kenya.

S. RES. 23

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 23, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction.

S. RES. 27

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 27, a resolution calling for a prompt multinational freedom of navigation operation in the Black Sea and urging the cancellation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. JONES):

S. 240. A bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to establish, incrementally over five years, a nationwide program to provide personal identification numbers to taxpayers to help prevent tax-related identity theft; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, this is the first day in which Americans across the country are eligible to file their 2018 tax returns. I rise today to introduce with my colleague from Alabama, Senator JONES, the Taxpayer Identity Protection Act. Our bill seeks to help prevent American taxpayers, including our seniors, from falling victim to identity theft and tax refund fraud.

Last year, the IRS received nearly 142 million individual income tax returns. Nearly 75 percent of these returns were eligible for refunds. For the most part, these refunds are the return of dollars belonging to taxpayers that were overwithheld from their paychecks in the prior year. Millions of American families eagerly await these tax refunds—money they may need to pay off debts, settle medical bills, or plug gaps in the family budget.

Unfortunately for some Americans, these refunds never come or are long delayed due to identity theft. Criminals have figured out that, in many instances, it is cheaper and easier for

them to steal taxpayers' identities and hijack their tax refunds than it is to traffic in drugs or rob banks.

Identity theft-refund fraud occurs when a criminal files a false tax return using a stolen Social Security number and other sensitive personal information from sources such as hospitals, schools, or assisted living facilities, sometimes by recruiting employees to steal that personal information. The fraudster then uses the data to prepare fraudulent tax returns. The thieves make sure to file early—as soon as the tax season opens in January—to increase their odds that they can get a tax refund before the real taxpayer who is entitled to the refund files his or her return.

The criminals are known to hold what they call make it rain parties, where they bring stolen laptops to a motel room with internet access and work together churning out scores of these fake tax returns. These criminals work under the premise of ''file early, file often.'' Once the thieves file the fraudulent tax return, the IRS processes it and issues the tax refund. With each refund worth on average $2,778, the money can add up pretty quickly for these criminals.

This is by no means a victimless crime. In 2017, the Federal Trade Commission received more than 371,000 complaints of identity theft, including 82,000 complaints related to employment or tax refund fraud. Taxpayers who have their refunds hijacked by fraudsters often have to wait for years to get everything straightened out and to get the refunds to which they are legally entitled. Many, sadly, are revictimized year after year. A substantial number become victims of other forms of identity theft.

Worst of all, victims are often the most vulnerable. The inspector general estimates that 76,000 very low income senior citizens were victims of tax fraud-identity theft in the year 2010 alone.

In 2016, the Lewiston, ME, Sun Journal published a story about Rick Zaccaro and Bonnie Washuk, a married couple who were the victims of tax fraud. They had filed their taxes in late January of 2015, and Rick, a retired financial analyst for the Postal Service, was checking the status of their return online in early February. That is when he learned they were the victims of identity theft. Someone had filed a tax return and claimed a tax refund using their names, dates of birth, and Social Security numbers. That fraudulent claim was paid by the IRS while their legitimate tax filing, with their appropriate W–2s, was stuck in limbo.

It took months of worrying, frozen bank accounts, and many calls to multiple government offices for this couple to straighten things out. When they finally received their overdue tax refund, they also received something called an identity protection personal identification number, better known as an IP PIN.

To provide relief to some victims of identity theft, the IRS began issuing IP PINs to eligible taxpayers in fiscal year 2011. An IP PIN is a six-digit number assigned to eligible taxpayers that allows tax returns and refunds to be processed without delay and helps prevent the misuse of an individual's Social Security number on fraudulent income tax returns.

Here is how it works. If a return is filed electronically with an individual's Social Security number and an incorrect or missing IP PIN, the IRS's system automatically rejects that tax return until it is submitted with the correct IP PIN or it is filed on paper. If the same conditions occur on a paper-filed return, the IRS will delay its processing and any refund that may be due while the Agency determines if the return actually belongs to the taxpayer.

In 2013, the IRS began a pilot program in which it offered IP PINs to all taxpayers—not just those who were victims of identity theft—who filed their Federal tax returns as residents of Florida, Georgia, or the District of Columbia. According to the IRS, these three locations were chosen because they have the highest per capita percentage of tax-related identity theft in the country. Taxpayers in these three jurisdictions may opt in to the IP PIN program if they want that extra layer of identity protection, even if they have not been victims of identity theft.

In preparation for last year's filing season, the IRS issued nearly 3.5 million IP PINs to taxpayers. That is a substantial increase from the 770,000 in 2013. According to the IRS, within just a month, it had rejected nearly 7,400 fraudulent tax returns that had been filed electronically. As of March 15, 2018, it had stopped nearly 1,500 paper-filed tax returns. This shows that this system works.

If a taxpayer has a special PIN number that has to appear on his or her or their tax return before the IRS will process the form electronically and issue the refund, it will stop a criminal, who would not have access to that special, individualized PIN number, from receiving someone else's tax refund.

The bipartisan Taxpayer Identity Protection Act of 2019 that the Senator from Alabama and I are introducing today would expand and make permanent the IRS's IP PIN pilot program to help combat identity theft-refund fraud across the Nation. Specifically, our bill would authorize the IRS to expand its pilot program nationally in phases over a 5-year period. Expanding the program would give all taxpayers, ultimately, the opportunity to further protect themselves from falling victim to tax refund fraud and identity theft while also saving taxpayers billions of dollars every year in tax refunds that are paid not to the taxpayers who deserve them but, rather, to criminals who are impersonating the taxpayers who deserve the refund.

Having an IP PIN has proven to protect against identity theft. I am pleased to report that the IRS supports expansion of this vital program over the next 5 years.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the adoption of the Taxpayer Identity Protection Act of 2019. This is a concrete action we can take to help protect taxpayers and to ensure that tax refunds go to the taxpayers who deserve these refunds, who are entitled to these refunds, and that they don't get misdirected to a criminal who is seeking to rip off a taxpayer.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 247. A bill to designate additions to the Rough Mountain Wilderness and the Rich Hole Wilderness of the George Washington National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, this bill authorizes additions to two existing wilderness areas within the George Washington National Forest in Bath County, Virginia. This text represents years of negotiation and compromise among Virginia stakeholders who rely in different ways on the GW Forest.

In many parts of America, Federal land management is controversial. Some may view these lands as repositories for timber, energy, or minerals. Others may enjoy using recreational trails through them. Others may believe that they should be left to nature and not disturbed. The truth, of course, is that all of these uses are important; the conflict lies in agreeing on which lands are best suited to which purposes.

In the lead-up to the latest multi-year GW Forest Management Plan, various forest users came together to see if they could find reasonable compromises that would avoid years of unproductive disagreement and litigation. This group, known as the George Washington National Forest Stakeholder Collaborative, succeeded. Through hard work and consensus, the Collaborative made joint recommendations to the U.S. Forest Service for forest management and protection. Preservation advocates consented to timber harvest and other active forest restoration and management in certain areas, while forest products interests consented to wilderness and light management in other areas. Following this fruitful collaboration, the Forest Service convened the Lower Cowpasture Restoration and Management Project, bringing together the Collaborative and other stakeholders to help develop management activities on this particular part of the Forest in Bath County. Again, this collaborative succeeded, with everyone getting some of what they want and giving some ground.

The Collaborative has now come together to support the wilderness additions in this bill, which designates 4,500

acres to be added to the Rich Hole Wilderness Area and 1,000 acres to be added to the Rough Mountain Wilderness Area. I am proud to partner on this with my colleague Senator MARK WARNER, and we are following in the path blazed by Senator John Warner and Representative Rick Boucher, who led the original Virginia Wilderness Act in 1984.

Taking care of our Nation's public lands is good for the economy and good for the environment. Land disputes may often be contentious, but this example proves they don't have to be. When everyone comes to the table and invests the necessary time, we can find common ground. I hope this will be a lesson for us in other tough policy challenges, and I encourage the Senate to support this bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 32—RECOGNIZING JANUARY 27, 2019, AS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST REFUGEE AND MUSLIM BAN, AND URGING THE PRESIDENT TO DEMONSTRATE TRUE LEADERSHIP ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 32

Whereas the world is in the midst of the worst global displacement crisis in history, with more than 25,400,000 refugees worldwide, according to estimates from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (referred to in this Resolution as ''UNHCR'');

Whereas UNHCR estimated that nearly 1,200,000 refugees were in need of resettlement to a third country in 2018, and this projection continues to grow in 2019;

Whereas the United States Refugee Admissions Program (referred to in this Resolution as ''USRAP'') is a life-saving solution critical to global humanitarian efforts, which—

(1) strengthens global security;

(2) leverages United States foreign policy goals;

(3) supports regional host countries; and

(4) serves individuals and families in need;

Whereas the United States has been a global leader in—

(1) responding to displacement crises around the world; and

(2) promoting the safety, health, and well-being of refugees and displaced persons;

Whereas refugees are the most vetted travelers to enter the United States and are subject to extensive screening checks, including in person interviews, biometric data checks, and multiple interagency checks;

Whereas the United States leverages resettlement to encourage other countries—

(1) to keep their doors open to refugees;

(2) to allow refugee children to attend school; and

(3) to allow refugee adults to work;

Whereas refugees contribute to their communities by starting businesses, paying taxes, sharing their cultural traditions, and being good neighbors;

Whereas refugees contribute more to society than they consume in State-funded services, including costs relating to schooling and health care;

Whereas, for more than 40 years the United States resettled up to 200,000 refugees per year, with an average ceiling of 95,000 refugees per year, and an average of 80,000 refugees per year actually being resettled in the United States;

Whereas the United States has abdicated its leadership by setting a record low refugee admissions goal in fiscal year 2019 of 30,000;

Whereas, on January 27, 2017, President Donald J. Trump issued Executive Order 13769, which placed a 90-day suspension on the admission into the United States of individuals from 7 Muslim-majority countries and suspended USRAP for 120 days; and

Whereas, since issuing that executive order, President Trump has taken further executive and administrative actions—

(1) to restrict the admission into the United States of people from certain Muslim-majority countries; and

(2) to dismantle USRAP, which has lowered the capacity of, and diminished the institutional memory and experience in, USRAP:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms our Nation's proud history of refugee resettlement;

(2) recognizes January 27, 2019, as the 2nd anniversary of the executive order that suspended the admission of refugees and individuals from specified Muslim-majority countries;

(3) reaffirms the strong bipartisan commitment of the United States to promote the safety, health, and well-being of refugees, including by facilitating the resettlement in the United States of refugees who cannot safely return to their homes or rebuild their lives in countries from which they fled to preserve their lives;

(4) emphasizes the importance of USRAP as a critical tool for United States global leadership;

(5) recognizes the profound consequences faced by refugees and their families who have been stranded, separated, and scarred by existing United States refugee policies, which have stranded many refugees who were in the middle of the refugee resettlement process and have left other refugees with little hope of anticipated entry into the United States; and

(6) calls upon the United States Government—

(A) to resettle a robust number of refugees to meet its share of the global need during fiscal years 2019 and 2020, with an emphasis on rebuilding USRAP and returning to historic levels of refugee admissions;

(B) to operate USRAP in good faith in order to meet the stated objectives of the program and to restore historic levels of refugee arrivals;

(C) to uphold its international leadership role in responding to displacement crises with humanitarian assistance and protection of the most vulnerable populations;

(D) to improve consultation with Congress and adherence to the clear congressional intent of the Refugee Act of 1980; and

(E) to recommit to offering freedom from oppression and resettling the most vulnerable refugees regardless of their country of origin or religious beliefs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 33—SUPPORTING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 33

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence and provide students with more than just an exceptional scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools instill a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in young people in the United States;

Whereas Catholic schools serve the United States by providing a diverse student population, from all regions of the country and all socioeconomic backgrounds, a strong academic and moral foundation, and of that student population—

(1) more than 38 percent of students are from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds; and

(2) 19 percent of students are from non-Catholic families;

Whereas Catholic schools are an affordable option for parents, particularly in underserved urban areas;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students who are strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development;

Whereas Catholic schools are committed to community service, producing graduates who hold ''helping others'' as a core value;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2018–2019 academic year is almost 1,800,000, with a student-teacher ratio of 12 to 1;

Whereas the Catholic high school graduation rate is 99 percent, with 87 percent of graduates attending 4-year colleges;

Whereas, in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated: ''Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives.'';

Whereas the week of January 27, 2019, to February 2, 2019, has been designated as National Catholic Schools Week by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and January 30, 2019, has been designated National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools;

Whereas National Catholic Schools Week was first established in 1974 and has been celebrated annually for the past 45 years;

Whereas, while Catholic schools must work hard to maintain enrollment, the demand and enthusiasm for Catholic schools remains strong;

Whereas 30 percent of Catholic schools have waiting lists for admission, and new schools are opening across the United States; and

Whereas the theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2019 is Catholic Schools:

Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of National Catholic Schools Week, an event—

(A) cosponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and

(B) established to recognize the vital contributions of the thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the United States;

(2) applauds the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on the selection of a theme that all people can celebrate; and

(3) supports—

(A) the continued dedication of Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the United States to academic excellence; and

(B) the key role that Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the United States play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 56. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 57. Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 58. Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 56. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE V—AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF FORCE TO DEFEND THE KURDS IN SYRIA

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Authorization for Use of Military Force in Defense of the Kurds in Syria Resolution of 2019''.

SEC. 502. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The President is authorized to use the Armed Forces of the United States as the President determines to be necessary and appropriate in order to defend the Kurds in Syria.

(b) WAR POWERS RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SPECIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.—Consistent with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(a)(1)), Congress declares that this section is intended to constitute specific statutory authorization within the meaning of section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(b)).

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this title supersedes any requirements of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

SA 57. Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DIVISION ___—INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 AND 2019

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Explanatory statement.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations.
Sec. 103. Intelligence Community Management Account.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Sec. 201. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 202. Computation of annuities for employees of the Central Intelligence Agency.

TITLE III—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Sec. 301. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities.
Sec. 302. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law.
Sec. 303. Modification of special pay authority for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics positions and addition of special pay authority for cyber positions.
Sec. 304. Modification of appointment of Chief Information Officer of the Intelligence Community.
Sec. 305. Director of National Intelligence review of placement of positions within the intelligence community on the Executive Schedule.
Sec. 306. Supply Chain and Counterintelligence Risk Management Task Force.
Sec. 307. Consideration of adversarial telecommunications and cybersecurity infrastructure when sharing intelligence with foreign governments and entities.
Sec. 308. Cyber protection support for the personnel of the intelligence community in positions highly vulnerable to cyber attack.
Sec. 309. Modification of authority relating to management of supply-chain risk.
Sec. 310. Limitations on determinations regarding certain security classifications.
Sec. 311. Joint Intelligence Community Council.
Sec. 312. Intelligence community information technology environment.
Sec. 313. Report on development of secure mobile voice solution for intelligence community.
Sec. 314. Policy on minimum insider threat standards.
Sec. 315. Submission of intelligence community policies.
Sec. 316. Expansion of intelligence community recruitment efforts.

TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Subtitle A—Office of the Director of National Intelligence

Sec. 401. Authority for protection of current and former employees of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.
Sec. 402. Designation of the program manager-information sharing environment.
Sec. 403. Technical modification to the executive schedule.
Sec. 404. Chief Financial Officer of the Intelligence Community.
Sec. 405. Chief Information Officer of the Intelligence Community.

Subtitle B—Central Intelligence Agency

Sec. 411. Central Intelligence Agency subsistence for personnel assigned to austere locations.
Sec. 412. Special rules for certain monthly workers' compensation payments and other payments for Central Intelligence Agency personnel.
Sec. 413. Expansion of security protective service jurisdiction of the Central Intelligence Agency.
Sec. 414. Repeal of foreign language proficiency requirement for certain senior level positions in the Central Intelligence Agency.

Subtitle C—Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence of Department of Energy

Sec. 421. Consolidation of Department of Energy Offices of Intelligence and Counterintelligence.
Sec. 422. Establishment of Energy Infrastructure Security Center.
Sec. 423. Repeal of Department of Energy Intelligence Executive Committee and budget reporting requirement.

Subtitle D—Other Elements

Sec. 431. Plan for designation of counterintelligence component of Defense Security Service as an element of intelligence community.
Sec. 432. Notice not required for private entities.
Sec. 433. Framework for roles, missions, and functions of Defense Intelligence Agency.
Sec. 434. Establishment of advisory board for National Reconnaissance Office.
Sec. 435. Collocation of certain Department of Homeland Security personnel at field locations.

TITLE V—ELECTION MATTERS

Sec. 501. Report on cyber attacks by foreign governments against United States election infrastructure.
Sec. 502. Review of intelligence community's posture to collect against and analyze Russian efforts to influence the Presidential election.

Sec. 503. Assessment of foreign intelligence threats to Federal elections.
Sec. 504. Strategy for countering Russian cyber threats to United States elections.
Sec. 505. Assessment of significant Russian influence campaigns directed at foreign elections and referenda.
Sec. 506. Foreign counterintelligence and cybersecurity threats to Federal election campaigns.
Sec. 507. Information sharing with State election officials.
Sec. 508. Notification of significant foreign cyber intrusions and active measures campaigns directed at elections for Federal offices.
Sec. 509. Designation of counterintelligence officer to lead election security matters.

TITLE VI—SECURITY CLEARANCES

Sec. 601. Definitions.
Sec. 602. Reports and plans relating to security clearances and background investigations.
Sec. 603. Improving the process for security clearances.
Sec. 604. Goals for promptness of determinations regarding security clearances.
Sec. 605. Security Executive Agent.
Sec. 606. Report on unified, simplified, Governmentwide standards for positions of trust and security clearances.
Sec. 607. Report on clearance in person concept.
Sec. 608. Budget request documentation on funding for background investigations.
Sec. 609. Reports on reciprocity for security clearances inside of departments and agencies.
Sec. 610. Intelligence community reports on security clearances.
Sec. 611. Periodic report on positions in the intelligence community that can be conducted without access to classified information, networks, or facilities.
Sec. 612. Information sharing program for positions of trust and security clearances.
Sec. 613. Report on protections for confidentiality of whistleblower-related communications.

TITLE VII—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Subtitle A—Matters Relating to Russia and Other Foreign Powers

Sec. 701. Limitation relating to establishment or support of cybersecurity unit with the Russian Federation.
Sec. 702. Report on returning Russian compounds.
Sec. 703. Assessment of threat finance relating to Russia.
Sec. 704. Notification of an active measures campaign.
Sec. 705. Notification of travel by accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation in the United States.
Sec. 706. Report on outreach strategy addressing threats from United States adversaries to the United States technology sector.
Sec. 707. Report on Iranian support of proxy forces in Syria and Lebanon.
Sec. 708. Annual report on Iranian expenditures supporting foreign military and terrorist activities.
Sec. 709. Expansion of scope of committee to counter active measures and report on establishment of Foreign Malign Influence Center.

Subtitle B—Reports

Sec. 711. Technical correction to Inspector General study.
Sec. 712. Reports on authorities of the Chief Intelligence Officer of the Department of Homeland Security.
Sec. 713. Report on cyber exchange program.
Sec. 714. Review of intelligence community whistleblower matters.
Sec. 715. Report on role of Director of National Intelligence with respect to certain foreign investments.
Sec. 716. Report on surveillance by foreign governments against United States telecommunications networks.
Sec. 717. Biennial report on foreign investment risks.
Sec. 718. Modification of certain reporting requirement on travel of foreign diplomats.
Sec. 719. Semiannual reports on investigations of unauthorized disclosures of classified information.
Sec. 720. Congressional notification of designation of covered intelligence officer as persona non grata.
Sec. 721. Reports on intelligence community participation in vulnerabilities equities process of Federal Government.
Sec. 722. Inspectors General reports on classification.
Sec. 723. Reports on global water insecurity and national security implications and briefing on emerging infectious disease and pandemics.
Sec. 724. Annual report on memoranda of understanding between elements of intelligence community and other entities of the United States Government regarding significant operational activities or policy.
Sec. 725. Study on the feasibility of encrypting unclassified wireline and wireless telephone calls.
Sec. 726. Modification of requirement for annual report on hiring and retention of minority employees.
Sec. 727. Reports on intelligence community loan repayment and related programs.
Sec. 728. Repeal of certain reporting requirements.
Sec. 729. Inspector General of the Intelligence Community report on senior executives of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.
Sec. 730. Briefing on Federal Bureau of Investigation offering permanent residence to sources and cooperators.
Sec. 731. Intelligence assessment of North Korea revenue sources.
Sec. 732. Report on possible exploitation of virtual currencies by terrorist actors.
Sec. 733. Inclusion of disciplinary actions in annual report relating to section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Subtitle C—Other Matters

Sec. 741. Public Interest Declassification Board.
Sec. 742. Securing energy infrastructure.
Sec. 743. Bug bounty programs.
Sec. 744. Modification of authorities relating to the National Intelligence University.
Sec. 745. Technical and clerical amendments to the National Security Act of 1947.
Sec. 746. Technical amendments related to the Department of Energy.
Sec. 747. Sense of Congress on notification of certain disclosures of classified information.
Sec. 748. Sense of Congress on consideration of espionage activities when considering whether or not to provide visas to foreign individuals to be accredited to a United Nations mission in the United States.
Sec. 749. Sense of Congress on WikiLeaks.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—The term ''congressional intelligence committees'' has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

(2) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''intelligence community'' has the meaning given such term in such section.

SEC. 3. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this division, printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record, by the Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of this division as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) FISCAL YEAR 2019.—Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2019 for the conduct of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the following elements of the United States Government:

(1) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.
(2) The Central Intelligence Agency.
(3) The Department of Defense.
(4) The Defense Intelligence Agency.
(5) The National Security Agency.
(6) The Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force.
(7) The Coast Guard.
(8) The Department of State.
(9) The Department of the Treasury.
(10) The Department of Energy.
(11) The Department of Justice.
(12) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.
(13) The Drug Enforcement Administration.
(14) The National Reconnaissance Office.
(15) The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.
(16) The Department of Homeland Security.

(b) FISCAL YEAR 2018.—Funds that were appropriated for fiscal year 2018 for the conduct of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the elements of the United States set forth in subsection (a) are hereby authorized.

SEC. 102. CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.

(a) SPECIFICATIONS OF AMOUNTS.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 101 for the conduct of the intelligence activities of the elements listed in paragraphs (1) through (16) of section 101, are those specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations prepared to accompany this division.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—The classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in subsection (a) shall be made available to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and to the President.

(2) DISTRIBUTION BY THE PRESIDENT.—Subject to paragraph (3), the President shall provide for suitable distribution of the classified

Schedule of Authorizations referred to in subsection (a), or of appropriate portions of such Schedule, within the executive branch.

(3) LIMITS ON DISCLOSURE.—The President shall not publicly disclose the classified Schedule of Authorizations or any portion of such Schedule except—

(A) as provided in section 601(a) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (50 U.S.C. 3306(a));

(B) to the extent necessary to implement the budget; or

(C) as otherwise required by law.

SEC. 103. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account of the Director of National Intelligence for fiscal year 2019 the sum of $522,424,000.

(b) CLASSIFIED AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account by subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account for fiscal year 2019 such additional amounts as are specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a).

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund $514,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 202. COMPUTATION OF ANNUITIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

(a) COMPUTATION OF ANNUITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 221 of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2031) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(3)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', as determined by using the annual rate of basic pay that would be payable for full-time service in that position.'';

(B) in subsection (b)(1)(C)(i), by striking ''12-month'' and inserting ''2-year'';

(C) in subsection (f)(2), by striking ''one year'' and inserting ''two years'';

(D) in subsection (g)(2), by striking ''one year'' each place such term appears and inserting ''two years'';

(E) by redesignating subsections (h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) as subsections (i), (j), (k), (l), and (m), respectively; and

(F) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) CONDITIONAL ELECTION OF INSURABLE INTEREST SURVIVOR ANNUITY BY PARTICIPANTS MARRIED AT THE TIME OF RETIREMENT.—

''(1) AUTHORITY TO MAKE DESIGNATION.—Subject to the rights of former spouses under subsection (b) and section 222, at the time of retirement a married participant found by the Director to be in good health may elect to receive an annuity reduced in accordance with subsection (f)(1)(B) and designate in writing an individual having an insurable interest in the participant to receive an annuity under the system after the participant's death, except that any such election to provide an insurable interest survivor annuity to the participant's spouse shall only be effective if the participant's spouse waives the spousal right to a survivor annuity under this Act. The amount of the annuity shall be equal to 55 percent of the participant's reduced annuity.

''(2) REDUCTION IN PARTICIPANT'S ANNUITY.—The annuity payable to the participant making such election shall be reduced by 10 percent of an annuity computed under subsection (a) and by an additional 5 percent for each full 5 years the designated individual is younger than the participant. The total reduction under this subparagraph may not exceed 40 percent.

''(3) COMMENCEMENT OF SURVIVOR ANNUITY.—The annuity payable to the designated individual shall begin on the day after the retired participant dies and terminate on the last day of the month before the designated individual dies.

''(4) RECOMPUTATION OF PARTICIPANT'S ANNUITY ON DEATH OF DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL.—An annuity that is reduced under this subsection shall, effective the first day of the month following the death of the designated individual, be recomputed and paid as if the annuity had not been so reduced.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT ACT.—The Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.) is amended—

(i) in section 232(b)(1) (50 U.S.C. 2052(b)(1)), by striking ''221(h),'' and inserting ''221(i),''; and

(ii) in section 252(h)(4) (50 U.S.C. 2082(h)(4)), by striking ''221(k)'' and inserting ''221(l)''.

(B) CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ACT OF 1949.—Subsection (a) of section 14 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3514(a)) is amended by striking ''221(h)(2), 221(i), 221(l),'' and inserting ''221(i)(2), 221(j), 221(m),''.

(b) ANNUITIES FOR FORMER SPOUSES.—Subparagraph (B) of section 222(b)(5) of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2032(b)(5)(B)) is amended by striking ''one year'' and inserting ''two years''.

(c) PRIOR SERVICE CREDIT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 252(b)(3) of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2082(b)(3)(A)) is amended by striking ''October 1, 1990'' both places that term appears and inserting ''March 31, 1991''.

(d) REEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.—Section 273 of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2113) is amended—

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

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

''(b) PART-TIME REEMPLOYED ANNUITANTS.—The Director shall have the authority to reemploy an annuitant on a part-time basis in accordance with section 8344(l) of title 5, United States Code.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.—The amendments made by subsection (a)(1)(A) and subsection (c) shall take effect as if enacted on October 28, 2009, and shall apply to computations or participants, respectively, as of such date.

TITLE III—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

SEC. 301. RESTRICTION ON CONDUCT OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

The authorization of appropriations by this division shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity which is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or the laws of the United States.

SEC. 302. INCREASE IN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Appropriations authorized by this division for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for Federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in such compensation or benefits authorized by law.

SEC. 303. MODIFICATION OF SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATHEMATICS POSITIONS AND ADDITION OF SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITY FOR CYBER POSITIONS.

Section 113B of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3049a) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a) SPECIAL RATES OF PAY FOR POSITIONS REQUIRING EXPERTISE IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATHEMATICS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding part III of title 5, United States Code, the head of each element of the intelligence community may, for 1 or more categories of positions in such element that require expertise in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics—

''(A) establish higher minimum rates of pay; and

''(B) make corresponding increases in all rates of pay of the pay range for each grade or level, subject to subsection (b) or (c), as applicable.

''(2) TREATMENT.—The special rate supplements resulting from the establishment of higher rates under paragraph (1) shall be basic pay for the same or similar purposes as those specified in section 5305(j) of title 5, United States Code.'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (f) as subsections (c) through (g), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) SPECIAL RATES OF PAY FOR CYBER POSITIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), the Director of the National Security Agency may establish a special rate of pay—

''(A) not to exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level II of the Executive Schedule under section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, if the Director certifies to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, that the rate of pay is for positions that perform functions that execute the cyber mission of the Agency; or

''(B) not to exceed the rate of basic pay payable for the Vice President of the United States under section 104 of title 3, United States Code, if the Director certifies to the Secretary of Defense, by name, individuals that have advanced skills and competencies and that perform critical functions that execute the cyber mission of the Agency.

''(2) PAY LIMITATION.—Employees receiving a special rate under paragraph (1) shall be subject to an aggregate pay limitation that parallels the limitation established in section 5307 of title 5, United States Code, except that—

''(A) any allowance, differential, bonus, award, or other similar cash payment in addition to basic pay that is authorized under title 10, United States Code, (or any other applicable law in addition to title 5 of such Code, excluding the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.)) shall also be counted as part of aggregate compensation; and

''(B) aggregate compensation may not exceed the rate established for the Vice President of the United States under section 104 of title 3, United States Code.

''(3) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS.—The number of individuals who receive basic pay established under paragraph (1)(B) may not exceed 100 at any time.

''(4) LIMITATION ON USE AS COMPARATIVE REFERENCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, special rates of pay and the limitation established under paragraph (1)(B)

may not be used as comparative references for the purpose of fixing the rates of basic pay or maximum pay limitations of qualified positions under section 1599f of title 10, United States Code, or section 226 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 147).'';

(4) in subsection (c), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''A minimum'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (b), a minimum'';

(5) in subsection (d), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by inserting ''or (b)'' after ''by subsection (a)''; and

(6) in subsection (g), as redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017'' and inserting ''Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting ''or (b)'' after ''subsection (a)''.

SEC. 304. MODIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

Section 103G(a) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3032(a)) is amended by striking ''President'' and inserting ''Director''.

SEC. 305. DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE REVIEW OF PLACEMENT OF POSITIONS WITHIN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY ON THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.

(a) REVIEW.—The Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall conduct a review of positions within the intelligence community regarding the placement of such positions on the Executive Schedule under subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code. In carrying out such review, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall determine—

(1) the standards under which such review will be conducted;

(2) which positions should or should not be on the Executive Schedule; and

(3) for those positions that should be on the Executive Schedule, the level of the Executive Schedule at which such positions should be placed.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the review under subsection (a) is completed, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives an unredacted report describing the standards by which the review was conducted and the outcome of the review.

SEC. 306. SUPPLY CHAIN AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE RISK MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE.

(a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the following:

(1) The congressional intelligence committees.

(2) The Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(3) The Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(b) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH.—The Director of National Intelligence shall establish a Supply Chain and Counterintelligence Risk Management Task Force to standardize information sharing between the intelligence community and the acquisition community of the United States Government with respect to the supply chain and counterintelligence risks.

(c) MEMBERS.—The Supply Chain and Counterintelligence Risk Management Task Force established under subsection (b) shall be composed of—

(1) a representative of the Defense Security Service of the Department of Defense;

(2) a representative of the General Services Administration;

(3) a representative of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy of the Office of Management and Budget;

(4) a representative of the Department of Homeland Security;

(5) a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

(6) the Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center; and

(7) any other members the Director of National Intelligence determines appropriate.

(d) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Each member of the Supply Chain and Counterintelligence Risk Management Task Force established under subsection (b) shall have a security clearance at the top secret level and be able to access sensitive compartmented information.

(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Supply Chain and Counterintelligence Risk Management Task Force established under subsection (b) shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual report that describes the activities of the Task Force during the previous year, including identification of the supply chain and counterintelligence risks shared with the acquisition community of the United States Government by the intelligence community.

SEC. 307. CONSIDERATION OF ADVERSARIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CYBERSECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE WHEN SHARING INTELLIGENCE WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND ENTITIES.

Whenever the head of an element of the intelligence community enters into an intelligence sharing agreement with a foreign government or any other foreign entity, the head of the element shall consider the pervasiveness of telecommunications and cybersecurity infrastructure, equipment, and services provided by adversaries of the United States, particularly China and Russia, or entities of such adversaries in the country or region of the foreign government or other foreign entity entering into the agreement.

SEC. 308. CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT FOR THE PERSONNEL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IN POSITIONS HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO CYBER ATTACK.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) PERSONAL ACCOUNTS.—The term ''personal accounts'' means accounts for online and telecommunications services, including telephone, residential Internet access, email, text and multimedia messaging, cloud computing, social media, health care, and financial services, used by personnel of the intelligence community outside of the scope of their employment with elements of the intelligence community.

(2) PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES.—The term ''personal technology devices'' means technology devices used by personnel of the intelligence community outside of the scope of their employment with elements of the intelligence community, including networks to which such devices connect.

(b) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to a determination by the Director of National Intelligence, the Director may provide cyber protection support for the personal technology devices and personal accounts of the personnel described in paragraph (2).

(2) AT-RISK PERSONNEL.—The personnel described in this paragraph are personnel of the intelligence community—

(A) who the Director determines to be highly vulnerable to cyber attacks and hostile information collection activities because of the positions occupied by such personnel in the intelligence community; and

(B) whose personal technology devices or personal accounts are highly vulnerable to cyber attacks and hostile information collection activities.

(c) NATURE OF CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT.—Subject to the availability of resources, the cyber protection support provided to personnel under subsection (b) may include training, advice, assistance, and other services relating to cyber attacks and hostile information collection activities.

(d) LIMITATION ON SUPPORT.—Nothing in this section shall be construed—

(1) to encourage personnel of the intelligence community to use personal technology devices for official business; or

(2) to authorize cyber protection support for senior intelligence community personnel using personal devices, networks, and personal accounts in an official capacity.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the provision of cyber protection support under subsection (b). The report shall include—

(1) a description of the methodology used to make the determination under subsection (b)(2); and

(2) guidance for the use of cyber protection support and tracking of support requests for personnel receiving cyber protection support under subsection (b).

SEC. 309. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO MANAGEMENT OF SUPPLY-CHAIN RISK.

(a) MODIFICATION OF EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (f) of section 309 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–87; 50 U.S.C. 3329 note) is amended by striking ''the date that is 180 days after''.

(b) REPEAL OF SUNSET.—Such section is amended by striking subsection (g).

(c) REPORTS.—Such section, as amended by subsection (b), is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f), as amended by subsection (a), as subsection (g); and

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

''(f) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 and not less frequently than once each calendar year thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall, in consultation with each head of a covered agency, submit to the congressional intelligence committees (as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)), a report that details the determinations and notifications made under subsection (c) during the most recently completed calendar year.

''(2) INITIAL REPORT.—The first report submitted under paragraph (1) shall detail all the determinations and notifications made under subsection (c) before the date of the submittal of the report.''.

SEC. 310. LIMITATIONS ON DETERMINATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN SECURITY CLASSIFICATIONS.

(a) PROHIBITION.—An officer of an element of the intelligence community who has been

nominated by the President for a position that requires the advice and consent of the Senate may not make a classification decision with respect to information related to such officer's nomination.

(b) CLASSIFICATION DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), in a case in which an officer described in subsection (a) has been nominated as described in such subsection and classification authority rests with the officer or another officer who reports directly to such officer, a classification decision with respect to information relating to the officer shall be made by the Director of National Intelligence.

(2) NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—In a case described in paragraph (1) in which the officer nominated is the Director of National Intelligence, the classification decision shall be made by the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

(c) REPORTS.—Whenever the Director or the Principal Deputy Director makes a decision under subsection (b), the Director or the Principal Deputy Director, as the case may be, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report detailing the reasons for the decision.

SEC. 311. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

(a) MEETINGS.—Section 101A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3022(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''regular''; and

(2) by inserting ''as the Director considers appropriate'' after ''Council''.

(b) REPORT ON FUNCTION AND UTILITY OF THE JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY COUNCIL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Executive Office of the President and members of the Joint Intelligence Community Council, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the function and utility of the Joint Intelligence Community Council.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The number of physical or virtual meetings held by the Council per year since the Council's inception.

(B) A description of the effect and accomplishments of the Council.

(C) An explanation of the unique role of the Council relative to other entities, including with respect to the National Security Council and the Executive Committee of the intelligence community.

(D) Recommendations for the future role and operation of the Council.

(E) Such other matters relating to the function and utility of the Council as the Director considers appropriate.

(3) FORM.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 312. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENVIRONMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CORE SERVICE.—The term ''core service'' means a capability that is available to multiple elements of the intelligence community and required for consistent operation of the intelligence community information technology environment.

(2) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENVIRONMENT.—The term ''intelligence community information technology environment'' means all of the information technology services across the intelligence community, including the data sharing and protection environment across multiple classification domains.

(b) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—The Director of National Intelligence shall be responsible for coordinating the performance by elements of the intelligence community of the intelligence community information technology environment, including each of the following:

(A) Ensuring compliance with all applicable environment rules and regulations of such environment.

(B) Ensuring measurable performance goals exist for such environment.

(C) Documenting standards and practices of such environment.

(D) Acting as an arbiter among elements of the intelligence community related to any disagreements arising out of the implementation of such environment.

(E) Delegating responsibilities to the elements of the intelligence community and carrying out such other responsibilities as are necessary for the effective implementation of such environment.

(2) CORE SERVICE PROVIDERS.—Providers of core services shall be responsible for—

(A) providing core services, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence; and

(B) providing the Director with information requested and required to fulfill the responsibilities of the Director under paragraph (1).

(3) USE OF CORE SERVICES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), each element of the intelligence community shall use core services when such services are available.

(B) EXCEPTION.—The Director of National Intelligence may provide for a written exception to the requirement under subparagraph (A) if the Director determines there is a compelling financial or mission need for such exception.

(c) MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall designate and maintain one or more accountable executives of the intelligence community information technology environment to be responsible for—

(1) management, financial control, and integration of such environment;

(2) overseeing the performance of each core service, including establishing measurable service requirements and schedules;

(3) to the degree feasible, ensuring testing of each core service of such environment, including testing by the intended users, to evaluate performance against measurable service requirements and to ensure the capability meets user requirements; and

(4) coordinate transition or restructuring efforts of such environment, including phase-out of legacy systems.

(d) SECURITY PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall develop and maintain a security plan for the intelligence community information technology environment.

(e) LONG-TERM ROADMAP.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and during each of the second and fourth fiscal quarters thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a long-term roadmap that shall include each of the following:

(1) A description of the minimum required and desired core service requirements, including—

(A) key performance parameters; and

(B) an assessment of current, measured performance.

(2) implementation milestones for the intelligence community information technology environment, including each of the following:

(A) A schedule for expected deliveries of core service capabilities during each of the following phases:

(i) Concept refinement and technology maturity demonstration.

(ii) Development, integration, and demonstration.

(iii) Production, deployment, and sustainment.

(iv) System retirement.

(B) Dependencies of such core service capabilities.

(C) Plans for the transition or restructuring necessary to incorporate core service capabilities.

(D) A description of any legacy systems and discontinued capabilities to be phased out.

(3) Such other matters as the Director determines appropriate.

(f) BUSINESS PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and during each of the second and fourth fiscal quarters thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a business plan that includes each of the following:

(1) A systematic approach to identify core service funding requests for the intelligence community information technology environment within the proposed budget, including multiyear plans to implement the long-term roadmap required by subsection (e).

(2) A uniform approach by which each element of the intelligence community shall identify the cost of legacy information technology or alternative capabilities where services of the intelligence community information technology environment will also be available.

(3) A uniform effort by which each element of the intelligence community shall identify transition and restructuring costs for new, existing, and retiring services of the intelligence community information technology environment, as well as services of such environment that have changed designations as a core service.

(g) QUARTERLY PRESENTATIONS.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall provide to the congressional intelligence committees quarterly updates regarding ongoing implementation of the intelligence community information technology environment as compared to the requirements in the most recently submitted security plan required by subsection (d), long-term roadmap required by subsection (e), and business plan required by subsection (f).

(h) ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATIONS.—The Director of National Intelligence shall provide timely notification to the congressional intelligence committees regarding any policy changes related to or affecting the intelligence community information technology environment, new initiatives or strategies related to or impacting such environment, and changes or deficiencies in the execution of the security plan required by subsection (d), long-term roadmap required by subsection (e), and business plan required by subsection (f)

(i) SUNSET.—The section shall have no effect on or after September 30, 2024.

SEC. 313. REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF SECURE MOBILE VOICE SOLUTION FOR INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Director of the National Security Agency, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a

classified report on the feasibility, desirability, cost, and required schedule associated with the implementation of a secure mobile voice solution for the intelligence community.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) The benefits and disadvantages of a secure mobile voice solution.

(2) Whether the intelligence community could leverage commercially available technology for classified voice communications that operates on commercial mobile networks in a secure manner and identifying the accompanying security risks to such networks.

(3) A description of any policies or community guidance that would be necessary to govern the potential solution, such as a process for determining the appropriate use of a secure mobile telephone and any limitations associated with such use.

SEC. 314. POLICY ON MINIMUM INSIDER THREAT STANDARDS.

(a) POLICY REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall establish a policy for minimum insider threat standards that is consistent with the National Insider Threat Policy and Minimum Standards for Executive Branch Insider Threat Programs.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each element of the intelligence community shall implement the policy established under subsection (a).

SEC. 315. SUBMISSION OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY POLICIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELECTRONIC REPOSITORY.—The term ''electronic repository'' means the electronic distribution mechanism, in use as of the date of the enactment of this Act, or any successor electronic distribution mechanism, by which the Director of National Intelligence submits to the congressional intelligence committees information.

(2) POLICY.—The term ''policy'', with respect to the intelligence community, includes unclassified or classified—

(A) directives, policy guidance, and policy memoranda of the intelligence community;

(B) executive correspondence of the Director of National Intelligence; and

(C) any equivalent successor policy instruments.

(b) SUBMISSION OF POLICIES.—

(1) CURRENT POLICY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees using the electronic repository all nonpublicly available policies issued by the Director of National Intelligence for the intelligence community that are in effect as of the date of the submission.

(2) CONTINUOUS UPDATES.—Not later than 15 days after the date on which the Director of National Intelligence issues, modifies, or rescinds a policy of the intelligence community, the Director shall—

(A) notify the congressional intelligence committees of such addition, modification, or removal; and

(B) update the electronic repository with respect to such addition, modification, or removal.

SEC. 316. EXPANSION OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY RECRUITMENT EFFORTS.

In order to further increase the diversity of the intelligence community workforce, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with heads of elements of the Intelligence Community, shall create, implement, and submit to the congressional intelligence committees a written plan to ensure that rural and underrepresented regions are more fully and consistently represented in such elements' employment recruitment efforts. Upon receipt of the plan, the congressional committees shall have 60 days to submit comments to the Director of National Intelligence before such plan shall be implemented.

TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Subtitle A—Office of the Director of National Intelligence

SEC. 401. AUTHORITY FOR PROTECTION OF CURRENT AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Section 5(a)(4) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3506(a)(4)) is amended by striking ''such personnel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence as the Director of National Intelligence may designate;'' and inserting ''current and former personnel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and their immediate families as the Director of National Intelligence may designate;''.

SEC. 402. DESIGNATION OF THE PROGRAM MANAGER-INFORMATION SHARING ENVIRONMENT.

(a) INFORMATION SHARING ENVIRONMENT.—Section 1016(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''President'' and inserting ''Director of National Intelligence''; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''President'' both places that term appears and inserting ''Director of National Intelligence''.

(b) PROGRAM MANAGER.—Section 1016(f)(1) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485(f)(1)) is amended by striking ''The individual designated as the program manager shall serve as program manager until removed from service or replaced by the President (at the President's sole discretion).'' and inserting ''Beginning on the date of the enactment of the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019, each individual designated as the program manager shall be appointed by the Director of National Intelligence.''.

SEC. 403. TECHNICAL MODIFICATION TO THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.

Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''.

SEC. 404. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

Section 103I(a) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3034(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The Chief Financial Officer shall report directly to the Director of National Intelligence.''.

SEC. 405. CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

Section 103G(a) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3032(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The Chief Information Officer shall report directly to the Director of National Intelligence.''.

Subtitle B—Central Intelligence Agency

SEC. 411. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SUBSISTENCE FOR PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO AUSTERE LOCATIONS.

Subsection (a) of section 5 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3506) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''(50 U.S.C. 403–4a).,'' and inserting ''(50 U.S.C. 403–4a),'';

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(3) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraph (8):

''(8) Upon the approval of the Director, provide, during any fiscal year, with or without reimbursement, subsistence to any personnel assigned to an overseas location designated by the Agency as an austere location.''.

SEC. 412. SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MONTHLY WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYMENTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS FOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 19 the following new section:

''SEC. 19A. SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS INJURED BY REASON OF WAR, INSURGENCY, HOSTILE ACT, OR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED DEPENDENT.—The term 'covered dependent' means a family member (as defined by the Director) of a covered employee who, on or after September 11, 2001—

''(A) accompanies the covered employee to an assigned duty station in a foreign country; and

''(B) becomes injured by reason of a qualifying injury.

''(2) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—The term 'covered employee' means an officer or employee of the Central Intelligence Agency who, on or after September 11, 2001, becomes injured by reason of a qualifying injury.

''(3) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'covered individual' means an individual who—

''(A)(i) is detailed to the Central Intelligence Agency from other agencies of the United States Government or from the Armed Forces; or

''(ii) is affiliated with the Central Intelligence Agency, as determined by the Director; and

''(B) who, on or after September 11, 2001, becomes injured by reason of a qualifying injury.

''(4) QUALIFYING INJURY.—The term 'qualifying injury' means the following:

''(A) With respect to a covered dependent, an injury incurred—

''(i) during war, insurgency, hostile act, or terrorist activities occurring during a period in which the covered dependent is accompanying the covered employee to an assigned duty station in a foreign country; and

''(ii) that was not the result of the willful misconduct of the covered dependent.

''(B) With respect to a covered employee or a covered individual, an injury incurred—

''(i) during war, insurgency, hostile act, or terrorist activities occurring during a period of assignment to a duty station in a foreign country; and

''(ii) that was not the result of the willful misconduct of the covered employee or the covered individual.

''(b) ADJUSTMENT OF COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN INJURIES.—

''(1) INCREASE.—The Director may increase the amount of monthly compensation paid to a covered employee under section 8105 of title 5, United States Code. Subject to paragraph (2), the Director may determine the amount of each such increase by taking into account—

''(A) the severity of the qualifying injury;

''(B) the circumstances by which the covered employee became injured; and

''(C) the seniority of the covered employee.

''(2) MAXIMUM.—Notwithstanding chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, the total

amount of monthly compensation increased under paragraph (1) may not exceed the monthly pay of the maximum rate of basic pay for GS–15 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title.

''(c) COSTS FOR TREATING QUALIFYING INJURIES.—The Director may pay the costs of treating a qualifying injury of a covered employee, a covered individual, or a covered dependent, or may reimburse a covered employee, a covered individual, or a covered dependent for such costs, that are not otherwise covered by chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, or other provision of Federal law.

''(d) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS.—For purposes of section 104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, amounts paid pursuant to this section shall be treated as amounts paid under chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency shall—

(1) prescribe regulations ensuring the fair and equitable implementation of section 19A of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as added by subsection (a); and

(2) submit to the congressional intelligence committees such regulations.

(c) APPLICATION.—Section 19A of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to—

(1) payments made to covered employees (as defined in such section) under section 8105 of title 5, United States Code, beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) treatment described in subsection (b) of such section 19A occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 413. EXPANSION OF SECURITY PROTECTIVE SERVICE JURISDICTION OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

Subsection (a) of section 15 of the Central Intelligence Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3515(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''POLICEMEN'' and inserting ''POLICE OFFICERS''; and

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''500 feet;'' and inserting ''500 yards;''; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''500 feet.'' and inserting ''500 yards.''.

SEC. 414. REPEAL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN SENIOR LEVEL POSITIONS IN THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

(a) REPEAL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT.—Section 104A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3036) is amended by striking subsection (g).

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL OF REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Section 611 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108–487) is amended by striking subsection (c).

Subtitle C—Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence of Department of Energy

SEC. 421. CONSOLIDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICES OF INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 215 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7144b) is amended to read as follows:

''OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

''SEC. 215. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms 'intelligence community' and 'National Intelligence Program' have the meanings given such terms in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

''(b) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Department an Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence. Such office shall be under the National Intelligence Program.

''(c) DIRECTOR.—(1) The head of the Office shall be the Director of the Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence, who shall be an employee in the Senior Executive Service, the Senior Intelligence Service, the Senior National Intelligence Service, or any other Service that the Secretary, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, considers appropriate. The Director of the Office shall report directly to the Secretary.

''(2) The Secretary shall select an individual to serve as the Director from among individuals who have substantial expertise in matters relating to the intelligence community, including foreign intelligence and counterintelligence.

''(d) DUTIES.—(1) Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary, the Director shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(2) The Director shall be responsible for establishing policy for intelligence and counterintelligence programs and activities at the Department.''.

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 216 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7144c) is hereby repealed.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents at the beginning of the Department of Energy Organization Act is amended by striking the items relating to sections 215 and 216 and inserting the following new item:

''215. Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence.''.

SEC. 422. ESTABLISHMENT OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY CENTER.

Section 215 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7144b), as amended by section 421, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY CENTER.—(1)(A) The President shall establish an Energy Infrastructure Security Center, taking into account all appropriate government tools to analyze and disseminate intelligence relating to the security of the energy infrastructure of the United States.

''(B) The Secretary shall appoint the head of the Energy Infrastructure Security Center.

''(C) The Energy Infrastructure Security Center shall be located within the Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence.

''(2) In establishing the Energy Infrastructure Security Center, the Director of the Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence shall address the following missions and objectives to coordinate and disseminate intelligence relating to the security of the energy infrastructure of the United States:

''(A) Establishing a primary organization within the United States Government for analyzing and integrating all intelligence possessed or acquired by the United States pertaining to the security of the energy infrastructure of the United States.

''(B) Ensuring that appropriate departments and agencies have full access to and receive intelligence support needed to execute the plans or activities of the agencies, and perform independent, alternative analyses.

''(C) Establishing a central repository on known and suspected foreign threats to the energy infrastructure of the United States, including with respect to any individuals, groups, or entities engaged in activities targeting such infrastructure, and the goals, strategies, capabilities, and networks of such individuals, groups, or entities.

''(D) Disseminating intelligence information relating to the security of the energy infrastructure of the United States, including threats and analyses, to the President, to the appropriate departments and agencies, and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

''(3) The President may waive the requirements of this subsection, and any parts thereof, if the President determines that such requirements do not materially improve the ability of the United States Government to prevent and halt attacks against the energy infrastructure of the United States. Such waiver shall be made in writing to Congress and shall include a description of how the missions and objectives in paragraph (2) are being met.

''(4) If the President decides not to exercise the waiver authority granted by paragraph (3), the President shall submit to Congress from time to time updates and plans regarding the establishment of an Energy Infrastructure Security Center.''.

SEC. 423. REPEAL OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY INTELLIGENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

Section 214 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7144a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(a) DUTY OF SECRETARY.—''; and

(2) by striking subsections (b) and (c).

Subtitle D—Other Elements

SEC. 431. PLAN FOR DESIGNATION OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE COMPONENT OF DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE AS AN ELEMENT OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence and Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a plan to designate the counterintelligence component of the Defense Security Service of the Department of Defense as an element of the intelligence community by not later than January 1, 2019. Such plan shall—

(1) address the implications of such designation on the authorities, governance, personnel, resources, information technology, collection, analytic products, information sharing, and business processes of the Defense Security Service and the intelligence community; and

(2) not address the personnel security functions of the Defense Security Service.

SEC. 432. NOTICE NOT REQUIRED FOR PRIVATE ENTITIES.

Section 3553 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection (k); and

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

''(j) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Secretary to provide notice to any private entity before the Secretary issues a binding operational directive under subsection (b)(2).''.

SEC. 433. FRAMEWORK FOR ROLES, MISSIONS, AND FUNCTIONS OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly establish a framework to ensure the appropriate balance of resources for the roles, missions, and functions of the Defense Intelligence Agency in its capacity as an element of the intelligence community and as a combat support agency. The framework shall include supporting processes to provide for the consistent and regular reevaluation of

the responsibilities and resources of the Defense Intelligence Agency to prevent imbalanced priorities, insufficient or misaligned resources, and the unauthorized expansion of mission parameters.

(b) MATTERS FOR INCLUSION.—The framework required under subsection (a) shall include each of the following:

(1) A lexicon providing for consistent definitions of relevant terms used by both the intelligence community and the Department of Defense, including each of the following:

(A) Defense intelligence enterprise.

(B) Enterprise manager.

(C) Executive agent.

(D) Function.

(E) Functional manager.

(F) Mission.

(G) Mission manager.

(H) Responsibility.

(I) Role.

(J) Service of common concern.

(2) An assessment of the necessity of maintaining separate designations for the intelligence community and the Department of Defense for intelligence functional or enterprise management constructs.

(3) A repeatable process for evaluating the addition, transfer, or elimination of defense intelligence missions, roles, and functions, currently performed or to be performed in the future by the Defense Intelligence Agency, which includes each of the following:

(A) A justification for the addition, transfer, or elimination of a mission, role, or function.

(B) The identification of which, if any, element of the Federal Government performs the considered mission, role, or function.

(C) In the case of any new mission, role, or function—

(i) an assessment of the most appropriate agency or element to perform such mission, role, or function, taking into account the resource profiles, scope of responsibilities, primary customers, and existing infrastructure necessary to support such mission, role, or function; and

(ii) a determination of the appropriate resource profile and an identification of the projected resources needed and the proposed source of such resources over the future-years defense program, to be provided in writing to any elements of the intelligence community or the Department of Defense affected by the assumption, transfer, or elimination of any mission, role, or function.

(D) In the case of any mission, role, or function proposed to be assumed, transferred, or eliminated, an assessment, which shall be completed jointly by the heads of each element affected by such assumption, transfer, or elimination, of the risks that would be assumed by the intelligence community and the Department if such mission, role, or function is assumed, transferred, or eliminated.

(E) A description of how determinations are made regarding the funding of programs and activities under the National Intelligence Program and the Military Intelligence Program, including—

(i) which programs or activities are funded under each such Program;

(ii) which programs or activities should be jointly funded under both such Programs and how determinations are made with respect to funding allocations for such programs and activities; and

(iii) the thresholds and process for changing a program or activity from being funded under one such Program to being funded under the other such Program.

SEC. 434. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY BOARD FOR NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 106A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3041a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) ADVISORY BOARD.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the National Reconnaissance Office an advisory board (in this section referred to as the 'Board').

''(2) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

''(A) study matters relating to the mission of the National Reconnaissance Office, including with respect to promoting innovation, competition, and resilience in space, overhead reconnaissance, acquisition, and other matters; and

''(B) advise and report directly to the Director with respect to such matters.

''(3) MEMBERS.—

''(A) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall be composed of 5 members appointed by the Director from among individuals with demonstrated academic, government, business, or other expertise relevant to the mission and functions of the National Reconnaissance Office.

''(ii) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Director appoints a member to the Board, the Director shall notify the congressional intelligence committees and the congressional defense committees (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code) of such appointment.

''(B) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for a term of 2 years. Except as provided by subparagraph (C), a member may not serve more than 3 terms.

''(C) VACANCY.—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of that term. A member may serve after the expiration of that member's term until a successor has taken office.

''(D) CHAIR.—The Board shall have a Chair, who shall be appointed by the Director from among the members.

''(E) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

''(F) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.—The Director may appoint an executive secretary, who shall be an employee of the National Reconnaissance Office, to support the Board.

''(4) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet not less than quarterly, but may meet more frequently at the call of the Director.

''(5) REPORTS.—Not later than March 31 of each year, the Board shall submit to the Director and to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the activities and significant findings of the Board during the preceding year.

''(6) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Board.

''(7) TERMINATION.—The Board shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after the date of the first meeting of the Board.''.

(b) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office shall appoint the initial 5 members to the advisory board under subsection (d) of section 106A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3041a), as added by subsection (a).

SEC. 435. COLLOCATION OF CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PERSONNEL AT FIELD LOCATIONS.

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLOCATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis shall identify, in consultation with the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the heads of such other elements of the Department of Homeland Security as the Under Secretary considers appropriate, opportunities for collocation of officers of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis in the field outside of the greater Washington, District of Columbia, area in order to support operational units from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and other elements of the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) PLAN FOR COLLOCATION.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that includes a plan for collocation as described in subsection (a).

TITLE V—ELECTION MATTERS

SEC. 501. REPORT ON CYBER ATTACKS BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AGAINST UNITED STATES ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(E) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.—The term ''congressional leadership'' includes the following:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate.

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) STATE.—The term ''State'' means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis shall submit to congressional leadership and the appropriate congressional committees a report on cyber attacks and attempted cyber attacks by foreign governments on United States election infrastructure in States and localities in connection with the 2016 Presidential election in the United States and such cyber attacks or attempted cyber attacks as the Under Secretary anticipates against such infrastructure. Such report shall identify the States and localities affected and shall include cyber attacks and attempted cyber attacks against voter registration databases, voting machines, voting-related computer networks, and the networks of Secretaries of State and other election officials of the various States.

(c) FORM.—The report submitted under subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 502. REVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY'S POSTURE TO COLLECT AGAINST AND ANALYZE RUSSIAN EFFORTS TO INFLUENCE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this

Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall—

(1) complete an after action review of the posture of the intelligence community to collect against and analyze efforts of the Government of Russia to interfere in the 2016 Presidential election in the United States; and

(2) submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the findings of the Director with respect to such review.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The review required by subsection (a) shall include, with respect to the posture and efforts described in paragraph (1) of such subsection, the following:

(1) An assessment of whether the resources of the intelligence community were properly aligned to detect and respond to the efforts described in subsection (a)(1).

(2) An assessment of the information sharing that occurred within elements of the intelligence community.

(3) An assessment of the information sharing that occurred between elements of the intelligence community.

(4) An assessment of applicable authorities necessary to collect on any such efforts and any deficiencies in those authorities.

(5) A review of the use of open source material to inform analysis and warning of such efforts.

(6) A review of the use of alternative and predictive analysis.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (a)(2) shall be submitted to the congressional intelligence committees in a classified form.

SEC. 503. ASSESSMENT OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE THREATS TO FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.—The term ''congressional leadership'' includes the following:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate.

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The term ''security vulnerability'' has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director of the National Security Agency, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the heads of other relevant elements of the intelligence community, shall—

(1) commence not later than 1 year before any regularly scheduled Federal election occurring after December 31, 2018, and complete not later than 180 days before such election, an assessment of security vulnerabilities of State election systems; and

(2) not later than 180 days before any regularly scheduled Federal election occurring after December 31, 2018, submit a report on such security vulnerabilities and an assessment of foreign intelligence threats to the election to—

(A) congressional leadership; and

(B) the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) UPDATE.—Not later than 90 days before any regularly scheduled Federal election occurring after December 31, 2018, the Director of National Intelligence shall—

(1) update the assessment of foreign intelligence threats to that election; and

(2) submit the updated assessment to—

(A) congressional leadership; and

(B) the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 504. STRATEGY FOR COUNTERING RUSSIAN CYBER THREATS TO UNITED STATES ELECTIONS.

(a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the following:

(1) The congressional intelligence committees.

(2) The Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(3) The Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(4) The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(5) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR A STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall develop a whole-of-government strategy for countering the threat of Russian cyber attacks and attempted cyber attacks against electoral systems and processes in the United States, including Federal, State, and local election systems, voter registration databases, voting tabulation equipment, and equipment and processes for the secure transmission of election results.

(c) ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY.—The strategy required by subsection (b) shall include the following elements:

(1) A whole-of-government approach to protecting United States electoral systems and processes that includes the agencies and departments indicated in subsection (b) as well as any other agencies and departments of the United States, as determined appropriate by the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(2) Input solicited from Secretaries of State of the various States and the chief election officials of the States.

(3) Technical security measures, including auditable paper trails for voting machines, securing wireless and Internet connections, and other technical safeguards.

(4) Detection of cyber threats, including attacks and attempted attacks by Russian government or nongovernment cyber threat actors.

(5) Improvements in the identification and attribution of Russian government or nongovernment cyber threat actors.

(6) Deterrence, including actions and measures that could or should be undertaken against or communicated to the Government of Russia or other entities to deter attacks against, or interference with, United States election systems and processes.

(7) Improvements in Federal Government communications with State and local election officials.

(8) Public education and communication efforts.

(9) Benchmarks and milestones to enable the measurement of concrete steps taken and progress made in the implementation of the strategy.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly brief the appropriate congressional committees on the strategy developed under subsection (b).

SEC. 505. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANT RUSSIAN INFLUENCE CAMPAIGNS DIRECTED AT FOREIGN ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA.

(a) RUSSIAN INFLUENCE CAMPAIGN DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Russian influence campaign'' means any effort, covert or overt, and by any means, attributable to the Russian Federation directed at an election, referendum, or similar process in a country other than the Russian Federation or the United States.

(b) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report containing an analytical assessment of the most significant Russian influence campaigns, if any, conducted during the 3-year period preceding the date of the enactment of this Act, as well as the most significant current or planned such Russian influence campaigns, if any. Such assessment shall include—

(1) a summary of such significant Russian influence campaigns, including, at a minimum, the specific means by which such campaigns were conducted, are being conducted, or likely will be conducted, as appropriate, and the specific goal of each such campaign;

(2) a summary of any defenses against or responses to such Russian influence campaigns by the foreign state holding the elections or referenda;

(3) a summary of any relevant activities by elements of the intelligence community undertaken for the purpose of assisting the government of such foreign state in defending against or responding to such Russian influence campaigns; and

(4) an assessment of the effectiveness of such defenses and responses described in paragraphs (2) and (3).

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (b) may be submitted in classified form, but if so submitted, shall contain an unclassified summary.

SEC. 506. FOREIGN COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND CYBERSECURITY THREATS TO FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

(a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As provided in paragraph (2), for each Federal election, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall make publicly available on an Internet website an advisory report on foreign counterintelligence and cybersecurity threats to election campaigns for Federal offices. Each such report shall include, consistent with the protection of sources and methods, each of the following:

(A) A description of foreign counterintelligence and cybersecurity threats to election campaigns for Federal offices.

(B) A summary of best practices that election campaigns for Federal offices can employ in seeking to counter such threats.

(C) An identification of any publicly available resources, including United States Government resources, for countering such threats.

(2) SCHEDULE FOR SUBMITTAL.—A report under this subsection shall be made available as follows:

(A) In the case of a report regarding an election held for the office of Senator or Member of the House of Representatives during 2018, not later than the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) In the case of a report regarding an election for a Federal office during any subsequent year, not later than the date that is 1 year before the date of the election.

(3) INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED.—A report under this subsection shall reflect the most current information available to the Director of National Intelligence regarding foreign counterintelligence and cybersecurity threats.

(b) TREATMENT OF CAMPAIGNS SUBJECT TO HEIGHTENED THREATS.—If the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis jointly determine that an election campaign for Federal office is subject to a heightened foreign counterintelligence or cybersecurity threat, the Director and the Under Secretary, consistent with the protection of sources and methods, may make available additional information to the appropriate representatives of such campaign.

SEC. 507. INFORMATION SHARING WITH STATE ELECTION OFFICIALS.

(a) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''State'' means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(b) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall support the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis, and any other official of the Department of Homeland Security designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in sponsoring a security clearance up to the top secret level for each eligible chief election official of a State or the District of Columbia, and additional eligible designees of such election official as appropriate, at the time that such election official assumes such position.

(2) INTERIM CLEARANCES.—Consistent with applicable policies and directives, the Director of National Intelligence may issue interim clearances, for a period to be determined by the Director, to a chief election official as described in paragraph (1) and up to 1 designee of such official under such paragraph.

(c) INFORMATION SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence shall assist the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis and the Under Secretary responsible for overseeing critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity, and other related programs of the Department (as specified in section 103(a)(1)(H) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113(a)(1)(H))) with sharing any appropriate classified information related to threats to election systems and to the integrity of the election process with chief election officials and such designees who have received a security clearance under subsection (b).

(2) COORDINATION.—The Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis shall coordinate with the Director of National Intelligence and the Under Secretary responsible for overseeing critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity, and other related programs of the Department (as specified in section 103(a)(1)(H) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113(a)(1)(H))) to facilitate the sharing of information to the affected Secretaries of State or States.

SEC. 508. NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN CYBER INTRUSIONS AND ACTIVE MEASURES CAMPAIGNS DIRECTED AT ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ACTIVE MEASURES CAMPAIGN.—The term ''active measures campaign'' means a foreign semi-covert or covert intelligence operation.

(2) CANDIDATE, ELECTION, AND POLITICAL PARTY.—The terms ''candidate'', ''election'', and ''political party'' have the meanings given those terms in section 301 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101).

(3) CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.—The term ''congressional leadership'' includes the following:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate.

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(4) CYBER INTRUSION.—The term ''cyber intrusion'' means an electronic occurrence that actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, electronic election infrastructure, or the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of information within such infrastructure.

(5) ELECTRONIC ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term ''electronic election infrastructure'' means an electronic information system of any of the following that is related to an election for Federal office:

(A) The Federal Government.

(B) A State or local government.

(C) A political party.

(D) The election campaign of a candidate.

(6) FEDERAL OFFICE.—The term ''Federal office'' has the meaning given that term in section 301 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101).

(7) HIGH CONFIDENCE.—The term ''high confidence'', with respect to a determination, means that the determination is based on high-quality information from multiple sources.

(8) MODERATE CONFIDENCE.—The term ''moderate confidence'', with respect to a determination, means that a determination is credibly sourced and plausible but not of sufficient quality or corroborated sufficiently to warrant a higher level of confidence.

(9) OTHER APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''other appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(b) DETERMINATIONS OF SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN CYBER INTRUSIONS AND ACTIVE MEASURES CAMPAIGNS.—The Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly carry out subsection (c) if such Directors and the Secretary jointly determine—

(1) that on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, a significant foreign cyber intrusion or active measures campaign intended to influence an upcoming election for any Federal office has occurred or is occurring; and

(2) with moderate or high confidence, that such intrusion or campaign can be attributed to a foreign state or to a foreign nonstate person, group, or other entity.

(c) BRIEFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 14 days after making a determination under subsection (b), the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly provide a briefing to the congressional leadership, the congressional intelligence committees and, consistent with the protection of sources and methods, the other appropriate congressional committees. The briefing shall be classified and address, at a minimum, the following:

(A) A description of the significant foreign cyber intrusion or active measures campaign, as the case may be, covered by the determination.

(B) An identification of the foreign state or foreign nonstate person, group, or other entity, to which such intrusion or campaign has been attributed.

(C) The desirability and feasibility of the public release of information about the cyber intrusion or active measures campaign.

(D) Any other information such Directors and the Secretary jointly determine appropriate.

(2) ELECTRONIC ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE BRIEFINGS.—With respect to a significant foreign cyber intrusion covered by a determination under subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall offer to the owner or operator of any electronic election infrastructure directly affected by such intrusion, a briefing on such intrusion, including steps that may be taken to mitigate such intrusion. Such briefing may be classified and made available only to individuals with appropriate security clearances.

(3) PROTECTION OF SOURCES AND METHODS.—This subsection shall be carried out in a manner that is consistent with the protection of sources and methods.

SEC. 509. DESIGNATION OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE OFFICER TO LEAD ELECTION SECURITY MATTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence shall designate a national counterintelligence officer within the National Counterintelligence and Security Center to lead, manage, and coordinate counterintelligence matters relating to election security.

(b) ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—The person designated under subsection (a) shall also lead, manage, and coordinate counterintelligence matters relating to risks posed by interference from foreign powers (as defined in section 101 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801)) to the following:

(1) The Federal Government election security supply chain.

(2) Election voting systems and software.

(3) Voter registration databases.

(4) Critical infrastructure related to elections.

(5) Such other Government goods and services as the Director of National Intelligence considers appropriate.

TITLE VI—SECURITY CLEARANCES

SEC. 601. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(H) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(2) APPROPRIATE INDUSTRY PARTNERS.—The term ''appropriate industry partner'' means

a contractor, licensee, or grantee (as defined in section 101(a) of Executive Order 12829 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to National Industrial Security Program)) that is participating in the National Industrial Security Program established by such Executive Order.

(3) CONTINUOUS VETTING.—The term ''continuous vetting'' has the meaning given such term in Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to reforming processes related to suitability for government employment, fitness for contractor employees, and eligibility for access to classified national security information).

(4) COUNCIL.—The term ''Council'' means the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Performance Accountability Council established pursuant to such Executive Order, or any successor entity.

(5) SECURITY EXECUTIVE AGENT.—The term ''Security Executive Agent'' means the officer serving as the Security Executive Agent pursuant to section 803 of the National Security Act of 1947, as added by section 605.

(6) SUITABILITY AND CREDENTIALING EXECUTIVE AGENT.—The term ''Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent'' means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management acting as the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent in accordance with Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to reforming processes related to suitability for government employment, fitness for contractor employees, and eligibility for access to classified national security information), or any successor entity.

SEC. 602. REPORTS AND PLANS RELATING TO SECURITY CLEARANCES AND BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) ensuring the trustworthiness and security of the workforce, facilities, and information of the Federal Government is of the highest priority to national security and public safety;

(2) the President and Congress should prioritize the modernization of the personnel security framework to improve its efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability;

(3) the current system for security clearance, suitability and fitness for employment, and credentialing lacks efficiencies and capabilities to meet the current threat environment, recruit and retain a trusted workforce, and capitalize on modern technologies; and

(4) changes to policies or processes to improve this system should be vetted through the Council to ensure standardization, portability, and reciprocity in security clearances across the Federal Government.

(b) ACCOUNTABILITY PLANS AND REPORTS.—

(1) PLANS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Council shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners the following:

(A) A plan, with milestones, to reduce the background investigation inventory to 200,000, or an otherwise sustainable steady-level, by the end of year 2020. Such plan shall include notes of any required changes in investigative and adjudicative standards or resources.

(B) A plan to consolidate the conduct of background investigations associated with the processing for security clearances in the most effective and efficient manner between the National Background Investigation Bureau and the Defense Security Service, or a successor organization. Such plan shall address required funding, personnel, contracts, information technology, field office structure, policy, governance, schedule, transition costs, and effects on stakeholders.

(2) REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF PERSONNEL SECURITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Council, in coordination with the members of the Council, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a report on the future of personnel security to reflect changes in threats, the workforce, and technology.

(B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) A risk framework for granting and renewing access to classified information.

(ii) A discussion of the use of technologies to prevent, detect, and monitor threats.

(iii) A discussion of efforts to address reciprocity and portability.

(iv) A discussion of the characteristics of effective insider threat programs.

(v) An analysis of how to integrate data from continuous evaluation, insider threat programs, and human resources data.

(vi) Recommendations on interagency governance.

(3) PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Council, in coordination with the members of the Council, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a plan to implement the report's framework and recommendations submitted under paragraph (2)(A).

(4) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATIONS.—Not less frequently than quarterly, the Security Executive Agent shall make available to the public a report regarding the status of the disposition of requests received from departments and agencies of the Federal Government for a change to, or approval under, the Federal investigative standards, the national adjudicative guidelines, continuous evaluation, or other national policy regarding personnel security.

SEC. 603. IMPROVING THE PROCESS FOR SECURITY CLEARANCES.

(a) REVIEWS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent, in coordination with the members of the Council, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a report that includes the following:

(1) A review of whether the information requested on the Questionnaire for National Security Positions (Standard Form 86) and by the Federal Investigative Standards prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence appropriately supports the adjudicative guidelines under Security Executive Agent Directive 4 (known as the ''National Security Adjudicative Guidelines''). Such review shall include identification of whether any such information currently collected is unnecessary to support the adjudicative guidelines.

(2) An assessment of whether such Questionnaire, Standards, and guidelines should be revised to account for the prospect of a holder of a security clearance becoming an insider threat.

(3) Recommendations to improve the background investigation process by—

(A) simplifying the Questionnaire for National Security Positions (Standard Form 86) and increasing customer support to applicants completing such Questionnaire;

(B) using remote techniques and centralized locations to support or replace field investigation work;

(C) using secure and reliable digitization of information obtained during the clearance process;

(D) building the capacity of the background investigation labor sector; and

(E) replacing periodic reinvestigations with continuous evaluation techniques in all appropriate circumstances.

(b) POLICY, STRATEGY, AND IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent shall, in coordination with the members of the Council, establish the following:

(1) A policy and implementation plan for the issuance of interim security clearances.

(2) A policy and implementation plan to ensure contractors are treated consistently in the security clearance process across agencies and departments of the United States as compared to employees of such agencies and departments. Such policy shall address—

(A) prioritization of processing security clearances based on the mission the contractors will be performing;

(B) standardization in the forms that agencies issue to initiate the process for a security clearance;

(C) digitization of background investigation-related forms;

(D) use of the polygraph;

(E) the application of the adjudicative guidelines under Security Executive Agent Directive 4 (known as the ''National Security Adjudicative Guidelines'');

(F) reciprocal recognition of clearances across agencies and departments of the United States, regardless of status of periodic reinvestigation;

(G) tracking of clearance files as individuals move from employment with an agency or department of the United States to employment in the private sector;

(H) collection of timelines for movement of contractors across agencies and departments;

(I) reporting on security incidents and job performance, consistent with section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Privacy Act of 1974''), that may affect the ability to hold a security clearance;

(J) any recommended changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) necessary to ensure that information affecting contractor clearances or suitability is appropriately and expeditiously shared between and among agencies and contractors; and

(K) portability of contractor security clearances between or among contracts at the same agency and between or among contracts at different agencies that require the same level of clearance.

(3) A strategy and implementation plan that—

(A) provides for periodic reinvestigations as part of a security clearance determination only on an as-needed, risk-based basis;

(B) includes actions to assess the extent to which automated records checks and other continuous evaluation methods may be used to expedite or focus reinvestigations; and

(C) provides an exception for certain populations if the Security Executive Agent—

(i) determines such populations require reinvestigations at regular intervals; and

(ii) provides written justification to the appropriate congressional committees for any such determination.

(4) A policy and implementation plan for agencies and departments of the United States, as a part of the security clearance process, to accept automated records checks generated pursuant to a security clearance applicant's employment with a prior employer.

(5) A policy for the use of certain background materials on individuals collected by the private sector for background investigation purposes.

(6) Uniform standards for agency continuous evaluation programs to ensure quality and reciprocity in accepting enrollment in a continuous vetting program as a substitute for a periodic investigation for continued access to classified information.

SEC. 604. GOALS FOR PROMPTNESS OF DETERMINATIONS REGARDING SECURITY CLEARANCES.

(a) RECIPROCITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''reciprocity'' means reciprocal recognition by Federal departments and agencies of eligibility for access to classified information.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall reform the security clearance process with the objective that, by December 31, 2021, 90 percent of all determinations, other than determinations regarding populations identified under section 603(b)(3)(C), regarding—

(1) security clearances—

(A) at the secret level are issued in 30 days or fewer; and

(B) at the top secret level are issued in 90 days or fewer; and

(2) reciprocity of security clearances at the same level are recognized in 2 weeks or fewer.

(c) CERTAIN REINVESTIGATIONS.—The Council shall reform the security clearance process with the goal that by December 31, 2021, reinvestigation on a set periodicity is not required for more than 10 percent of the population that holds a security clearance.

(d) EQUIVALENT METRICS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Council develops a set of performance metrics that it certifies to the appropriate congressional committees should achieve substantially equivalent outcomes as those outlined in subsections (b) and (c), the Council may use those metrics for purposes of compliance within this provision.

(2) NOTICE.—If the Council uses the authority provided by paragraph (1) to use metrics as described in such paragraph, the Council shall, not later than 30 days after communicating such metrics to departments and agencies, notify the appropriate congressional committees that it is using such authority.

(e) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Council shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a plan to carry out this section. Such plan shall include recommended interim milestones for the goals set forth in subsections (b) and (c) for 2019, 2020, and 2021.

SEC. 605. SECURITY EXECUTIVE AGENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VIII of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3161 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 803 and 804 as sections 804 and 805, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 802 the following:

''SEC. 803. SECURITY EXECUTIVE AGENT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence, or such other officer of the United States as the President may designate, shall serve as the Security Executive Agent for all departments and agencies of the United States.

''(b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Security Executive Agent are as follows:

''(1) To direct the oversight of investigations, reinvestigations, adjudications, and, as applicable, polygraphs for eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position made by any Federal agency.

''(2) To review the national security background investigation and adjudication programs of Federal agencies to determine whether such programs are being implemented in accordance with this section.

''(3) To develop and issue uniform and consistent policies and procedures to ensure the effective, efficient, timely, and secure completion of investigations, polygraphs, and adjudications relating to determinations of eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position.

''(4) Unless otherwise designated by law, to serve as the final authority to designate a Federal agency or agencies to conduct investigations of persons who are proposed for access to classified information or for eligibility to hold a sensitive position to ascertain whether such persons satisfy the criteria for obtaining and retaining access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position, as applicable.

''(5) Unless otherwise designated by law, to serve as the final authority to designate a Federal agency or agencies to determine eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position in accordance with Executive Order 12968 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to access to classified information).

''(6) To ensure reciprocal recognition of eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position among Federal agencies, including acting as the final authority to arbitrate and resolve disputes among such agencies involving the reciprocity of investigations and adjudications of eligibility.

''(7) To execute all other duties assigned to the Security Executive Agent by law.

''(c) AUTHORITIES.—The Security Executive Agent shall—

''(1) issue guidelines and instructions to the heads of Federal agencies to ensure appropriate uniformity, centralization, efficiency, effectiveness, timeliness, and security in processes relating to determinations by such agencies of eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position, including such matters as investigations, polygraphs, adjudications, and reciprocity;

''(2) have the authority to grant exceptions to, or waivers of, national security investigative requirements, including issuing implementing or clarifying guidance, as necessary;

''(3) have the authority to assign, in whole or in part, to the head of any Federal agency (solely or jointly) any of the duties of the Security Executive Agent described in subsection (b) or the authorities described in paragraphs (1) and (2), provided that the exercise of such assigned duties or authorities is subject to the oversight of the Security Executive Agent, including such terms and conditions (including approval by the Security Executive Agent) as the Security Executive Agent determines appropriate; and

''(4) define and set standards for continuous evaluation for continued access to classified information and for eligibility to hold a sensitive position.''.

(b) REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISING AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Chairman of the Council submits to the appropriate congressional committees the report required by section 602(b)(2)(A), the Chairman shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees such recommendations as the Chairman may have for revising the authorities of the Security Executive Agent.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 103H(j)(4)(A) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 3033(j)(4)(A)) is amended by striking ''in section 804'' and inserting ''in section 805''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the matter preceding section 2 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 3002) is amended by striking the items relating to sections 803 and 804 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 803. Security Executive Agent.
''Sec. 804. Exceptions.
''Sec. 805. Definitions.''.

SEC. 606. REPORT ON UNIFIED, SIMPLIFIED, GOVERNMENTWIDE STANDARDS FOR POSITIONS OF TRUST AND SECURITY CLEARANCES.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent, in coordination with the other members of the Council, shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a report regarding the advisability and the risks, benefits, and costs to the Government and to industry of consolidating to not more than 3 tiers for positions of trust and security clearances.

SEC. 607. REPORT ON CLEARANCE IN PERSON CONCEPT.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that to reflect the greater mobility of the modern workforce, alternative methodologies merit analysis to allow greater flexibility for individuals moving in and out of positions that require access to classified information, while still preserving security.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a report that describes the requirements, feasibility, and advisability of implementing a clearance in person concept described in subsection (c).

(c) CLEARANCE IN PERSON CONCEPT.—The clearance in person concept—

(1) permits an individual who once held a security clearance to maintain his or her eligibility for access to classified information, networks, and facilities for up to 3 years after the individual's eligibility for access to classified information would otherwise lapse; and

(2) recognizes, unless otherwise directed by the Security Executive Agent, an individual's security clearance and background investigation as current, regardless of employment status, contingent on enrollment in a continuous vetting program.

(d) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (b) shall address—

(1) requirements for an individual to voluntarily remain in a continuous evaluation program validated by the Security Executive Agent even if the individual is not in a position requiring access to classified information;

(2) appropriate safeguards for privacy;

(3) advantages to government and industry;

(4) the costs and savings associated with implementation;

(5) the risks of such implementation, including security and counterintelligence risks;

(6) an appropriate funding model; and

(7) fairness to small companies and independent contractors.

SEC. 608. BUDGET REQUEST DOCUMENTATION ON FUNDING FOR BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As part of the fiscal year 2020 budget request submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the President shall include exhibits that identify the resources expended by each agency during the prior fiscal year for processing background investigations and continuous evaluation programs, disaggregated by tier and whether the individual was a Government employee or contractor.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each exhibit submitted under subsection (a) shall include details on—

(1) the costs of background investigations or reinvestigations;

(2) the costs associated with background investigations for Government or contract personnel;

(3) costs associated with continuous evaluation initiatives monitoring for each person for whom a background investigation or reinvestigation was conducted, other than costs associated with adjudication;

(4) the average per person cost for each type of background investigation; and

(5) a summary of transfers and reprogrammings that were executed in the previous year to support the processing of security clearances.

SEC. 609. REPORTS ON RECIPROCITY FOR SECURITY CLEARANCES INSIDE OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.

(a) RECIPROCALLY RECOGNIZED DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''reciprocally recognized'' means reciprocal recognition by Federal departments and agencies of eligibility for access to classified information.

(b) REPORTS TO SECURITY EXECUTIVE AGENT.—The head of each Federal department or agency shall submit an annual report to the Security Executive Agent that—

(1) identifies the number of individuals whose security clearances take more than 2 weeks to be reciprocally recognized after such individuals move to another part of such department or agency; and

(2) breaks out the information described in paragraph (1) by type of clearance and the reasons for any delays.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Security Executive Agent shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to industry partners an annual report that summarizes the information received pursuant to subsection (b) during the period covered by such report.

SEC. 610. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPORTS ON SECURITY CLEARANCES.

Section 506H of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3104) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (C);

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPORTS.—(1)(A) Not later than March 1 of each year, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives regarding the security clearances processed by each element of the intelligence community during the preceding fiscal year.

''(B) The Director shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives such portions of the report submitted under subparagraph (A) as the Director determines address elements of the intelligence community that are within the Department of Defense.

''(C) Each report submitted under this paragraph shall separately identify security clearances processed for Federal employees and contractor employees sponsored by each such element.

''(2) Each report submitted under paragraph (1)(A) shall include, for each element of the intelligence community for the fiscal year covered by the report, the following:

''(A) The total number of initial security clearance background investigations sponsored for new applicants.

''(B) The total number of security clearance periodic reinvestigations sponsored for existing employees.

''(C) The total number of initial security clearance background investigations for new applicants that were adjudicated with notice of a determination provided to the prospective applicant, including—

''(i) the total number of such adjudications that were adjudicated favorably and granted access to classified information; and

''(ii) the total number of such adjudications that were adjudicated unfavorably and resulted in a denial or revocation of a security clearance.

''(D) The total number of security clearance periodic background investigations that were adjudicated with notice of a determination provided to the existing employee, including—

''(i) the total number of such adjudications that were adjudicated favorably; and

''(ii) the total number of such adjudications that were adjudicated unfavorably and resulted in a denial or revocation of a security clearance.

''(E) The total number of pending security clearance background investigations, including initial applicant investigations and periodic reinvestigations, that were not adjudicated as of the last day of such year and that remained pending, categorized as follows:

''(i) For 180 days or shorter.

''(ii) For longer than 180 days, but shorter than 12 months.

''(iii) For 12 months or longer, but shorter than 18 months.

''(iv) For 18 months or longer, but shorter than 24 months.

''(v) For 24 months or longer.

''(F) For any security clearance determinations completed or pending during the year preceding the year for which the report is submitted that have taken longer than 12 months to complete—

''(i) an explanation of the causes for the delays incurred during the period covered by the report; and

''(ii) the number of such delays involving a polygraph requirement.

''(G) The percentage of security clearance investigations, including initial and periodic reinvestigations, that resulted in a denial or revocation of a security clearance.

''(H) The percentage of security clearance investigations that resulted in incomplete information.

''(I) The percentage of security clearance investigations that did not result in enough information to make a decision on potentially adverse information.

''(3) The report required under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.''; and

(4) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by striking ''subsection (a)(1)'' and inserting ''subsections (a)(1) and (b)''.

SEC. 611. PERIODIC REPORT ON POSITIONS IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY THAT CAN BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, NETWORKS, OR FACILITIES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that reviews the intelligence community for which positions can be conducted without access to classified information, networks, or facilities, or may only require a security clearance at the secret level.

SEC. 612. INFORMATION SHARING PROGRAM FOR POSITIONS OF TRUST AND SECURITY CLEARANCES.

(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent shall establish and implement a program to share between and among agencies of the Federal Government and industry partners of the Federal Government relevant background information regarding individuals applying for and currently occupying national security positions and positions of trust, in order to ensure the Federal Government maintains a trusted workforce.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The program established under paragraph (1) shall be known as the ''Trusted Information Provider Program'' (in this section referred to as the ''Program'').

(b) PRIVACY SAFEGUARDS.—The Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent shall ensure that the Program includes such safeguards for privacy as the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent consider appropriate.

(c) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—The Program shall include requirements that enable investigative service providers and agencies of the Federal Government to leverage certain pre-employment information gathered during the employment or military recruiting process, and other relevant security or human resources information obtained during employment with or for the Federal Government, that satisfy Federal investigative standards, while safeguarding personnel privacy.

(d) INFORMATION AND RECORDS.—The information and records considered under the Program shall include the following:

(1) Date and place of birth.

(2) Citizenship or immigration and naturalization information.

(3) Education records.

(4) Employment records.

(5) Employment or social references.

(6) Military service records.

(7) State and local law enforcement checks.

(8) Criminal history checks.

(9) Financial records or information.

(10) Foreign travel, relatives, or associations.

(11) Social media checks.

(12) Such other information or records as may be relevant to obtaining or maintaining national security, suitability, fitness, or credentialing eligibility.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a plan for the implementation of the Program.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Mechanisms that address privacy, national security, suitability or fitness, credentialing, and human resources or military recruitment processes.

(B) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent consider appropriate to carry out or improve the Program.

(f) PLAN FOR PILOT PROGRAM ON TWO-WAY INFORMATION SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a plan for the implementation of a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of expanding the Program to include the sharing of information held by the Federal Government related to contract personnel with the security office of the employers of those contractor personnel.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Mechanisms that address privacy, national security, suitability or fitness, credentialing, and human resources or military recruitment processes.

(B) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent consider appropriate to carry out or improve the pilot program.

(g) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to appropriate industry partners a review of the plans submitted under subsections (e)(1) and (f)(1) and utility and effectiveness of the programs described in such plans.

SEC. 613. REPORT ON PROTECTIONS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY OF WHISTLEBLOWER-RELATED COMMUNICATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Security Executive Agent shall, in coordination with the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the controls employed by the intelligence community to ensure that continuous vetting programs, including those involving user activity monitoring, protect the confidentiality of whistleblower-related communications.

TITLE VII—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Subtitle A—Matters Relating to Russia and Other Foreign Powers

SEC. 701. LIMITATION RELATING TO ESTABLISHMENT OR SUPPORT OF CYBERSECURITY UNIT WITH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(3) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(b) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No amount may be expended by the Federal Government, other than the Department of Defense, to enter into or implement any bilateral agreement between the United States and the Russian Federation regarding cybersecurity, including the establishment or support of any cybersecurity unit, unless, at least 30 days prior to the conclusion of any such agreement, the Director of National Intelligence submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on such agreement that includes the elements required by subsection (c).

(2) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AGREEMENTS.—Any agreement between the Department of Defense and the Russian Federation regarding cybersecurity shall be conducted in accordance with section 1232 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328), as amended by section 1231 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115–91).

(c) ELEMENTS.—If the Director submits a report under subsection (b) with respect to an agreement, such report shall include a description of each of the following:

(1) The purpose of the agreement.

(2) The nature of any intelligence to be shared pursuant to the agreement.

(3) The expected value to national security resulting from the implementation of the agreement.

(4) Such counterintelligence concerns associated with the agreement as the Director may have and such measures as the Director expects to be taken to mitigate such concerns.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall not be construed to affect any existing authority of the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, or another head of an element of the intelligence community, to share or receive foreign intelligence on a case-by-case basis.

SEC. 702. REPORT ON RETURNING RUSSIAN COMPOUNDS.

(a) COVERED COMPOUNDS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered compounds'' means the real property in New York, the real property in Maryland, and the real property in San Francisco, California, that were under the control of the Government of Russia in 2016 and were removed from such control in response to various transgressions by the Government of Russia, including the interference by the Government of Russia in the 2016 election in the United States.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives (only with respect to the unclassified report), a report on the intelligence risks of returning the covered compounds to Russian control.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by this section shall be submitted in classified and unclassified forms.

SEC. 703. ASSESSMENT OF THREAT FINANCE RELATING TO RUSSIA.

(a) THREAT FINANCE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''threat finance'' means—

(1) the financing of cyber operations, global influence campaigns, intelligence service activities, proliferation, terrorism, or transnational crime and drug organizations;

(2) the methods and entities used to spend, store, move, raise, conceal, or launder money or value, on behalf of threat actors;

(3) sanctions evasion; and

(4) other forms of threat finance activity domestically or internationally, as defined by the President.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Intelligence and Analysis, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report containing an assessment of Russian threat finance. The assessment shall be based on intelligence from all sources, including from the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence of the Department of the Treasury.

(c) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (b) shall include each of the following:

(1) A summary of leading examples from the 3-year period preceding the date of the submittal of the report of threat finance activities conducted by, for the benefit of, or at the behest of—

(A) officials of the Government of Russia;

(B) persons subject to sanctions under any provision of law imposing sanctions with respect to Russia;

(C) Russian nationals subject to sanctions under any other provision of law; or

(D) Russian oligarchs or organized criminals.

(2) An assessment with respect to any trends or patterns in threat finance activities relating to Russia, including common methods of conducting such activities and global nodes of money laundering used by Russian threat actors described in paragraph (1) and associated entities.

(3) An assessment of any connections between Russian individuals involved in money laundering and the Government of Russia.

(4) A summary of engagement and coordination with international partners on threat finance relating to Russia, especially in Europe, including examples of such engagement and coordination.

(5) An identification of any resource and collection gaps.

(6) An identification of—

(A) entry points of money laundering by Russian and associated entities into the United States;

(B) any vulnerabilities within the United States legal and financial system, including specific sectors, which have been or could be exploited in connection with Russian threat finance activities; and

(C) the counterintelligence threat posed by Russian money laundering and other forms of threat finance, as well as the threat to the United States financial system and United States efforts to enforce sanctions and combat organized crime.

(7) Any other matters the Director determines appropriate.

(d) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (b) may be submitted in classified form.

SEC. 704. NOTIFICATION OF AN ACTIVE MEASURES CAMPAIGN.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.—The term ''congressional leadership'' includes the following:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate.

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR NOTIFICATION.—The Director of National Intelligence, in cooperation with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the head of any other relevant agency, shall notify the congressional leadership and the Chairman and Vice Chairman or Ranking Member of each of the appropriate congressional committees, and of other relevant committees of jurisdiction,

each time the Director of National Intelligence determines there is credible information that a foreign power has, is, or will attempt to employ a covert influence or active measures campaign with regard to the modernization, employment, doctrine, or force posture of the nuclear deterrent or missile defense.

(c) CONTENT OF NOTIFICATION.—Each notification required by subsection (b) shall include information concerning actions taken by the United States to expose or halt an attempt referred to in subsection (b).

SEC. 705. NOTIFICATION OF TRAVEL BY ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

In carrying out the advance notification requirements set out in section 502 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (division N of Public Law 115–31; 131 Stat. 825; 22 U.S.C. 254a note), the Secretary of State shall—

(1) ensure that the Russian Federation provides notification to the Secretary of State at least 2 business days in advance of all travel that is subject to such requirements by accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation in the United States, and take necessary action to secure full compliance by Russian personnel and address any noncompliance; and

(2) provide notice of travel described in paragraph (1) to the Director of National Intelligence and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation within 1 hour of receiving notice of such travel.

SEC. 706. REPORT ON OUTREACH STRATEGY ADDRESSING THREATS FROM UNITED STATES ADVERSARIES TO THE UNITED STATES TECHNOLOGY SECTOR.

(a) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Armed Services, Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report detailing outreach by the intelligence community and the Defense Intelligence Enterprise to United States industrial, commercial, scientific, technical, and academic communities on matters relating to the efforts of adversaries of the United States to acquire critical United States technology, intellectual property, and research and development information.

(c) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (b) shall include the following:

(1) A review of the current outreach efforts of the intelligence community and the Defense Intelligence Enterprise described in subsection (b), including the type of information conveyed in the outreach.

(2) A determination of the appropriate element of the intelligence community to lead such outreach efforts.

(3) An assessment of potential methods for improving the effectiveness of such outreach, including an assessment of the following:

(A) Those critical technologies, infrastructure, or related supply chains that are at risk from the efforts of adversaries described in subsection (b).

(B) The necessity and advisability of granting security clearances to company or community leadership, when necessary and appropriate, to allow for tailored classified briefings on specific targeted threats.

(C) The advisability of partnering with entities of the Federal Government that are not elements of the intelligence community and relevant regulatory and industry groups described in subsection (b), to convey key messages across sectors targeted by United States adversaries.

(D) Strategies to assist affected elements of the communities described in subparagraph (C) in mitigating, deterring, and protecting against the broad range of threats from the efforts of adversaries described in subsection (b), with focus on producing information that enables private entities to justify business decisions related to national security concerns.

(E) The advisability of the establishment of a United States Government-wide task force to coordinate outreach and activities to combat the threats from efforts of adversaries described in subsection (b).

(F) Such other matters as the Director of National Intelligence may consider necessary.

(d) CONSULTATION ENCOURAGED.—In preparing the report required by subsection (b), the Director is encouraged to consult with other government agencies, think tanks, academia, representatives of the financial industry, or such other entities as the Director considers appropriate.

(e) FORM.—The report required by subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex as necessary.

SEC. 707. REPORT ON IRANIAN SUPPORT OF PROXY FORCES IN SYRIA AND LEBANON.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) ARMS OR RELATED MATERIAL.—The term ''arms or related material'' means—

(A) nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological weapons or materials or components of such weapons;

(B) ballistic or cruise missile weapons or materials or components of such weapons;

(C) destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons;

(D) defense articles or defense services, as those terms are defined in paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively, of section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794);

(E) defense information, as that term is defined in section 644 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2403); or

(F) items designated by the President for purposes of the United States Munitions List under section 38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on Iranian support of proxy forces in Syria and Lebanon and the threat posed to Israel, other United States regional allies, and other specified interests of the United States as a result of such support.

(c) MATTERS FOR INCLUSION.—The report required under subsection (b) shall include information relating to the following matters with respect to both the strategic and tactical implications for the United States and its allies:

(1) A description of arms or related materiel transferred by Iran to Hizballah since March 2011, including the number of such arms or related materiel and whether such transfer was by land, sea, or air, as well as financial and additional technological capabilities transferred by Iran to Hizballah.

(2) A description of Iranian and Iranian-controlled personnel, including Hizballah, Shiite militias, and Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps forces, operating within Syria, including the number and geographic distribution of such personnel operating within 30 kilometers of the Israeli borders with Syria and Lebanon.

(3) An assessment of Hizballah's operational lessons learned based on its recent experiences in Syria.

(4) A description of any rocket-producing facilities in Lebanon for nonstate actors, including whether such facilities were assessed to be built at the direction of Hizballah leadership, Iranian leadership, or in consultation between Iranian leadership and Hizballah leadership.

(5) An analysis of the foreign and domestic supply chains that significantly facilitate, support, or otherwise aid Hizballah's acquisition or development of missile production facilities, including the geographic distribution of such foreign and domestic supply chains.

(6) An assessment of the provision of goods, services, or technology transferred by Iran or its affiliates to Hizballah to indigenously manufacture or otherwise produce missiles.

(7) An identification of foreign persons that are based on credible information, facilitating the transfer of significant financial support or arms or related materiel to Hizballah.

(8) A description of the threat posed to Israel and other United States allies in the Middle East by the transfer of arms or related material or other support offered to Hizballah and other proxies from Iran.

(d) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 708. ANNUAL REPORT ON IRANIAN EXPENDITURES SUPPORTING FOREIGN MILITARY AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress a report describing Iranian expenditures in the previous calendar year on military and terrorist activities outside the country, including each of the following:

(1) The amount spent in such calendar year on activities by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, including activities providing support for—

(A) Hizballah;

(B) Houthi rebels in Yemen;

(C) Hamas;

(D) proxy forces in Iraq and Syria; or

(E) any other entity or country the Director determines to be relevant.

(2) The amount spent in such calendar year for ballistic missile research and testing or other activities that the Director determines are destabilizing to the Middle East region.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 709. EXPANSION OF SCOPE OF COMMITTEE TO COUNTER ACTIVE MEASURES AND REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF FOREIGN MALIGN INFLUENCE CENTER.

(a) SCOPE OF COMMITTEE TO COUNTER ACTIVE MEASURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 501 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year

2017 (Public Law 115–31; 50 U.S.C. 3001 note) is amended—

(A) in subsections (a) through (h)—

(i) by inserting '', the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or other nation state'' after ''Russian Federation'' each place it appears; and

(ii) by inserting '', China, Iran, North Korea, or other nation state'' after ''Russia'' each place it appears; and

(B) in the section heading, by inserting ''**, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, OR OTHER NATION STATE**'' after ''**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 501 and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 501. Committee to counter active measures by the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and other nation states to exert covert influence over peoples and governments.''.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with such elements of the intelligence community as the Director considers relevant, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a center, to be known as the ''Foreign Malign Influence Response Center'', that—

(A) is comprised of analysts from all appropriate elements of the intelligence community, including elements with related diplomatic and law enforcement functions;

(B) has access to all intelligence and other reporting acquired by the United States Government on foreign efforts to influence, through overt and covert malign activities, United States political processes and elections;

(C) provides comprehensive assessment, and indications and warning, of such activities; and

(D) provides for enhanced dissemination of such assessment to United States policy makers.

(2) CONTENTS.—The Report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A discussion of the desirability of the establishment of such center and any barriers to such establishment.

(B) Such recommendations and other matters as the Director considers appropriate.

Subtitle B—Reports

SEC. 711. TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO INSPECTOR GENERAL STUDY.

Section 11001(d) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''AUDIT'' and inserting ''REVIEW'';

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking ''audit'' and inserting ''review''; and

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking ''audit'' and inserting ''review''.

SEC. 712. REPORTS ON AUTHORITIES OF THE CHIEF INTELLIGENCE OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) HOMELAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE.—The term ''Homeland Security Intelligence Enterprise'' has the meaning given such term in Department of Homeland Security Instruction Number 264–01–001, or successor authority.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the authorities of the Under Secretary.

(c) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (b) shall include each of the following:

(1) An analysis of whether the Under Secretary has the legal and policy authority necessary to organize and lead the Homeland Security Intelligence Enterprise, with respect to intelligence, and, if not, a description of—

(A) the obstacles to exercising the authorities of the Chief Intelligence Officer of the Department and the Homeland Security Intelligence Council, of which the Chief Intelligence Officer is the chair; and

(B) the legal and policy changes necessary to effectively coordinate, organize, and lead intelligence activities of the Department of Homeland Security.

(2) A description of the actions that the Secretary has taken to address the inability of the Under Secretary to require components of the Department, other than the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department to—

(A) coordinate intelligence programs; and

(B) integrate and standardize intelligence products produced by such other components.

SEC. 713. REPORT ON CYBER EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the potential establishment of a fully voluntary exchange program between elements of the intelligence community and private technology companies under which—

(1) an employee of an element of the intelligence community with demonstrated expertise and work experience in cybersecurity or related disciplines may elect to be temporarily detailed to a private technology company that has elected to receive the detailee; and

(2) an employee of a private technology company with demonstrated expertise and work experience in cybersecurity or related disciplines may elect to be temporarily detailed to an element of the intelligence community that has elected to receive the detailee.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the feasibility of establishing the exchange program described in such subsection.

(2) Identification of any challenges in establishing the exchange program.

(3) An evaluation of the benefits to the intelligence community that would result from the exchange program.

SEC. 714. REVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WHISTLEBLOWER MATTERS.

(a) REVIEW OF WHISTLEBLOWER MATTERS.—The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, in consultation with the inspectors general for the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the National Reconnaissance Office, shall conduct a review of the authorities, policies, investigatory standards, and other practices and procedures relating to intelligence community whistleblower matters, with respect to such inspectors general.

(b) OBJECTIVE OF REVIEW.—The objective of the review required under subsection (a) is to identify any discrepancies, inconsistencies, or other issues, which frustrate the timely and effective reporting of intelligence community whistleblower matters to appropriate inspectors general and to the congressional intelligence committees, and the fair and expeditious investigation and resolution of such matters.

(c) CONDUCT OF REVIEW.—The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community shall take such measures as the Inspector General determines necessary in order to ensure that the review required by subsection (a) is conducted in an independent and objective fashion.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a written report containing the results of the review required under subsection (a), along with recommendations to improve the timely and effective reporting of intelligence community whistleblower matters to inspectors general and to the congressional intelligence committees and the fair and expeditious investigation and resolution of such matters.

SEC. 715. REPORT ON ROLE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FOREIGN INVESTMENTS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the heads of the elements of the intelligence community determined appropriate by the Director, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the role of the Director in preparing analytic materials in connection with the evaluation by the Federal Government of national security risks associated with potential foreign investments into the United States.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of the current process for the provision of the analytic materials described in subsection (a);

(2) an identification of the most significant benefits and drawbacks of such process with respect to the role of the Director, including the sufficiency of resources and personnel to prepare such materials; and

(3) recommendations to improve such process.

SEC. 716. REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AGAINST UNITED STATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.

(a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the following:

(1) The congressional intelligence committees.

(2) The Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(3) The Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall, in coordination with the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director of the National Security Agency, the Director of the

Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing—

(1) any attempts known to the intelligence community by foreign governments to exploit cybersecurity vulnerabilities in United States telecommunications networks (including Signaling System No. 7) to target for surveillance United States persons, including employees of the Federal Government; and

(2) any actions, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, taken by the intelligence community to protect agencies and personnel of the United States Government from surveillance conducted by foreign governments.

SEC. 717. BIENNIAL REPORT ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT RISKS.

(a) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH.—The Director of National Intelligence shall establish an intelligence community interagency working group to prepare the biennial reports required by subsection (b).

(2) CHAIRPERSON.—The Director of National Intelligence shall serve as the chairperson of such interagency working group.

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—Such interagency working group shall be composed of representatives of each element of the intelligence community that the Director of National Intelligence determines appropriate.

(b) BIENNIAL REPORT ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT RISKS.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once every 2 years thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on foreign investment risks prepared by the interagency working group established under subsection (a).

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include identification, analysis, and explanation of the following:

(A) Any current or projected major threats to the national security of the United States with respect to foreign investment.

(B) Any strategy used by a foreign country that such interagency working group has identified to be a country of special concern to use foreign investment to target the acquisition of critical technologies, critical materials, or critical infrastructure.

(C) Any economic espionage efforts directed at the United States by a foreign country, particularly such a country of special concern.

SEC. 718. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENT ON TRAVEL OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS.

Section 502(d)(2) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 115–31) is amended by striking ''the number'' and inserting ''a best estimate''.

SEC. 719. SEMIANNUAL REPORTS ON INVESTIGATIONS OF UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XI of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3231 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 1105. SEMIANNUAL REPORTS ON INVESTIGATIONS OF UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED OFFICIAL.—The term 'covered official' means—

''(A) the heads of each element of the intelligence community; and

''(B) the inspectors general with oversight responsibility for an element of the intelligence community.

''(2) INVESTIGATION.—The term 'investigation' means any inquiry, whether formal or informal, into the existence of an unauthorized public disclosure of classified information.

''(3) UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The term 'unauthorized disclosure of classified information' means any unauthorized disclosure of classified information to any recipient.

''(4) UNAUTHORIZED PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The term 'unauthorized public disclosure of classified information' means the unauthorized disclosure of classified information to a journalist or media organization.

''(b) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once every 6 months, each covered official shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on investigations of unauthorized public disclosures of classified information.

''(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the preceding 6-month period, the following:

''(A) The number of investigations opened by the covered official regarding an unauthorized public disclosure of classified information.

''(B) The number of investigations completed by the covered official regarding an unauthorized public disclosure of classified information.

''(C) Of the number of such completed investigations identified under subparagraph (B), the number referred to the Attorney General for criminal investigation.

''(c) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once every 6 months, the Assistant Attorney General for National Security of the Department of Justice, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on the status of each referral made to the Department of Justice from any element of the intelligence community regarding an unauthorized disclosure of classified information made during the most recent 365-day period or any referral that has not yet been closed, regardless of the date the referral was made.

''(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include, for each referral covered by the report, at a minimum, the following:

''(A) The date the referral was received.

''(B) A statement indicating whether the alleged unauthorized disclosure described in the referral was substantiated by the Department of Justice.

''(C) A statement indicating the highest level of classification of the information that was revealed in the unauthorized disclosure.

''(D) A statement indicating whether an open criminal investigation related to the referral is active.

''(E) A statement indicating whether any criminal charges have been filed related to the referral.

''(F) A statement indicating whether the Department of Justice has been able to attribute the unauthorized disclosure to a particular entity or individual.

''(d) FORM OF REPORTS.—Each report submitted under this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may have a classified annex.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the National Security Act of 1947 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1104 the following new item:

''Sec. 1105. Semiannual reports on investigations of unauthorized disclosures of classified information.''.

SEC. 720. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATION OF COVERED INTELLIGENCE OFFICER AS PERSONA NON GRATA.

(a) COVERED INTELLIGENCE OFFICER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered intelligence officer'' means—

(1) a United States intelligence officer serving in a post in a foreign country; or

(2) a known or suspected foreign intelligence officer serving in a United States post.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTS.—Not later than 72 hours after a covered intelligence officer is designated as a persona non grata, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a notification of that designation. Each such notification shall include—

(1) the date of the designation;

(2) the basis for the designation; and

(3) a justification for the expulsion.

SEC. 721. REPORTS ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN VULNERABILITIES EQUITIES PROCESS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) VULNERABILITIES EQUITIES POLICY AND PROCESS DOCUMENT.—The term ''Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process document'' means the executive branch document entitled ''Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process'' dated November 15, 2017.

(2) VULNERABILITIES EQUITIES PROCESS.—The term ''Vulnerabilities Equities Process'' means the interagency review of vulnerabilities, pursuant to the Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process document or any successor document.

(3) VULNERABILITY.—The term ''vulnerability'' means a weakness in an information system or its components (for example, system security procedures, hardware design, and internal controls) that could be exploited or could affect confidentiality, integrity, or availability of information.

(b) REPORTS ON PROCESS AND CRITERIA UNDER VULNERABILITIES EQUITIES POLICY AND PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a written report describing—

(A) with respect to each element of the intelligence community—

(i) the title of the official or officials responsible for determining whether, pursuant to criteria contained in the Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process document or any successor document, a vulnerability must be submitted for review under the Vulnerabilities Equities Process; and

(ii) the process used by such element to make such determination; and

(B) the roles or responsibilities of that element during a review of a vulnerability submitted to the Vulnerabilities Equities Process.

(2) CHANGES TO PROCESS OR CRITERIA.—Not later than 30 days after any significant change is made to the process and criteria used by any element of the intelligence community for determining whether to submit a

vulnerability for review under the Vulnerabilities Equities Process, such element shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report describing such change.

(3) FORM OF REPORTS.—Each report submitted under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once each calendar year, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a classified report containing, with respect to the previous year—

(A) the number of vulnerabilities submitted for review under the Vulnerabilities Equities Process;

(B) the number of vulnerabilities described in subparagraph (A) disclosed to each vendor responsible for correcting the vulnerability, or to the public, pursuant to the Vulnerabilities Equities Process; and

(C) the aggregate number, by category, of the vulnerabilities excluded from review under the Vulnerabilities Equities Process, as described in paragraph 5.4 of the Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process document.

(2) UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include an unclassified appendix that contains—

(A) the aggregate number of vulnerabilities disclosed to vendors or the public pursuant to the Vulnerabilities Equities Process; and

(B) the aggregate number of vulnerabilities disclosed to vendors or the public pursuant to the Vulnerabilities Equities Process known to have been patched.

(3) NON-DUPLICATION.—The Director of National Intelligence may forgo submission of an annual report required under this subsection for a calendar year, if the Director notifies the intelligence committees in writing that, with respect to the same calendar year, an annual report required by paragraph 4.3 of the Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process document already has been submitted to Congress, and such annual report contains the information that would otherwise be required to be included in an annual report under this subsection.

SEC. 722. INSPECTORS GENERAL REPORTS ON CLASSIFICATION.

(a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than October 1, 2019, each Inspector General listed in subsection (b) shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that includes, with respect to the department or agency of the Inspector General, analyses of the following:

(1) The accuracy of the application of classification and handling markers on a representative sample of finished reports, including such reports that are compartmented.

(2) Compliance with declassification procedures.

(3) The effectiveness of processes for identifying topics of public or historical importance that merit prioritization for a declassification review.

(b) INSPECTORS GENERAL LISTED.—The Inspectors General listed in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community.

(2) The Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency.

(3) The Inspector General of the National Security Agency.

(4) The Inspector General of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

(5) The Inspector General of the National Reconnaissance Office.

(6) The Inspector General of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

SEC. 723. REPORTS ON GLOBAL WATER INSECURITY AND NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS AND BRIEFING ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND PANDEMICS.

(a) REPORTS ON GLOBAL WATER INSECURITY AND NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS.—

(1) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the implications of water insecurity on the national security interest of the United States, including consideration of social, economic, agricultural, and environmental factors.

(2) ASSESSMENT SCOPE AND FOCUS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of water insecurity described in such subsection with a global scope, but focus on areas of the world—

(A) of strategic, economic, or humanitarian interest to the United States—

(i) that are, as of the date of the report, at the greatest risk of instability, conflict, human insecurity, or mass displacement; or

(ii) where challenges relating to water insecurity are likely to emerge and become significant during the 5-year or the 20-year period beginning on the date of the report; and

(B) where challenges relating to water insecurity are likely to imperil the national security interests of the United States or allies of the United States.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In researching a report required by paragraph (1), the Director shall consult with—

(A) such stakeholders within the intelligence community, the Department of Defense, and the Department of State as the Director considers appropriate; and

(B) such additional Federal agencies and persons in the private sector as the Director considers appropriate.

(4) FORM.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(b) BRIEFING ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND PANDEMICS.—

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the anticipated geopolitical effects of emerging infectious disease (including deliberate, accidental, and naturally occurring infectious disease threats) and pandemics, and their implications on the national security of the United States.

(3) CONTENT.—The briefing under paragraph (2) shall include an assessment of—

(A) the economic, social, political, and security risks, costs, and impacts of emerging infectious diseases on the United States and the international political and economic system;

(B) the economic, social, political, and security risks, costs, and impacts of a major transnational pandemic on the United States and the international political and economic system; and

(C) contributing trends and factors to the matters assessed under subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(4) EXAMINATION OF RESPONSE CAPACITY.—In examining the risks, costs, and impacts of emerging infectious disease and a possible transnational pandemic under paragraph (3), the Director of National Intelligence shall also examine in the briefing under paragraph (2) the response capacity within affected countries and the international system. In considering response capacity, the Director shall include—

(A) the ability of affected nations to effectively detect and manage emerging infectious diseases and a possible transnational pandemic;

(B) the role and capacity of international organizations and nongovernmental organizations to respond to emerging infectious disease and a possible pandemic, and their ability to coordinate with affected and donor nations; and

(C) the effectiveness of current international frameworks, agreements, and health systems to respond to emerging infectious diseases and a possible transnational pandemic.

(5) FORM.—The briefing under paragraph (2) may be classified.

SEC. 724. ANNUAL REPORT ON MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ELEMENTS OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND OTHER ENTITIES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REGARDING SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OR POLICY.

Section 311 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (50 U.S.C. 3313) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each year, concurrent with the annual budget request submitted by the President to Congress under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, each head of an element of the intelligence community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that lists each memorandum of understanding or other agreement regarding significant operational activities or policy entered into during the most recently completed fiscal year between or among such element and any other entity of the United States Government.

''(b) PROVISION OF DOCUMENTS.—Each head of an element of an intelligence community who receives a request from the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate or the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives for a copy of a memorandum of understanding or other document listed in a report submitted by the head under subsection (a) shall submit to such committee the requested copy as soon as practicable after receiving such request.''.

SEC. 725. STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ENCRYPTING UNCLASSIFIED WIRELINE AND WIRELESS TELEPHONE CALLS.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall complete a study on the feasibility of encrypting unclassified wireline and wireless telephone calls between personnel in the intelligence community.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Director completes the study required by subsection (a), the Director shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the Director's findings with respect to such study.

SEC. 726. MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL REPORT ON HIRING AND RETENTION OF MINORITY EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXPANSION OF PERIOD OF REPORT.—Subsection (a) of section 114 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3050) is amended by inserting ''and the preceding 5 fiscal years'' after ''fiscal year''.

(b) CLARIFICATION ON DISAGGREGATION OF DATA.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended, in the matter before paragraph (1), by striking ''disaggregated data by category of covered person from each element of the intelligence community'' and inserting ''data, disaggregated by category of covered person and by element of the intelligence community,''.

SEC. 727. REPORTS ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY LOAN REPAYMENT AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) there should be established, through the issuing of an Intelligence Community Directive or otherwise, an intelligence community-wide program for student loan repayment, student loan forgiveness, financial counseling, and related matters, for employees of the intelligence community;

(2) creating such a program would enhance the ability of the elements of the intelligence community to recruit, hire, and retain highly qualified personnel, including with respect to mission-critical and hard-to-fill positions;

(3) such a program, including with respect to eligibility requirements, should be designed so as to maximize the ability of the elements of the intelligence community to recruit, hire, and retain highly qualified personnel, including with respect to mission-critical and hard-to-fill positions; and

(4) to the extent possible, such a program should be uniform throughout the intelligence community and publicly promoted by each element of the intelligence community to both current employees of the element as well as to prospective employees of the element.

(b) REPORT ON POTENTIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY-WIDE PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in cooperation with the heads of the elements of the intelligence community and the heads of any other appropriate department or agency of the Federal Government, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on potentially establishing and carrying out an intelligence community-wide program for student loan repayment, student loan forgiveness, financial counseling, and related matters, as described in subsection (a).

(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(A) A description of the financial resources that the elements of the intelligence community would require to establish and initially carry out the program specified in paragraph (1).

(B) A description of the practical steps to establish and carry out such a program.

(C) The identification of any legislative action the Director determines necessary to establish and carry out such a program.

(c) ANNUAL REPORTS ON ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS.—

(1) COVERED PROGRAMS DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''covered programs'' means any loan repayment program, loan forgiveness program, financial counseling program, or similar program, established pursuant to title X of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3191 et seq.) or any other provision of law that may be administered or used by an element of the intelligence community.

(2) ANNUAL REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the covered programs. Each such report shall include, with respect to the period covered by the report, the following:

(A) The number of personnel from each element of the intelligence community who used each covered program.

(B) The total amount of funds each element expended for each such program.

(C) A description of the efforts made by each element to promote each covered program pursuant to both the personnel of the element of the intelligence community and to prospective personnel.

SEC. 728. REPEAL OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) CORRECTING LONG-STANDING MATERIAL WEAKNESSES.—Section 368 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 110–259; 50 U.S.C. 3051 note) is hereby repealed.

(b) INTERAGENCY THREAT ASSESSMENT AND COORDINATION GROUP.—Section 210D of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124k) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) through (i) as subsections (c) through (h), respectively; and

(3) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (8), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a period; and

(B) by striking paragraph (9).

(c) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.—Section 8H of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (g); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively.

SEC. 729. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPORT ON SENIOR EXECUTIVES OF THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE POSITION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Senior Executive Service position'' has the meaning given that term in section 3132(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, and includes any position above the GS–15, step 10, level of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the number of Senior Executive Service positions in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(c) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under subsection (b) shall include the following:

(1) The number of required Senior Executive Service positions for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(2) Whether such requirements are reasonably based on the mission of the Office.

(3) A discussion of how the number of the Senior Executive Service positions in the Office compare to the number of senior positions at comparable organizations.

(d) COOPERATION.—The Director of National Intelligence shall provide to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community any information requested by the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community that is necessary to carry out this section by not later than 14 calendar days after the date on which the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community makes such request.

SEC. 730. BRIEFING ON FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OFFERING PERMANENT RESIDENCE TO SOURCES AND COOPERATORS.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall provide to the congressional intelligence committees a briefing on the ability of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to offer, as an inducement to assisting the Bureau, permanent residence within the United States to foreign individuals who are sources or cooperators in counterintelligence or other national security-related investigations. The briefing shall address the following:

(1) The extent to which the Bureau may make such offers, whether independently or in conjunction with other agencies and departments of the United States Government, including a discussion of the authorities provided by section 101(a)(15)(S) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(S)), section 7 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act (50 U.S.C. 3508), and any other provision of law under which the Bureau may make such offers.

(2) An overview of the policies and operational practices of the Bureau with respect to making such offers.

(3) The sufficiency of such policies and practices with respect to inducing individuals to cooperate with, serve as sources for such investigations, or both.

(4) Whether the Director recommends any legislative actions to improve such policies and practices, particularly with respect to the counterintelligence efforts of the Bureau.

SEC. 731. INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT OF NORTH KOREA REVENUE SOURCES.

(a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research and the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Intelligence and Analysis, shall produce an intelligence assessment of the revenue sources of the North Korean regime. Such assessment shall include revenue from the following sources:

(1) Trade in coal, iron, and iron ore.

(2) The provision of fishing rights to North Korean territorial waters.

(3) Trade in gold, titanium ore, vanadium ore, copper, silver, nickel, zinc, or rare earth minerals, and other stores of value.

(4) Trade in textiles.

(5) Sales of conventional defense articles and services.

(6) Sales of controlled goods, ballistic missiles, and other associated items.

(7) Other types of manufacturing for export, as the Director of National Intelligence considers appropriate.

(8) The exportation of workers from North Korea in a manner intended to generate significant revenue, directly or indirectly, for use by the government of North Korea.

(9) The provision of nonhumanitarian goods (such as food, medicine, and medical devices) and services by other countries.

(10) The provision of services, including banking and other support, including by entities located in the Russian Federation, China, and Iran.

(11) Online commercial activities of the Government of North Korea, including online gambling.

(12) Criminal activities, including cyber-enabled crime and counterfeit goods.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The assessment required under subsection (a) shall include an identification of each of the following:

(1) The sources of North Korea's funding.

(2) Financial and non-financial networks, including supply chain management, transportation, and facilitation, through which

North Korea accesses the United States and international financial systems and repatriates and exports capital, goods, and services; and

(3) the global financial institutions, money services business, and payment systems that assist North Korea with financial transactions.

(c) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion of the assessment required under subsection (a), the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a copy of such assessment.

SEC. 732. REPORT ON POSSIBLE EXPLOITATION OF VIRTUAL CURRENCIES BY TERRORIST ACTORS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Stop Terrorist Use of Virtual Currencies Act''.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to Congress a report on the possible exploitation of virtual currencies by terrorist actors. Such report shall include the following elements:

(1) An assessment of the means and methods by which international terrorist organizations and State sponsors of terrorism use virtual currencies.

(2) An assessment of the use by terrorist organizations and State sponsors of terrorism of virtual currencies compared to the use by such organizations and States of other forms of financing to support operations, including an assessment of the collection posture of the intelligence community on the use of virtual currencies by such organizations and States.

(3) A description of any existing legal impediments that inhibit or prevent the intelligence community from collecting information on or helping prevent the use of virtual currencies by international terrorist organizations and State sponsors of terrorism and an identification of any gaps in existing law that could be exploited for illicit funding by such organizations and States.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 733. INCLUSION OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS IN ANNUAL REPORT RELATING TO SECTION 702 OF THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT OF 1978.

Section 707(b)(1)(G)(ii) of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1881f(b)(1)(G)(ii)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', including whether disciplinary actions were taken as a result of such an incident of noncompliance and the extent of such disciplinary actions''.

Subtitle C—Other Matters

SEC. 741. PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD.

Section 710(b) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–567; 50 U.S.C. 3161 note) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2018'' and inserting ''December 31, 2028''.

SEC. 742. SECURING ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ''covered entity'' means an entity identified pursuant to section 9(a) of Executive Order 13636 of February 12, 2013 (78 Fed. Reg. 11742), relating to identification of critical infrastructure where a cybersecurity incident could reasonably result in catastrophic regional or national effects on public health or safety, economic security, or national security.

(3) EXPLOIT.—The term ''exploit'' means a software tool designed to take advantage of a security vulnerability.

(4) INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEM.—The term ''industrial control system'' means an operational technology used to measure, control, or manage industrial functions, and includes supervisory control and data acquisition systems, distributed control systems, and programmable logic or embedded controllers.

(5) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term ''National Laboratory'' has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).

(6) PROGRAM.—The term ''Program'' means the pilot program established under subsection (b).

(7) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Energy.

(8) SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The term ''security vulnerability'' means any attribute of hardware, software, process, or procedure that could enable or facilitate the defeat of a security control.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM FOR SECURING ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a 2-year control systems implementation pilot program within the National Laboratories for the purposes of—

(1) partnering with covered entities in the energy sector (including critical component manufacturers in the supply chain) that voluntarily participate in the Program to identify new classes of security vulnerabilities of the covered entities; and

(2) evaluating technology and standards, in partnership with covered entities, to isolate and defend industrial control systems of covered entities from security vulnerabilities and exploits in the most critical systems of the covered entities, including—

(A) analog and nondigital control systems;

(B) purpose-built control systems; and

(C) physical controls.

(c) WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE PROGRAM STANDARDS AND DEVELOP STRATEGY.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a working group—

(A) to evaluate the technology and standards used in the Program under subsection (b)(2); and

(B) to develop a national cyber-informed engineering strategy to isolate and defend covered entities from security vulnerabilities and exploits in the most critical systems of the covered entities.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The working group established under paragraph (1) shall be composed of not fewer than 10 members, to be appointed by the Secretary, at least 1 member of which shall represent each of the following:

(A) The Department of Energy.

(B) The energy industry, including electric utilities and manufacturers recommended by the Energy Sector coordinating councils.

(C)(i) The Department of Homeland Security; or

(ii) the Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team.

(D) The North American Electric Reliability Corporation.

(E) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(F)(i) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence; or

(ii) the intelligence community (as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)).

(G)(i) The Department of Defense; or

(ii) the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Security and America's Security Affairs.

(H) A State or regional energy agency.

(I) A national research body or academic institution.

(J) The National Laboratories.

(d) REPORTS ON THE PROGRAM.—

(1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which funds are first disbursed under the Program, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an interim report that—

(A) describes the results of the Program;

(B) includes an analysis of the feasibility of each method studied under the Program; and

(C) describes the results of the evaluations conducted by the working group established under subsection (c)(1).

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which funds are first disbursed under the Program, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a final report that—

(A) describes the results of the Program;

(B) includes an analysis of the feasibility of each method studied under the Program; and

(C) describes the results of the evaluations conducted by the working group established under subsection (c)(1).

(e) EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE.—Information shared by or with the Federal Government or a State, Tribal, or local government under this section—

(1) shall be deemed to be voluntarily shared information;

(2) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, or any provision of any State, Tribal, or local freedom of information law, open government law, open meetings law, open records law, sunshine law, or similar law requiring the disclosure of information or records; and

(3) shall be withheld from the public, without discretion, under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code, and any provision of any State, Tribal, or local law requiring the disclosure of information or records.

(f) PROTECTION FROM LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A cause of action against a covered entity for engaging in the voluntary activities authorized under subsection (b)—

(A) shall not lie or be maintained in any court; and

(B) shall be promptly dismissed by the applicable court.

(2) VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this section subjects any covered entity to liability for not engaging in the voluntary activities authorized under subsection (b).

(g) NO NEW REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Secretary or the head of any other department or agency of the Federal Government to issue new regulations.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) PILOT PROGRAM.—There is authorized to be appropriated $10,000,000 to carry out subsection (b).

(2) WORKING GROUP AND REPORT.—There is authorized to be appropriated $1,500,000 to carry out subsections (c) and (d).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 743. BUG BOUNTY PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) BUG BOUNTY PROGRAM.—The term ''bug bounty program'' means a program under which an approved computer security specialist or security researcher is temporarily authorized to identify and report vulnerabilities within the information system of an agency or department of the United States in exchange for compensation.

(3) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term ''information system'' has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(b) BUG BOUNTY PROGRAM PLAN.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to appropriate committees of Congress a strategic plan for appropriate agencies and departments of the United States to implement bug bounty programs.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of—

(i) the ''Hack the Pentagon'' pilot program carried out by the Department of Defense in 2016 and subsequent bug bounty programs in identifying and reporting vulnerabilities within the information systems of the Department of Defense; and

(ii) private sector bug bounty programs, including such programs implemented by leading technology companies in the United States; and

(B) recommendations on the feasibility of initiating bug bounty programs at appropriate agencies and departments of the United States.

SEC. 744. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE UNIVERSITY.

(a) CIVILIAN FACULTY MEMBERS; EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1595(c) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) The National Intelligence University.''.

(2) COMPENSATION PLAN.—The Secretary of Defense shall provide each person employed as a full-time professor, instructor, or lecturer at the National Intelligence University on the date of the enactment of this Act an opportunity to elect to be paid under the compensation plan in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act (with no reduction in pay) or under the authority of section 1595 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1).

(b) ACCEPTANCE OF FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS.—Section 2161 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) ACCEPTANCE OF FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS.—The Secretary of Defense may authorize the President of the National Intelligence University to accept qualifying research grants in the same manner and to the same degree as the President of the National Defense University under section 2165(e) of this title.''.

(c) PILOT PROGRAM ON ADMISSION OF PRIVATE SECTOR CIVILIANS TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTION.—

(1) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall commence carrying out a pilot program to assess the feasability and advisability of permitting eligible private sector employees who work in organizations relevant to national security to receive instruction at the National Intelligence University.

(B) DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program during the 3-year period beginning on the date of the commencement of the pilot program.

(C) EXISTING PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program in a manner that is consistent with section 2167 of title 10, United States Code.

(D) NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.—No more than the equivalent of 35 full-time student positions may be filled at any one time by private sector employees enrolled under the pilot program.

(E) DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES.—Upon successful completion of the course of instruction in which enrolled, any such private sector employee may be awarded an appropriate diploma or degree under section 2161 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) ELIGIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, an eligible private sector employee is an individual employed by a private firm that is engaged in providing to the Department of Defense, the intelligence community, or other Government departments or agencies significant and substantial intelligence or defense-related systems, products, or services or whose work product is relevant to national security policy or strategy.

(B) LIMITATION.—Under this subsection, a private sector employee admitted for instruction at the National Intelligence University remains eligible for such instruction only so long as that person remains employed by the same firm, holds appropriate security clearances, and complies with any other applicable security protocols.

(3) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—Under the pilot program, private sector employees may receive instruction at the National Intelligence University during any academic year only if, before the start of that academic year, the Secretary of Defense determines, and certifies to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, that providing instruction to private sector employees under this section during that year will further the national security interests of the United States.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that—

(A) the curriculum in which private sector employees may be enrolled under the pilot program is not readily available through other schools and concentrates on national security-relevant issues; and

(B) the course offerings at the National Intelligence University are determined by the needs of the Department of Defense and the intelligence community.

(5) TUITION.—The President of the National Intelligence University shall charge students enrolled under the pilot program a rate that—

(A) is at least the rate charged for employees of the United States outside the Department of Defense, less infrastructure costs; and

(B) considers the value to the school and course of the private sector student.

(6) STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.—While receiving instruction at the National Intelligence University, students enrolled under the pilot program, to the extent practicable, are subject to the same regulations governing academic performance, attendance, norms of behavior, and enrollment as apply to Government civilian employees receiving instruction at the university.

(7) USE OF FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts received by the National Intelligence University for instruction of students enrolled under the pilot program shall be retained by the university to defray the costs of such instruction.

(B) RECORDS.—The source, and the disposition, of such funds shall be specifically identified in records of the university.

(8) REPORTS.—

(A) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Each academic year in which the pilot program is carried out, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the number of eligible private sector employees participating in the pilot program.

(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the conclusion of the pilot program, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the Secretary with respect to the pilot program. Such report shall include—

(i) the findings of the Secretary with respect to the feasability and advisability of permitting eligible private sector employees who work in organizations relevant to national security to receive instruction at the National Intelligence University; and

(ii) a recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be extended.

SEC. 745. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947.

(a) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents at the beginning of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by inserting after the item relating to section 2 the following new item:

''Sec. 3. Definitions.'';

(2) by striking the item relating to section 107;

(3) by striking the item relating to section 113B and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 113B. Special pay authority for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics positions.'';

(4) by striking the items relating to sections 202, 203, 204, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, and 214; and

(5) by inserting after the item relating to section 311 the following new item:

''Sec. 312. Repealing and saving provisions.''.

(b) OTHER TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Such Act is further amended—

(1) in section 102A—

(A) in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subsection (g), by moving the margins of such subparagraph 2 ems to the left; and

(B) in paragraph (3) of subsection (v), by moving the margins of such paragraph 2 ems to the left;

(2) in section 106—

(A) by inserting ''SEC. 106'' before ''(a)''; and

(B) in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (2) of subsection (b), by moving the margins of such subparagraph 2 ems to the left;

(3) by striking section 107;

(4) in section 108(c), by striking ''in both a classified and an unclassified form'' and inserting ''to Congress in classified form, but may include an unclassified summary'';

(5) in section 112(c)(1), by striking ''section 103(c)(7)'' and inserting ''section 102A(i)'';

(6) by amending section 201 to read as follows:

''SEC. 201. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

''Except to the extent inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or other provisions of law, the provisions of title 5, United States Code, shall be applicable to the Department of Defense.'';

(7) in section 205, by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively;

(8) in section 206, by striking ''(a)'';

(9) in section 207, by striking ''(c)'';

(10) in section 308(a), by striking ''this Act'' and inserting ''sections 2, 101, 102, 103, and 303 of this Act'';

(11) by redesignating section 411 as section 312;

(12) in section 503—

(A) in paragraph (5) of subsection (c)—

(i) by moving the margins of such paragraph 2 ems to the left; and

(ii) by moving the margins of subparagraph (B) of such paragraph 2 ems to the left; and

(B) in paragraph (2) of subsection (d), by moving the margins of such paragraph 2 ems to the left; and

(13) in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of section 504, by moving the margins of such subparagraph 2 ems to the right.

SEC. 746. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS RELATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

(a) NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION ACT.—

(1) CLARIFICATION OF FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY.—Subsection (b) of section 3212 of the National Nuclear Security Administration Act (50 U.S.C. 2402(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraphs (11) and (12); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through (19) as paragraphs (11) through (17), respectively.

(2) COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS.—Section 3233(b) of the National Nuclear Security Administration Act (50 U.S.C. 2423(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''Administration'' and inserting ''Department''; and

(B) by inserting ''Intelligence and'' after ''the Office of''.

(b) ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACT.—Section 4524(b)(2) of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2674(b)(2)) is amended by inserting ''Intelligence and'' after ''The Director of''.

(c) NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947.—Paragraph (2) of section 106(b) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3041(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by inserting ''and Counterintelligence'' after ''Office of Intelligence'';

(2) by striking subparagraph (F);

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (G), (H), and (I) as subparagraphs (F), (G), and (H), respectively; and

(4) in subparagraph (H), as so redesignated, by realigning the margin of such subparagraph 2 ems to the left.

SEC. 747. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NOTIFICATION OF CERTAIN DISCLOSURES OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVERSARY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.—The term ''adversary foreign government'' means the government of any of the following foreign countries:

(A) North Korea.

(B) Iran.

(C) China.

(D) Russia.

(E) Cuba.

(2) COVERED CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The term ''covered classified information'' means classified information that was—

(A) collected by an element of the intelligence community; or

(B) provided by the intelligence service or military of a foreign country to an element of the intelligence community.

(3) ESTABLISHED INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS.—The term ''established intelligence channels'' means methods to exchange intelligence to coordinate foreign intelligence relationships, as established pursuant to law by the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director of the National Security Agency, or other head of an element of the intelligence community.

(4) INDIVIDUAL IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—The term ''individual in the executive branch'' means any officer or employee of the executive branch, including individuals—

(A) occupying a position specified in article II of the Constitution;

(B) appointed to a position by an individual described in subparagraph (A); or

(C) serving in the civil service or the Senior Executive Service (or similar service for senior executives of particular departments or agencies).

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that section 502 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3092) requires elements of the intelligence community to keep the congressional intelligence committees ''fully and currently informed'' about all ''intelligence activities'' of the United States, and to ''furnish to the congressional intelligence committees any information or material concerning intelligence activities * * * which is requested by either of the congressional intelligence committees in order to carry out its authorized responsibilities.''.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) section 502 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3092), together with other intelligence community authorities, obligates an element of the intelligence community to submit to the congressional intelligence committees written notification, by not later than 7 days after becoming aware, that an individual in the executive branch has disclosed covered classified information to an official of an adversary foreign government using methods other than established intelligence channels; and

(2) each such notification should include—

(A) the date and place of the disclosure of classified information covered by the notification;

(B) a description of such classified information;

(C) identification of the individual who made such disclosure and the individual to whom such disclosure was made; and

(D) a summary of the circumstances of such disclosure.

SEC. 748. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON CONSIDERATION OF ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES WHEN CONSIDERING WHETHER OR NOT TO PROVIDE VISAS TO FOREIGN INDIVIDUALS TO BE ACCREDITED TO A UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

It is the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of State, in considering whether or not to provide a visa to a foreign individual to be accredited to a United Nations mission in the United States, should consider—

(1) known and suspected intelligence activities, espionage activities, including activities constituting precursors to espionage, carried out by the individual against the United States, foreign allies of the United States, or foreign partners of the United States; and

(2) the status of an individual as a known or suspected intelligence officer for a foreign adversary.

SEC. 749. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON WIKILEAKS.

It is the sense of Congress that WikiLeaks and the senior leadership of WikiLeaks resemble a nonstate hostile intelligence service often abetted by state actors and should be treated as such a service by the United States.

SA 58. Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ANTI-SEMITISM AWARENESS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Anti-Semitism Awareness Act of 2019''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (referred to in the subsection as ''title VI'') is one of the principal antidiscrimination statutes enforced by the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

(2) Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

(3) Both the Department of Justice and the Department of Education have properly concluded that title VI prohibits discrimination against Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, and members of other religious groups when the discrimination is based on the group's actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics or when the discrimination is based on actual or perceived citizenship or residence in a country whose residents share a dominant religion or a distinct religious identity.

(4) A September 8, 2010, letter from Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Perez to Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Russlynn H. Ali stated that ''[a]lthough Title VI does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, discrimination against Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, and members of other groups violates Title VI when that discrimination is based on the group's actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics''.

(5) To assist State and local educational agencies and schools in their efforts to comply with Federal law, the Department of Education periodically issues Dear Colleague letters. On a number of occasions, these letters set forth the Department of Education's interpretation of the statutory and regulatory obligations of schools under title VI.

(6) On September 13, 2004, the Department of Education issued a Dear Colleague letter regarding the obligations of schools (including colleges) under title VI to address incidents involving religious discrimination. The 2004 letter specifically notes that ''since the attacks of September 11, 2001, OCR has received complaints of race or national origin harassment commingled with aspects of religious discrimination against Arab Muslim, Sikh, and Jewish students.''.

(7) An October 26, 2010, Dear Colleague letter issued by the Department of Education stated, ''While Title VI does not cover discrimination based solely on religion, groups that face discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics may not be denied protection under Title VI on the ground that they also share a common faith. These principles apply not just to Jewish students, but also to students from any discrete religious group that shares, or is perceived to share, ancestry or ethnic characteristics (e.g., Muslims or Sikhs).''.

(8) Anti-Semitism, and harassment on the basis of actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics with a religious group, remains a persistent, disturbing problem in elementary and secondary schools and on college campuses.

(9) Students from a range of diverse backgrounds, including Jewish, Arab Muslim, and Sikh students, are being threatened, harassed, or intimidated in their schools (including on their campuses) on the basis of their shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics including through harassing conduct that creates a hostile environment so severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit some students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by schools.

(10) The 2010 Dear Colleague letter cautioned schools that they ''must take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the harassment, eliminate any hostile environment, and its effects, and prevent the harassment from recurring,'' but did not provide guidance on current manifestations of anti-Semitism, including discriminatory anti-Semitic conduct that is couched as anti-Israel or anti-Zionist.

(11) The definition and examples referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (c) have been valuable tools to help identify contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism, and include useful examples of discriminatory anti-Israel conduct that crosses the line into anti-Semitism.

(12) Awareness of this definition of anti-Semitism will increase understanding of the parameters of contemporary anti-Jewish conduct and will assist the Department of Education in determining whether an investigation of anti-Semitism under title VI is warranted.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term ''definition of anti-Semitism''—

(1) includes the definition of anti-Semitism set forth by the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism of the Department of State in the Fact Sheet issued on June 8, 2010; and

(2) includes the examples set forth under the headings ''Contemporary Examples of Anti-Semitism'' and ''What is Anti-Semitism Relative to Israel?'' of the Fact Sheet.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.—In reviewing, investigating, or deciding whether there has been a violation of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) on the basis of race, color, or national origin, based on an individual's actual or perceived shared Jewish ancestry or Jewish ethnic characteristics, the Department of Education shall take into consideration the definition of anti-Semitism as part of the Department's assessment of whether the practice was motivated by anti-Semitic intent.

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—The Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights shall administer and enforce title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) and title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) in a manner that is consistent with the manner of administration and enforcement described in the Dear Colleague letter issued on September 13, 2004, by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement of the Department of Education, entitled ''Title VI and Title IX Religious Discrimination in Schools and Colleges''.

(f) OTHER RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) GENERAL RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed—

(A) to expand the authority of the Secretary of Education;

(B) to alter the standards pursuant to which the Department of Education makes a determination that harassing conduct amounts to actionable discrimination; or

(C) to diminish or infringe upon the rights protected under any other provision of law that is in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish or infringe upon any right protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2019

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 29; 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, 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 adjournment, recess, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BOOZMAN. 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 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 29, 2019, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize International Holocaust Remembrance Day which marks the anniversary of the 1945 liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. I join with people around the world to commemorate the millions of lives lost to Nazism, especially the six million Jewish lives lost.

It is imperative that we remember the loss of those six million people and, also, the people who survived and those who helped them survive. Of the 1.3 million people taken to Auschwitz, an estimated 1.1 million were killed.

In 1984, as a young State Senator, I sponsored legislation to create the Tennessee Holocaust Commission, one of the first such state Commissions. I'm very proud of the work of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission, much of which is educating Tennessee teachers so they can teach children about the Holocaust.

As we remember the lives lost, we should also remember those who survived and, also, the military that liberated the camps and the hundreds of thousands of righteous gentiles who risked their own lives to save Jews. The Holocaust showed that a society that tolerates antisemitism is susceptible to other forms of racism, hatred, and oppression.

I urge all Americans visiting Washington to visit the U.S. Holocaust Museum and I urge all Tennesseans and those visiting Nashville to go to the Memorial on the State Capitol Grounds, situated alongside six cedar trees representing six million people, to remember and to understand why we must always remember and stand up against antisemitism, racism, hatred and oppression wherever and whenever it occurs.

HONORING EVA MARGARITA BRAVO

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate a life well-lived by Eva Margarita Bravo. At 58 years old, Eva passed away in a Mesa, Arizona hospital with her family by her side on December 7, 2018.

Eva was a native Arizonan, born on July 21, 1961 and was raised with seven brothers and sisters. She lived in Mesa for over thirty years of her life, where she raised two children, Cealia Bravo and Roberto Bravo III (Bobby), with her husband of thirty years, Roberto Bravo Jr. Eva faithfully served her community as a Medical Assistant, then a Certified Nursing Assistant. She proceeded to follow her passion and had a long, successful career in baking and cake decorating.

Her son, Bobby, has served on my staff both in Washington, D.C. and Arizona for five years while taking care of his mother in her last few years of life. His dedication to his mother and family while working with distinction on my staff is admirable and inspiring.

Eva was a great mother to her children. She leaves behind a legacy of love for her family and committed service to her community. It is impossible to write into words the impact and value a person's life has on another, but Eva will be greatly missed by her family, friends and the Mesa community. On behalf of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Eva's children, Cealia and Bobby, their family, and their friends who mourn this loss.

COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE FOUNDING OF SIMPSON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF FRANKLIN

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the bicentennial of the founding of Simpson County and the City of Franklin in the 1st Congressional District of Kentucky.

Simpson County was founded on January 28, 1819 with the City of Franklin formally incorporated in 1820. To honor both, the local community is beginning a year-long celebration on Monday, which will highlight their shared past and anticipate their bright future.

Simpson County's namesake, Captain John Simpson, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1812, but postponed service in the House to fight in the War of 1812. Although Captain Simpson died before returning home from the war, his legacy carries on in the selfless service displayed daily by the residents of Simpson County. I appreciate the generations of local officials, military veterans and citizens of Franklin-Simpson who have steadfastly devoted themselves to the betterment of others. I am also grateful for all who have assisted with the planning of the celebration. This historic milestone is a culmination of their efforts and a testament to their collective pride for their beloved community.

I look forward to continuing to work with local leaders and residents to further the economic and industrial prosperity of Simpson County and the City of Franklin for generations to come. I join with the county's current and former residents in honoring this tight-knit, culturally rich community.

HONORING GWEN SHELTON OF FAYETTEVILLE, TN FOR TWENTY YEAR CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, today I would like to take a moment to honor the well-served career in public service of Gwen Shelton. Gwen is stepping away from her role as Fayetteville city alderman after a 20-year career of holding public office and serving in several roles for the city of Fayetteville.

Since 1998, she has served as an elected official on the city school board, twice as city alderman (First from 2004 to 2006, then again from 2012 to 2018), and as Mayor from 2006 to 2010. Along with these duties, Gwen has also served as the Industrial Development Board director for Fayetteville-Lincoln County, in which she led many efforts to increase investment and job growth within the community.

Perhaps the best thing you can say of Gwen's time as a public official in Fayetteville is that whether you agreed with her positions and policies or you didn't, you always knew where she stood on an issue and you always knew she was working to do what she felt was in the best interest of the city of Fayetteville and its people. That trust in her as a leader provides understanding as to the secret of her success and gives all elected officials a standard to strive for.

Gwen Shelton has served her family and her community well, and while she will be deeply missed in Fayetteville, her success will not stop here. She and her husband, Scott, have both been presented with promising new opportunities in Huntsville, Alabama and I am confident that the next chapter for these two will be just as good if not better than the last. We wish her and her family the absolute best, and again, I would like to personally thank her for her outstanding service to the city of Fayetteville, Lincoln County and the state of Tennessee.

INTRODUCING THE TRANSITION-TO-SUCCESS MENTORING ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I am introducing the Transition-To-Success Mentoring Act to help local education agencies prepare at-risk students for the transition from middle school to high school.

The Transition-To-Success Mentoring Act would establish a grant program for school-based mentoring programs targeted at helping at-risk middle school students transition from

middle to high school. Under my legislation, participating students would develop and execute a formalized plan for success in high school and beyond, and be supported by a school faculty member or volunteer from the community known as a "Success Coach."

Middle school is a uniquely challenging time for students, and ensuring a smooth transition from middle to high school is critical to their long-term success. School-based mentoring is an innovative supplement to the traditional learning that takes place in the classroom, providing underserved and at-risk students with attention and support to keep them engaged in school. This legislation is a small step towards providing some of the most vulnerable students with individual attention to help cross the bridge towards high school, college, and career. I urge you to join me.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE SIBLEY

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Texas's longest tenured and most respected staffers, Mrs. Joyce Sibley of Austin. For 32 years, Joyce has served the United States Senate. During that time, Joyce earned a reputation as a problem solver who always went the extra mile for those she served.

Joyce's resume stands among the most impressive in modem Texas history. She began working in government in 1971 by answering phones for Senator John Tower's Austin office. She later went on to work for Governor Bill Clements, Governor George W. Bush, and the Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison.

There are countless stories demonstrating her willingness to go above and beyond for Texans facing difficult challenges at home and abroad. During my tenure as Chief of Staff for Senator TED CRUZ, I had the good fortune of witnessing Joyce's invaluable expertise. It is often difficult to deal with the bureaucracy of the Federal Government, but Joyce brought confidence and a tenacious attitude to our team, and made tedious work look easy.

Of all the people with whom I have worked in my career, none surpass Joyce with regard to her servant's heart, her grace, and her humility. She was the kind of colleague you could count on to support the Senator, myself, and all the staff. She called to offer support when you needed it—personally or professionally. She truly was one of the best in the business.

She will now have more time to do the things she loves. We happen to share a love of blues and outlaw country that is unique to Austin's storied music scene—from Stevie Ray and Jimmie Vaughan to James Cotton. I am certain retirement will be filled with many live shows in Austin, where I look forward to celebrating the next chapter in your life.

Again, I want to congratulate Joyce on her decades of service and extend my sincere, heartfelt thanks for the dedication and skill she has brought to the people of Texas. Without question, she will have a long-lasting impact on the State of Texas and Congressional staff for years to come.

Joyce is a blessing to all who know her and while I am sad to see her leave this post of service, I know the Lord has much more in store for that great heart of hers. Godspeed, my friend.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JACK SHIFREL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Jack Shifrel. For decades, Jack was a tireless voice for our veterans, the Democratic Party, and for countless other causes close to his heart. I was blessed to count him as a close friend. He was one of the very first people to endorse me for public office. He supported me in three losing causes, and in 1992 when I was first elected to Congress. I will always be eternally grateful to my dear, dear friend.

Jack dedicated his life to serving our community. As a proud veteran, he worked tirelessly to ensure that his fellow veterans had access to the services they rightfully deserved. He was deeply committed to improving access to health services, and his advocacy helped make it safer and easier for veterans to access the VA Clinic in Sunrise, Florida. Among the many hats Jack wore was that of the President of the Broward Veterans Coalition, where the good work he did continues to positively affect the lives of those who have served our country.

Jack was also known for going out of his way to mentor the next generation of Democratic activists, and was always available for advice and counsel. As a leader in the Broward Democratic Party, he was a delegate to five Democratic national conventions and an outspoken advocate for equal rights and what he considered our collective responsibility to each other. He was serving his 10th four-year term as a Democratic Party committeeman, and was just as committed to making our community and country stronger as the day he began. That's who Jack was, and he was one of a kind. He made our entire community a better place, and every life he touched was made better. His loss will be felt in Broward County for years to come.

I extend my deepest condolences to Jack's wife, Laurie, his children Darrin, David, and Jillian, his siblings Lori, Myke, and Scott, his grandchildren, and his entire family during this extremely difficult time.

HONORING THE MIDDLETOWN LIONS CLUB ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Middletown Lions Club as they celebrate their 90th Anniversary. Striving to always meet the Lions' motto, "We Serve," the Middletown Lions have served our community and the families they serve with pride and distinction.

The second oldest chartered Lions Club in Connecticut, the impact that the Middletown Lions have had in the community is immeasurable. In 1961, the Club volunteered for and helped to establish Big Brothers Big Sisters; they created Lions Park in 1963, a space that families continue to enjoy today; they have managed the vendor services for the Middletown Regatta; and helped to coordinate the first "After Ball" which provided a safe environment for graduating high school seniors to eat, dance, and socialize on prom night. The Club continues to strengthen our community through their support of the food bank and service projects for the hungry and homeless at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen and the New Horizon's Women Shelter.

At the heart of any Lion's Club is their mission to supporting individuals with vision impairments. To that end, the Middletown Lions have conducted medical and eye screenings for countless adults, seniors and children. Additionally, their work with and support of KidSight USA has helped to save the vision of some of our most vulnerable children six months to six years of age. For the Middletown Lions, their service projects extend beyond supporting those facing visual impairments. Their work on behalf of the Clara Barton Diabetes Camp Rising Sun, a camp for children with cancer, the Connecticut Radio Information System for the blind or print challenged, as well as their fundraising efforts to provide hearing aids and service dogs have made all the difference in the lives of thousands of families and children.

Over the course of the last ninety years, the Middletown Lions have not only met their mission but have set the standard for what it means to live up to the motto "We Serve." Today, as they celebrate their 90th Anniversary, I am honored to stand today to pay tribute to the Middletown Lions Club for the myriad of ways that they have improved the quality of life for children, adults, and seniors as well for all of their efforts to enrich the Middletown community. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and best wishes for many more years of success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROMOTING ACCESS TO DIABETIC SHOES ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Promoting Access to Diabetic Shoes Act, which would remove an unnecessary burden, allowing a nurse practitioner or physician assistant to prescribe diabetic shoes.

According to the American Diabetes Association, 1.5 million Americans are diagnosed with diabetes every year, and it is a condition that affects approximately 9 percent of the population. Both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetics are faced with a high lifetime risk of developing foot ulcers. Specialized insoles and footwear are required to prevent further breakdown and injury, and to ensure that recurring ulcers do not develop. If these ulcers are allowed to recur multiple times, patients can lose toes or feet entirely.

Currently, nurse practitioners and physician assistants, who often act as primary care providers for many patients with diabetes, are required to refer diabetic Medicare patients who need therapeutic shoes to a physician for further certification. The patient must then refer to the physician going forward. In addition to accruing unnecessary fees, this process delays patients from getting efficient and time-sensitive care.

Timely access to diabetic shoes is crucial, and is well within the scope of treatment that nurse practitioners and physician assistants should be able to prescribe. That is why I am proud to sponsor the Promoting Access to Diabetic Shoes Act, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me to pass this important piece of legislation.

CELEBRATING BOONE DRUG'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Boone Drug in Boone, North Carolina, on celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of its original store, opened in North Carolina's Fifth District by Dr. George Kelly Moose. With this longevity of service in the community, Boone Drug can truly claim to be a neighborhood institution. When it opened, it was one of only two drugstores in Boone, and it has thrived in the midst of the changes of the pharmaceutical industry through the last century.

For 50 years, customers went to see Dr. Moose, walking from miles away to buy their medicine at Boone Drug. The upstairs of the building was occupied by a group of doctors and a dentist, which kept constant traffic moving in and out of the store. Dr. Moose even kept his drugstore open until each doctor had seen his last patient, often late into the night.

In 1947, two brothers, Dr. Odell Kelly—''O.K.'' for Odell Kelly—and Dr. Wayne Richardson, joined Dr. Moose at the pharmacy. The space was expanded for a soda fountain and grill, where many locals socialized, and the town's movers and shakers talked politics.

Joe Miller was next to join the Boone Drug ownership. Having worked at the fountain in high school, the Richardson brothers convinced him to go to pharmacy school and eventually made him a fourth owner.

Dr. Miller was joined by Dr. John Stacy and Dr. Jim Furman. They have kept alive the legacy of customer service, philanthropy, and business expansion of their predecessors. The Boone Drug pharmacists often volunteered their services, staying open until 9 p.m.; so that physicians could work long hours and patients could fill their prescriptions after a late-night doctor's visit. The store's philosophy was that anyone who came in with a prescription left with medicine, even if one didn't have the means to cover the entire prescription's cost right away.

In the mid-1980s, Dr. Miller broadened the store's horizons, selling art supplies. The popular art supply store, named Cheap Joe's Art Stuff, began in the upstairs of the drugstore. At first, art supplies were placed on shelves between over-the-counter medicines downstairs. Eventually, what started as Dr. Miller's hobby outgrew the drugstore and Cheap Joe's Art Stuff moved into its own location, serving customers worldwide.

Although the drugstore's fountain and grill closed in 2011, the owners have filled its former space with a nonprofit community kitchen that feeds the hungry. Today, there are 17 Boone Drug locations in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The pharmacists in these pharmacies serve as direct contacts for medical information without an appointment or the expense of a doctor's visit. Boone Drug provides a shining example of the important role that pharmacies play in supporting healthy communities. They provide immunizations, durable medical equipment, counseling, and expertise in healthcare.

I have been a patron of Boone Drug since moving to Boone as a student at Appalachian State University and always enjoy my visits to the store. I continue to love all the wonderful employees and am privileged to represent this small business and local pharmacy. It treats clients like family, which is the hallmark of a small-town drugstore that lasts a century, and I wish Boone Drug another 100 years of success.

IN HONOR OF THE 88TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FLETCHER McCOLLISTER POST 135

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 88th Anniversary of The American Legion—Fletcher McCollister Post 135.

The American Legion Post—Fletcher McCollister 135 in Phenix City, Alabama was chartered on April 3, 1931. It was named for Robert Fletcher and Theodore McCollister, both of Phenix City, who were killed in action during World War I.

In September of 1919, Congress chartered The American Legion. The organization celebrates is 100th Anniversary this year.

On March 16, 2019, The American Legion—Fletcher McCollister Post 135 will host an event to commemorate their 88th Anniversary.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating The American Legion Post—Fletcher McCollister Post 135 on their 88th Anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, January 24, 2019, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

on roll call no. 50: YEA, and

on roll call no. 51: NAY.

HONORING PEGGY TURK BOYER

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Peggy Turk Boyer, Executive Director of the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans (CEDO), a binational, non-profit organization whose mission is the protection of the marine life in the Northern Gulf of California region. She is retiring from her position in 2019 after 40 years of service.

Peggy has devoted her life to preserving the marine environment of the northern Gulf of California and the livelihoods of the people who live there. Her work started in 1980 in Puerto Penasco, Sonora, Mexico, when Peggy began managing a marine research field station with her husband. That field station grew into the headquarters of CEDO.

Peggy recognized early on that the Gulf of California region is impacted by the social dynamics and conservation efforts on both sides of the border. This insight produced a governance structure for CEDO composed of two independent boards—one Mexican and one American—to share responsibility for finding resources, developing strategies and insuring the financial stability of the organization. Peggy has raised millions of dollars in Mexico and the United States from international foundations, government agencies, research contracts, individual donors, and events to support CEDO's work.

CEDO has established trust with local fishing communities and the Mexican government. From developing fishing gear that reduces harmful by-catch to providing training on monitoring populations and regulations, CEDO has been in a partnership with fishermen and women, supporting local communities while also giving these communities the tools to make their livelihoods sustainable and environmentally responsible. CEDO's ongoing educational programs for children and adults, including natural history talks, ecotours, environmental contests, beach clean-ups, and a binational marine biology camp for youth, have helped develop a culture of environmental stewardship.

Peggy's vision also included environmental protection. She served on the management planning committees for both the Upper Gulf of California and Colorado River Delta Biosphere Reserve and the Pinacate and Gran Desierto de Altar Biosphere Reserve. She was one of four individuals who were recognized by both the Mexican and U.S. Government for her invaluable contributions to the creation of these two Biosphere Reserves. Peggy and CEDO have received numerous awards on both sides of the border for their work in conservation, education, and tourism. Most recently, CEDO received first place among recipients of the first National Award for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture. The award was for CEDO's work in developing cooperative, grass-roots stewardship of the fishing communities of the Sonoran Corridor.

Peggy Turk Boyer and CEDO have been agents for meaningful change, working tirelessly towards goals of conservation and protection for vulnerable communities both human and marine. We honor her life's work and her

dedication. Her visionary ideas and many accomplishments have inspired us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. GIBBS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes the week of January 22–24 due to a medical procedure performed in my home State of Ohio.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 044, YEA on Roll Call No. 045, NAY on Roll Call No. 046, NAY on Roll Call No. 047, YEA on Roll Call No. 048, NAY on Roll Call No. 049, YEA on Roll Call No. 050, and NAY on Roll Call No. 051.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 23, 2019, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on roll call No. 46: NAY; on roll call No. 47: NAY; on roll call No. 48: YEA; and on roll call No. 49: NAY.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. REV. EVERETT B. KELLEY'S RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Rev. Everett B. Kelley as he retires after 31 years as a pastor.

Everett, a native of Goodwater, Alabama, rededicated his life to Christ and united with the Greater New Hope Baptist Church in Sylacauga, Alabama in 1982. In 1985, he accepted his call into the ministry and preached his first sermon in December. He was called to pastor at St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church in August 1987.

Rev. Kelley enlisted in the United States Army and served three years. He established B & K Cabinets and K & G Cabinets in Oxford, Alabama. He is a retired employee of Anniston Army Depot. From 2002 to 2016, he served as President of American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 1945 and Chaplain for Alabama State Councils of AFGE. From 2011 to 2018, he served as National Vice President of AFGE District 5 and in August of 2018, was elected as National Secretary Treasurer of AFGE.

He is married to Elizabeth Kelley and has been blessed with four children and six grandchildren. His education includes: Hannah J. Mallory Elementary, Sylacauga High School, Central Alabama Community College, Selma University, Birmingham Baptist Bible College and Rushing Spring School of Theology where he has earned his Bachelor and Master's of Theology. In 2014, he earned a Doctorate of Philosophy in Christian Counseling, and an honorary Doctorate of Divinity at St. Thomas Christian University.

Rev. Kelley is the former instructor at Rushing Springs School of Theology and former instructor of Christian Education and Evangelism at the Birmingham Estonian Bible College at the Anniston campus. In July 2005, he was certified in the E. K. Bailey Expository Preaching Conference and in 2011, received his advanced certification in the E. K. Bailey Exposition Preaching Conference.

He serves on the board for Habitat for Humanity CBTU, and a member of the Labor Roundtable. He has served on Supervisory Committee of the AOD Federal Credit Union board, Calhoun County Economic Development Council, former board member of AUSA and member of East Alabama Planning Board. He is President and founder of "Cruzin for Jesus Motor Club, Inc.", and President/CEO of E. B. Kelley Ministries, LLC, Kelley's Photography, and President of Project Hope Outreach Ministries INC.

He's a 2014 graduate of Leadership Alabama, recipient of the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016 and 2017 NAACP Image Award, 2017 graduate of NLLI and 2019 NAN "Labor Leader of the Year Award". He is the author of 31 Day Walk by Faith to Better Health.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating my friend Everett on his retirement and thanking him for his service to the Lord.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 44 (Passage of H.R. 676, the NATO Support Act): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 45 (Passage of H.R. 328, the Hack Your State Department Act): YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2019

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on roll call no. 44: YEA, and on roll call no. 45: YEA.

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, January 29, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 30

1:30 p.m.

Conferees

Meeting of conferees on H.J. Res. 31, making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2019.

HC–5

FEBRUARY 5

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the outlook for energy and minerals markets in the 116th Congress.

SD–366

FEBRUARY 6

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 116th Congress.

SD–342

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S687–S724

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 232–248, and S. Res. 32–33. **Page S698**

Measures Considered:

Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1, to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people. **Pages S688–96**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Pursuant to the order of January 25, 2019, the motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on January 8, 2019, was agreed to. **Page S693**

Pursuant to the order of January 25, 2019, the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on January 8, 2019, was agreed to. **Page S693**

By 74 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 11), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate upon reconsideration agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S693**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time during adjournment, recess, morning business, and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S724**

Message From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order with respect to Venezuela that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 on March 8, 2015; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–2) **Page S697**

Messages from the House: **Page S698**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S687, S698**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S699**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S699–S701**

Additional Statements: **Page S697**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S702–S724**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—11) **Page S693**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S724.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No Committee Meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 804–829, and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 79–84, were introduced. **Pages H1241–43**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1244–45**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Kildee to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1219**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:06 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1220**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 170 nays with two answering "present", Roll No. 54. **Pages H1220, H1233–34**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:47 p.m. **Page H1220**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Promoting Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act: H.R. 624, to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 413 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 52; **Pages H1221–23, H1232**

Fight Illicit Networks and Detect Trafficking Act: H.R. 502, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on how virtual currencies and online marketplaces are used to buy, sell, or facilitate the financing of goods or services associated with sex trafficking or drug trafficking, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 53; and **Pages H1223–27, H1232–33**

Financial Technology Protection Act: H.R. 56, amended, to establish an Independent Financial Technology Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, to provide rewards for information leading to convictions related to terrorist use of digital currencies, to establish a Fintech Leadership in Innovation and Financial Intelligence Program to encourage the development of tools and programs to combat terrorist and illicit use of digital currencies. **Pages H1227–31**

Recess: The House recessed at 6:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1231**

Committee Ranking: The House agreed to H. Res. 80, ranking certain Members of a certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1234**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified the Congress of taking additional steps with regard to the National Emergency with Respect to Venezuela. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–8). **Page H1221**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1221.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1232, H1232–33, and H1233–34. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D1317)*

H.R. 1162, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide access to magnetic EEG/EKG-guided resonance therapy to veterans. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–339)

H.R. 1210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 W. Goodwin Street, Pleasanton, Texas, as the "Pleasanton Veterans Post Office". Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–340)

H.R. 1211, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 N. Main Street, Encinal, Texas, as the "Encinal Veterans Post Office". Signed on December 21, 2018. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–341)

H.R. 1222, to amend the Public Health Service Act to coordinate Federal congenital heart disease research efforts and to improve public education and awareness of congenital heart disease. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–342)

H.R. 1235, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–343)

H.R. 1318, to support States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–344)

H.R. 1733, to direct the Secretary of Energy to review and update a report on the energy and environmental benefits of the re-refining of used lubricating oil. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–345)

H.R. 1850, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 907 Fourth Avenue in Lake Odessa, Michigan, as the ''Donna Sauers Besko Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–346)

H.R. 3184, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 180 McCormick Road in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the ''Captain Humayun Khan Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–347)

H.R. 3342, to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that are responsible for using civilians as human shields. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–348)

H.R. 3383, to designate the flood control project in Sedgwick County, Kansas, commonly known as the Wichita-Valley Center Flood Control Project, as the ''M.S. 'Mitch' Mitchell Floodway''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–349)

H.R. 4032, to confirm undocumented Federal rights-of-way or easements on the Gila River Indian Reservation, clarify the northern boundary of the Gila River Indian Community's Reservation, to take certain land located in Maricopa County and Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–350)

H.R. 4326, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 West North Street in Normal, Illinois, as the ''Sgt. Josh Rodgers Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–351)

H.R. 4431, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for interest payments by agencies in the case of administrative error in processing certain annuity deposits for prior military service or certain volunteer service. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–352)

H.R. 4819, to promote inclusive economic growth through conservation and biodiversity programs that facilitate transboundary cooperation, improve natural resource management, and build local capacity to protect and preserve threatened wildlife species in the greater Okavango River Basin of southern Africa. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–353)

H.R. 5205, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 6th Street in Hawthorne, Nevada, as the ''Sergeant Kenneth Eric Bostic Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–354)

H.R. 5395, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Main Street in Dansville, New York, as the ''Staff Sergeant Alexandria Gleason-Morrow Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–355)

H.R. 5412, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 2nd Avenue in Brentwood, New York, as the ''Army Specialist Jose L. Ruiz Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–356)

H.R. 5475, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Macon Street in Bevier, Missouri, as the ''SO2 Navy SEAL Adam Olin Smith Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–357)

H.R. 5787, to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to give effect to more accurate maps of units of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System that were produced by digital mapping of such units. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–358)

H.R. 5791, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9609 South University Boulevard in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, as the ''Deputy Sheriff Zackari Spurlock Parrish, III, Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–359)

H.R. 5792, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 North 4th Avenue in Brighton, Colorado, as the ''Detective Heath McDonald Gumm Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–360)

H.R. 5923, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain public lands in Ouachita National Forest. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–361)

H.R. 6020, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 325 South Michigan Avenue in Howell, Michigan, as the ''Sergeant Donald Burgett Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–362)

H.R. 6059, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 51 Willow Street in

Lynn, Massachusetts, as the ''Thomas P. Costin, Jr. Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–363)

H.R. 6160, to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the sources of the authority to issue regulations regarding certifications and other criteria applicable to legislative branch employees under Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–364)

H.R. 6167, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5707 South Cass Avenue in Westmont, Illinois, as the ''James William Robinson Jr. Memorial Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–365)

H.R. 6216, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3025 Woodgate Road in Montrose, Colorado, as the ''Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–366)

H.R. 6217, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 241 N 4th Street in Grand Junction, Colorado, as the ''Deputy Sheriff Derek Geer Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–367)

H.R. 6227, to provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–368)

H.R. 6335, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 322 Main Street in Oakville, Connecticut, as the ''Oakville Veterans Memorial Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–369)

H.R. 6347, to adjust the real estate appraisal thresholds under the 7(a) program to bring them into line with the thresholds used by the Federal banking regulators. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–370)

H.R. 6348, to adjust the real estate appraisal thresholds under the section 504 program to bring them into line with the thresholds used by the Federal banking regulators. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–371)

H.R. 6400, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a threat and operational analysis of ports of entry. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–372)

H.R. 6405, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2801 Mitchell Road in Ceres, California, as the ''Lance Corporal Juana Navarro Arellano Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–373)

H.R. 6428, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 332 Ramapo Valley Road in Oakland, New Jersey, as the ''Frank Leone Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–374)

H.R. 6513, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1110 West Market Street in Athens, Alabama, as the ''Judge James E. Horton, Jr. Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–375)

H.R. 6591, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 South Kirkman Road in Orlando, Florida, as the ''Napoleon 'Nap' Ford Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–376)

H.R. 6615, to reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–377)

H.R. 6621, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 East Main Street in Johnson City, Tennessee, as the ''Major Homer L. Pease Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–378)

H.R. 6628, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the ''James Marshall 'Jimi' Hendrix Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–379)

H.R. 6655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44160 State Highway 299 East Suite 1 in McArthur, California, as the ''Janet Lucille Oilar Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–380)

H.R. 6780, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7521 Paula Drive in Tampa, Florida, as the ''Major Andreas O'Keeffe Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–381)

H.R. 6831, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 West Main Street in Frisco, Colorado, as the ''Patrick E. Mahany, Jr., Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–382)

H.R. 6893, to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2020. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–383)

H.R. 6930, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Miller Street in Plattsburgh, New York, as the ''Ross Bouyea Post Office Building''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–384)

H.R. 6964, to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–385)

H.R. 7120, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to extend through 2023 the authority of the Federal Election Commission to impose civil money penalties on the basis of a schedule of penalties established and published by the Commission. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–386)

H.R. 7213, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–387)

H.R. 7230, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the ''Postmaster Frazier B. Baker Post Office''. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–388)

H.R. 7243, to amend Public Law 115–217 to change the address of the postal facility designated by such Public Law in honor of Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–389)

H.R. 7327, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a security vulnerability disclosure policy, to establish a bug bounty program for the Department of Homeland Security, to amend title 41, United States Code, to provide for Federal acquisition supply chain security. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–390)

S. 756, to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–391)

S. 1311, to provide assistance in abolishing human trafficking in the United States. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–392)

S. 1312, to prioritize the fight against human trafficking in the United States. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–393)

S. 2511, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to carry out a program on coordinating the assessment and acquisition by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of unmanned maritime systems, to make available to the public data collected by the Administration using such systems. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–394)

S. 3170, to amend title 18, United States Code, to make certain changes to the reporting requirement of certain service providers regarding child sexual exploitation visual depictions. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–395)

S. 3628, to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–396)

S. 3749, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to reform the procedures provided under such Act for the initiation, review, and resolution of claims alleging that employing offices of the legislative branch have violated the rights and protections provided to their employees under such Act, including protections against sexual harassment. Signed on December 21, 2018. (Public Law 115–397)

H.R. 767, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 180 West Main Street in Abingdon, Virginia, as the ''H. Emory Widener, Jr., Federal Building and United States Courthouse''. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–398)

H.R. 2606, to amend the Act of August 4, 1947 (commonly known as the Stigler Act), with respect to restrictions applicable to Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–399)

H.R. 4227, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to examine what actions the Department of Homeland Security is undertaking to combat the threat of vehicular terrorism. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–400)

H.R. 5075, to encourage, enhance, and integrate Ashanti Alert plans throughout the United States. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–401)

H.R. 5509, to direct the National Science Foundation to provide grants for research about STEM education approaches and the STEM-related workforce. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–402)

S. 7, to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–403)

S. 943, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an accurate comprehensive student count for the purposes of calculating formula allocations for programs under the Johnson-O'Malley Act. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–404)

S. 1520, to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–405)

S. 2076, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–406)

S. 2248, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries.

Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–407)

S. 2278, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–408)

S. 2736, to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–409)

S. 3530, to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act. Signed on December 31, 2018. (Public Law 115–410)

H.R. 1660, to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–411)

H.R. 3460, to designate the United States courthouse located at 323 East Chapel Hill Street in Durham, North Carolina, as the ''John Hervey Wheeler United States Courthouse''. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–412)

H.R. 6287, to provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–413)

S. 2276, to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–414)

S. 2652, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–415)

S. 2679, to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–416)

S. 2765, to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to exempt investment advisers who solely advise certain rural business investment companies. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–417)

S. 2896, to require disclosure by lobbyists of convictions for bribery, extortion, embezzlement, illegal kickbacks, tax evasion, fraud, conflicts of interest, making false statements, perjury, or money laundering. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–418)

S. 3031, to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–419)

S. 3367, to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–420)

S. 3444, to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lake Charles, Louisiana, as the ''Douglas Fournet Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–421)

S. 3777, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a tiger team dedicated to addressing the difficulties encountered by the Department of Veterans Affairs in carrying out section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, after the enactment of sections 107 and 501 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017. Signed on January 3, 2019. (Public Law 115–422)

S. 2200, to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System. Signed on January 7, 2019. (Public Law 115–423)

S. 2961, to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990. Signed on January 7, 2019. (Public Law 115–424)

H.R. 2200, to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Signed on January 8, 2019. (Public Law 115–425)

S. 3191, to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases. Signed on January 8, 2019. (Public Law 115–426)

S. 1862, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to modify the criteria for determining whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking. Signed on January 9, 2019. (Public Law 115–427)

S. 3247, to improve programs and activities relating to women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development. Signed on January 9, 2019. (Public Law 115–428)

H.R. 4689, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Northport Irrigation District in the State of Nebraska. Signed on January 10, 2019. (Public Law 115–429)

H.R. 5636, to designate additions to the Flatside Wilderness on the Ouachita National Forest. Signed on January 10, 2019. (Public Law 115–430)

H.R. 6602, to reauthorize the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. Signed on January 10, 2019. (Public Law 115–431)

S. 3456, to redesignate Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge. Signed on January 10, 2019. (Public Law 115–432)

S. 3661, to provide for a program of the Department of Defense to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II. Signed on January 10, 2019. (Public Law 115–433)

H.R. 672, to require continued and enhanced annual reporting to Congress in the Annual Report on International Religious Freedom on anti-Semitic incidents in Europe, the safety and security of European Jewish communities, and the efforts of the United States to partner with European governments, the European Union, and civil society groups, to combat anti-Semitism. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–434)

H.R. 4174, to amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–435)

H.R. 7279, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integrated planning process, to promote green infrastructure. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–436)

H.R. 7318, to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–437)

H.R. 7319, to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–438)

S. 512, to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–439)

S. 1023, to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–440)

S. 1158, to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–441)

S. 1580, to enhance the transparency, improve the coordination, and intensify the impact of assistance to support access to primary and secondary education for displaced children and persons, including women and girls. Signed on January 14, 2019. (Public Law 115–442)

Committee Meetings FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2019

(Committee Meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine China and Russia, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense enterprise-wide cybersecurity policies and architecture, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office's budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2019–2029, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Nicole R. Nason, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine drug pricing in America, 10:15 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine access to care, focusing on health centers and providers in underserved communities, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 116th Congress; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider S. 46, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act, S. 50, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, S. 51, to extend the Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, S. 199, to provide for the transfer of certain Federal land in the State of Minnesota for the benefit of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, S. 207, to enhance tribal road safety, S. 209, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian Tribes, S. 210, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancement in public safety services to Indian communities, S. 211, to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, S. 212, to amend the Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000, the Buy Indian Act, and the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide industry and economic development opportunities to Indian communities, S. 216, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, S. 224, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation located in Dillingham, Alaska, and S. 226, to clarify the rights of

Indians and Indian Tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of William Pelham Barr, of Virginia, to be Attorney General, and Donald W. Washington, of Texas, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, both of the Department of Justice, Bridget S. Bade, of Arizona, and Eric D. Miller, of Washington, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Paul B. Matey, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Eric E. Murphy, of Ohio, and Chad A. Readler, of Ohio, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Allison Jones Rushing, of North Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Rossie David Alston, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Roy Kalman Altman, Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, and Rodney Smith, each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, Thomas P. Barber, and Wendy Williams Berger, both to be a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, J. Campbell Barker, and Michael J. Truncale, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas, Pamela A. Barker, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Kenneth D. Bell, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, Jean-Paul Boulee, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Holly A. Brady, and Damon Ray Leichty, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, Andrew Lynn Brasher, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Brian C. Buescher, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska, James David Cain, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Stephen R. Clark, Sr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Clifton L. Corker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Daniel Desmond Domenico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Karin J. Immergut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Matthew J. Kacsmaryk, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Corey Landon Maze, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, David Steven Morales, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Sarah Daggett Morrison, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, Carl J. Nichols, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Howard C. Nielson, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, J. Nicholas Ranjan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Wendy Vitter, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, T. Kent Wetherell II, and Allen Cothrel Winsor, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida, Joshua Wolson, and John Milton Younge, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Patrick R. Wyrick, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, M. Miller Baker, of Louisiana, and Timothy M. Reif, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, and Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, and Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, 1 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Department of Defense's Support to the Southern Border'', 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Congressional Budget Office's Budget and Economic Outlook'', 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Education and Labor, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1, the ''For the People Act of 2019'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Examining the Actions of Drug Companies in Raising Prescription Drug Prices'', 11 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 790, the ''Federal Civilian Workforce Pay Raise Fairness Act of 2019'', 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Protecting Americans with Pre-Existing Conditions'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting Of The SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1, Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act, post-cloture.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting Of The HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 29

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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