The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, April 12, 2019, at 2:30 p.m.

House of Representatives

Thursday, April 11, 2019

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Bernhardt, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Department of Interior.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 2 minutes as in morning business.

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

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, some officials are proposing radical changes to our healthcare system. These proposals include Medicare for All, Medicare Buy-in, Medicaid for All, and expansion of the Affordable Care Act. All of these are versions of government-run healthcare. These are, of course, better campaign slogans than serious solutions to the problems facing Americans.

On a certain level, I have found that most people would rather have control over their own healthcare than have the government make those decisions for them. A single-payer healthcare system would be devastating for our seniors, people with disabilities, and people with preexisting conditions.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Today the Senate will vote to confirm the President’s choice to serve as Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Bernhardt is no stranger to the Department. He has served twice before. In fact, this body has confirmed him twice before. His expertise has not gone unnoticed. Praise for Mr. Bernhardt has poured in from a list of more than 40 stakeholder organizations; from agriculture, trade, conservation, and Native American organizations.

They describe him as a leader whose “experience is sorely needed.” They laud his commitment to “make the lands he manages accessible to the recreating public.”

So we have before us an opportunity to confirm a well-qualified steward of our Nation’s public lands and resources. Yesterday, a bipartisan majority of our colleagues voted to end debate on his nomination, and I hope each will join me in voting yes once more later today.
Of course, confirming Mr. Bernhardt will be just the latest in a series of many Executive Calendar accomplishments. Following on the heels of last week’s turn back toward the Senate’s historic tradition concerning nominations, we would be able to approve a number of the President’s nominees at a much more reasonable pace in the last several days.

I have noted, with particular interest that, for all the breathless warnings my Democratic colleagues issued about the House, we would be able to confirm, these unobjectionable nominees have actually mostly coasted through on a bipartisan basis.

We saw support from both sides of the aisle for Roy Altman to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and for Daniel Domenico to the District of Colorado.

We saw an overwhelming bipartisan vote in favor of confirming GEN John Abizaid to serve as Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and a voice-voted confirmation for Jeffrey Kessler to serve as Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

These are not lightning-rod people whom my Democratic colleagues would have eagerly debated and investigated for what seemed like a thousand days. They are the kind of thoroughly qualified public servants who used to sail briskly through the Senate without opposition.

Now, even as my Democratic colleagues continue to require us to fill a cloture on individuals whom they actually go on to support, we are able to fill out the President’s team at a more reasonable clip. I am not talking to fill 25 empty seats but filling up positions on which we actually go on to support, we are able to fill out the President’s team at a more reasonable clip.

I have been busy highlighting the American stories behind these numbers—stories of recovery and prosperity being written in all sorts of communities, in all corners of our country.

More than 1 year ago, I mentioned on the floor that the backlog of jobless claims had reached their lowest level since 1969. Last week, the Labor Department reported that by this measure, the U.S. economy has set yet another new record. What was already a nearly 49-year low has now dipped further to a nearly 50-year low.

My colleagues and I have been busy highlighting the American stories behind these numbers—stories of recovery and prosperity being written in all sorts of communities, in all corners of our country.

More than 1 year since a generational overhaul of the Federal Tax Code lifted burdens from American job creators, entrepreneurs, and working families, the headlines are continuing to pour in.

With Tax Day just around the corner, millions of working families have filed for the first time under a law that has allowed, according to government analysts, the majority of Americans to keep more of their money. They have pocketed higher take-home pay, wage increases, and special bonuses, and they benefited from the booming job market these policies have helped ignite.

But old habits die hard. The Washington Democrats who were content to watch as the Obama era piled up 75 percent of new jobs and 90 percent of population growth to the biggest metropolitan areas are back to their same old tricks.

In recent months, we have seen a steady drip of leftist daydreams making their way into press conferences, resolutions, and out on the 2020 campaign trail. They would eradicate American election laws and a power grab on individual’s right to exercise political speech, a mandatory, one-size fits all government-run replacement for private healthcare for over 180 million Americans, and redistributed $3 trillion in taxpayers’ money to be spent testing out new Federal social planning schemes and abolishing the affordable energy sources American families rely on. Tax Day seems like an especially fitting day to look at the Washington Democrats no thanks—no thanks.

The Kentuckians I represent prefer to keep more of their own hard-earned money. They prefer to make their own decisions about their own families instead of ceding more power to bureaucrats.

TAX REFORM

Madam President, on another matter, over the past year or so, I have dedicated a large part of my time on the floor to discussing the performance of the U.S. economy, and at no point have I struggled to find things to say. Seemingly every day, we have been greeted by headlines that tell the same story: Under the political policies of a pro-growth, pro-opportunity Republican agenda, Americans are experiencing a remarkable economic moment.

More than 1 year ago, I mentioned on the floor that the backlog of jobless claims had reached their lowest level since 1969. Last week, the Labor Department reported that by this measure, the U.S. economy has set yet another new record. What was already a nearly 49-year low has now dipped further to a nearly 50-year low.

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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Sasse in introducing a tax bill that joined Senators Fischer, Ernst, and several of my colleagues from the Midwest to make sure that this devastation didn’t happen to farmers across the Midwest. This simple fix, which will mean so much to farmers facing such unusual catastrophic losses, can be included as the disaster bill moves forward through the Senate.

Yesterday, as another way of helping more than just this type of farmer but, generally, other disaster victims, I joined Senators Fischer, Ernst, and Sasse in introducing a tax bill that goes by the title of the Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2019. This includes a series of disaster tax relief provisions that will help American families and businesses recover from the terrible disasters that have occurred so far in 2019, including the Midwest flooding.

On February 28 I introduced a bipartisan bill with Senator Wyden that included the same tax relief provisions that would assist the victims of disasters that occurred in 2018. So I view the Fischer bill and the Grassley-Wyden bill as complementary, providing disaster tax relief for the disasters that occurred last year, as well as this year. The bill that I introduced in February also includes extensions of
a series of tax provisions that almost every Member of this Senate would like to see passed. These are the tax provisions that expired in 2017 and 2018. We labeled all 25 or 26 of these as tax extenders. These are things that, over the last two decades, have been extended almost automatically after they have sunset, and we need to get those provisions enacted, just like the disaster tax relief provisions.

I encourage the House Democrats to send the Senate a bill that addresses both tax extenders and disaster tax relief provisions. When I say House Democrats, people listening are going to say: He is being partisan. No, I am being constitutional. The Constitution says that all tax bills have to start in the House of Representatives. The House of Representatives is controlled by the Democrat majority. So that is why I am saying to the House Democrats: Get these bills over here to us so we can help not only the people who get relief from these tax extenders but, more importantly, those who with the urgency of the disaster that we are facing.

The importance of passing these bills is because Americans need certainty as they file their taxes in 2018, and they need the tax relief as they recover from these natural disasters. They really need the House Democrats, under the Constitution, to pass a tax bill because we can’t act on these tax bills before the tax law goes into effect. The Constitution says that all tax bills have to start in the House of Representatives. If we pass even a simple tax bill — let’s say we pass it as part of an appropriations bill — and we send it over to the House, they don’t accept it. That has been the tradition around here for centuries. That is why I am calling on the House Democrats to move that bill.

The disaster relief provisions included in the bill that we have introduced reduce penalties and make it easier to access retirement funds so individuals and families can get back up on their feet and rebuild their lives. In other words, these are retirement funds that people have set aside and that the law doesn’t allow them to access for disasters. It is just a simple thing. If somebody is hurt by this disaster and wants to go to their retirement fund and borrow on it for a certain period of time, they should get relief. It is a pretty simple thing. Maybe, momentarily you could say it costs the Federal Government something, but they are still going to owe these taxes regardless of whether they start drawing for retirement.

These bills also make it easier for disaster victims to claim personal casualty losses, and they suspend certain limitations on charitable contributions to encourage more donations for this disaster relief. For businesses affected by these disasters, this tax relief is available to help them retain employees while businesses get back up and running.

Let’s continue the bipartisan tradition of helping our fellow Americans with disasters. When these disasters strike, we ought to do it by enacting this tax relief for both 2018 and 2019, so that disaster victims don’t have to wait any longer to access this important assistance and continue to get back on their feet.

It may sound like I am talking about something new. I don’t know whether this just started with Hurricane Katrina in 2005 or before, but I remember being the Finance Committee then. We passed similar legislation to help the victims of hurricanes. So this is really nothing new. Since it is nothing new and we have done it before, what is wrong with doing it now?

The Democrats in the House of Representatives can get this bill over to us so we can get it enacted over here and get it to the President. We want to provide the certainty that taxpayers deserve. We want to do not only those disasters but also the expired tax provisions. I encourage the House Democrats to move swiftly. The Senate and the American people are waiting.

On another point about flooding, generally, not just dealing with this flood, this flood brings to attention something we have to deal with, with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Next week the Environment and Public Works Committee is holding a field hearing in Southwest Iowa to provide oversight on the Army Corps of Engineers management of the 2019 Missouri River flooding. Senator Ernst, my colleague from Iowa, will be chairing this hearing, and I am going to be participating.

Flood control should be the No. 1 priority of the Corps in its management of the Missouri River. I hope that tomorrow, when I get to travel with Vice President Pence as he views the same area that I viewed 2 weeks ago — the same area covered here — we have the Army Corps of Engineers there so that we can talk to them about the issue of the Missouri River Master Manual authorizing eight purposes as they control the water up and down the Missouri River. They do that through the dams on the Missouri River.

It happens that seven of these can be at cross purposes with the eighth one — flood control is No. 1 and not No. 8. We need to discuss with them how to prevent massive flooding and how to act to ensure that folks in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas are not faced with devastation every few years. Eventually, this water ends up in the Gulf of Mexico. So States below Missouri are going to eventually be affected by it.

I appreciate the stamina and determination of Iowans whom I have seen out there, not only in this flood of 2019 but in the floods of 2011. The one of 2011 was much more devastating. I think we have great resiliency. We will come back and pull together to get the job done, but there is a very long recovery ahead of all of these Iowans affected by it and Nebraskans and, maybe to some extent, Kansas and quite a bit in Missouri.

I will continue to do everything I can as the Federal Liberal's top天然recovery strategist of Lowa communities, and more importantly, in fact, as individual lowans are affected, I am going to help them to recover and to rebuild.

Thank you. 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.

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

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

NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, it is an exciting day for Colorado. I have known David Bernhardt, our nominee for Secretary of the Interior — and the seventh Secretary of the Interior from Colorado should he be confirmed today — personally and professionally for over two decades. His roots are deep on both sides of Colorado — in the High Plains and on the Western Slope.

We share a lot of common interests in rural development and in saving our small towns. My experience stems from the kind of experience of the Native American community of Yuma, CO, in the Eastern Plains, and Mr. Bernhardt’s formative years were spent on the Western Slope of Colorado — an area that is a microcosm of all of the things that we cherish about our great public lands. We both began our public service only 1 year apart when we worked for Colorado State Representative Russell George, who would later go on to become speaker of the Colorado House. That is when I first met David. Mr. Bernhardt worked with Jaime, my wife, at the Department of the Interior during the George W. Bush administration under another Colorado Secretary of the Interior.

His personal background and public and private sector professional experiences prove he is a strong voice for the West and is extremely well-qualified for the nomination to be the Secretary. In fact, there are few others who have had the kind of experience that Mr. Bernhardt has had that enables him to be qualified to be Secretary. Which Secretary of the Interior has had more experience than David Bernhardt or has been more qualified to become the Secretary of the Interior? He has extensive insight on Western water policy, natural resources policy, and on Indian affairs, just to name a few.

Those who have worked with Mr. Bernhardt commend him for his integrity and wealth of knowledge on the issues under the Department of the Interior’s jurisdiction.

In 2008, after the Department of the Interior reached the largest Indian
water rights settlement in our Nation’s history. Secretary Kempthorne personally acknowledged Mr. Bernhardt’s work as then-Solicitor and stated: “His effective coordination—both within Interior as well as with the local, tribal, state, and congressional leaders—was essential to the success we celebrate today.”

More recently, he worked to accommodate many Western States’ requests for more flexibility under the Greater Sage-Grouse Amendment. Mr. Bernhardt, who as a senator policy advisor ran point on this issue for Colorado’s Democratic Governor John Hickenlooper, had this to say in December 2018 once that process was completed:

David Bernhardt is an honest man who puts all his cards on the table and keeps his word. I have worked with DOI for 25 years, and David is one of the finest people I have ever worked with.

That didn’t come from a partisan Republican or a partisan Democrat; that came from a person in the Democratic Governor’s office who worked with him on natural resource issues.

David Bernhardt is a man who was the CEO of Ducks Unlimited, which is hardy a partisan Republican or Democratic organization but is an organization that does more real conservation work on the ground than most of the groups that have the word “conservation” in their names, has this to say when Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination for Secretary was announced:

I have known and worked with David Bernhardt for more than a decade, and we are excited to continue to work with him as the new Secretary of the Interior. His integrity in following the law is beyond reproach. David Bernhardt is a champion of conservation and the right person for the job. We urge the Senate to swiftly confirm him.

Colleagues of his from his time spent working for Representative Scott McInnis, who represented Mr. Bernhardt’s hometown in Colorado, swore to his a day a few months, the Washington, DC, political smear machine has been working overtime to sully a good man’s name. None of what we heard is unheard in the pages of the New York Times and in other places has been new information. I guess the hope is that we will take it around, the New York Times is the one writing about it.

Mr. Bernhardt has undergone two separate and extensive FBI reviews for both his nomination to be Deputy Secretary and his nomination to be Secretary. These reviews and FBI interviews were done after the allegations were first raised, and he was cleared for both positions, which is probably something people didn’t read in the New York Times. In understanding that these claims had been reviewed previously to the Senate’s committee’s satisfaction, Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination was reported out last week by a bipartisan vote of 14 to 6.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD Chairman Murkowski’s and Ranking Member Manchin’s committee statements. There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENTS FROM SENATORS MURKOWSKI AND MANCHIN FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT TO BE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR — 04/04/2019

SENATOR MURKOWSKI: (2:01)

Good morning everyone. The Committee will come to order. We’re meeting this morning under the covered of the Senate Rules and Orders. This is for the nomination of David Bernhardt to be Secretary of Department of Interior; Susan Combs to be assistant Secretary of Interior for Policy, Management and Budget, and Aimee Jorgani to be chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. I believe that all three of these nominees are well qualified and encouraged all members to vote to report them favorably this morning.

As I noted last week Mr Bernhardt, I believe, has the right background. He’s got the right experience to be an excellent Secretary of the Interior. He has twice been confirmed to positions at Interior with bipartisan support. First, to be Solicitor in 2006 and then to be Deputy Secretary in 2017. He’s most recently served as Acting Secretary since January of 2019. I understand that Mr. Bernhardt has the second most prior experience at the Department out of appointment secretary, is from the West—I like that—he has great familiarity with issues that will come before him, and he’s proven that he can able at the Department.

So, what everybody’s talking about this morning. There is—there are accusations about his ethics. We had this conversation last—or two weeks ago when—when his name was before us. I think it’s very clear you got some pretty well funded groups that are taking very hard yean. It’s critically against his nomination. We saw new allegations last week and then this morning there is—is yet another report. And this is all—this is coming from groups that are getting very hard funded. And the government scientists involved saying that there was nothing amiss when we had that conversation last week, Senator Gardner, you certainly raised that. This week we’re starting to see—we’re again seeing new reporting on old allegations. I don’t think that this is a coincidence, that we are seeing this kind of a roundup of reporting on old stories—and I think nonstories—just as we’re approaching the markup here.

Interior’s Inspector General has reviewed the matter as part of the Bernhardt review. It has not opened an investigation. In fact, our staff checked with the Inspector General’s office. We were told that there are no open investigations into these claims. We have had as a committee I believe ample time to review all of these allegations. I am aware of...
no substantiation of them whatsoever and frankly I would be—I would be stunned if they were to be substantiated. I would remind members that both the Office of Gov-
ernment Ethics and the Designated Ethics Official have found Mr. Bernhardt to be in good standing.

So, again, there—there will probably be a question from Senator Blumenthal. I would imagine, on the New York Times article that is out there this morning, but I would remind colleagues or ask you to look into these. These allegations contain no new information. This is recycled. It’s been re-packaged. They’re now focusing on an in-
voice from Mr. Bernhardt’s prior Law Firm. The level of detail that it was labeled incorrectly. Others have said it was labeled in-
correctly. It didn’t concern lobbying serv-
ces. We have known about this previous work that he has had at Westlands. We look it back in 2017 when we confirmed him as Deputy Secretary. And at that time this work was not deemed lobbying. So, just be-
cause it’s an invoice doesn’t mean that it’s correct. It’s my hope that as a committee we will—will move forward in affirming Mr. Bernhardt to be Secretary. And then the future of the Senate will confirm him coming up here. I think the sooner we have a permanent Sec-
retary at Interior, the better.


Hon. ELIZABETH WARREN, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.
Hon. RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WARREN AND SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Thank you for your letter of February 26, 2019 regarding your expressed concerns of the actions of the Acting Sec-
retary of the Department of the Interior (De-
partment) and DOI. You reference an article published by the New York Times on February 12, 2019 discussing the Acting Sec-
retary’s legal practice prior to joining the Department as Deputy Secretary in August 2017. Specifically, you asked about the Act-
ing Secretary’s involvement with the Central Valley Project (CVP) in California and whether his actions, “violated his ethics pledge and federal conflict of interest regu-
lations by participating in decisions that di-
rectly affect a former client.” As discussed below, we have found that the Acting Secretary’s actions have complied with all applicable ethics laws, rules and other obligations, in-
cluding the requirements of President Trump’s Executive Order 13770 entitled, “Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Appointees” (Jan. 28, 2017) (Ethics Pledge).

As an initial matter, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you and your col-
leagues of recent developments and improve-
ments with the DOI ethics program that will enhance our ability to prevent conflicts of interest at all levels of the Department. Since our arrival at the Department in April 2018, Deputy Director Heather Gottry and I have implemented reforms described previously characterized by both DOI em-
ployees and numerous Inspector General reports as passive and ineffectual. With the strong support of the Acting Secretary, we have spearheaded a long-overdue build-out of the Departmental Ethics Office (DEO) as well as the ethics programs of the various Bureaus and Offices throughout the Dep.
artment.

Our top priority as non-partisan, career ethics officials, is to prevent conflicts of in-
terest at the DOI and to ensure that DOI em-
ployees are aware of and comply with all ap-
licable ethics laws and standards. We un-
derstand the importance of our program in help-
ing to preserve the public’s trust and con-
fidence in the lawful and proper administra-
tion of the Department.

Thank you Madam Chairman and I appre-
ciate the committee—ensuring this com-
mittee moves forward on important nomi-
 nations. We have two of those nominations be-
fore us this morning that I’m glad that we are reporting from this committee and—the nominations of Susan Combs, Assistant Sec-
retary of Interior of Policy, Management, and Budget and Bernhardt Jorgani to Chair the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. I think Madam Chair-
man gave a good overview of that. Com-
mittee and Oversight committees about putting in our teams together.

Mr. Bernhardt has spent more than 15 years of a 23-year career in public serv-
ices, and most of that time has been spent at the Department of the Inte-
rior. While in his private law practice, he never lobbied the Department of the Interior—not once. During his time as Deputy Secretary, he has focused on the fundamental transformation of the Department and Bureau-level ethics programs to promote ethical compliance and reduce workplace misconduct.

The reality is that the ethics pro-
gram throughout the Department of the Interior had been, sadly, neglected by the previous administration. The Of-

ce of Inspector General and the Dep.
artmental Ethics Office had recom-

mended significant resource changes that had fallen on deaf ears under the previous administration.

Unfortunately, the level of qual-
ified and career staff at the Interior has been, for the past 8 years, substantially reduced. In particu-
lar, the Department has hired a total of 42 ca-

reer professional ethics advisers. By the end of fiscal year 2019, they will have doubled the number of career ethics officials that the previous admin-
istration had hired in its entire 8 years. The record shows that he has ac-

tively sought and consulted with the Department’s designated Agency ethics officials regarding compliance with his ethics obligations recusals.

In addition, he has installed a robust screening process to ensure that he does not meet with or engage in par-

cipating matters benefiting the former clients from which he is recused. Every

proposed meeting is reviewed by career professionals to ensure compliance with not only his ethics agreement but ethics laws and to make sure his ethics pledge to the President is upheld.

His work in natural resources law prior to joining the DOI and related ethics agreements are very similar in scope and substance to the private work and ethics agreements of senior Interior officials who came be-
fore him in previous administrations. Last week, I said that all kinds of ethics agreements and obligations that basically he is doing are what previ-
ous administrations did as well.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the letter from the Department of the Interior Designated Agency Ethics Official dated March 25, 2019.

Hon. RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MANCHIN: (30:50)

Thank you Madam Chairman and I appre-
ciate the committee—ensuring this com-
mittee moves forward on important nomi-
 nation matters benefiting the former
elites in all the issues that come before him. I spoke with him several times before this business meeting regarding his nomination. I’ve reviewed his follow-up questions for the record following his hearing. He has an-
swered all of our questions in a timely man-
ner. We received them back and I think it’s all been made record. I even talked to him ear-
lier this week by phone again. I ques-
tioned him again, extensively, about his willingness to be a good steward of our na-
tion’s public lands... I intend to work with Mr. Bernhardt regarding compliance and ethics—
ethics laws and regulations, as well as his actions to work for the American people. I was very much concerned about that. Based on my ex-
tensive discussions with Mr. Bernhardt and the assurance that he has given me, I’m pre-
pared to vote for him this morning, but I will note that I expect him and the Department, now I’ve put them on notice, hold them to the highest ethical standards. And I will make sure that he will be held ac-

countable for his actions. He must work to ensure committee and a commitment to ethical and scientific integrity and I intend to work with him and his staff persistently to ensure that this is the case. Our parks and public lands, our scenic beauty, our fish and wildlife re-
sources are important to all of us here, to the people we represent, and my state, and in your states. And West Virginians count on the Secretary of Interior, as they do in your State, and in our state senators and our Oversight com-
mittees about putting in our teams together.

And I’ve told him that. I said because I sure-
ly will. I will sure hold him to account-
able for his actions. He must work to ensure committee and a commitment to ethical and scientific integrity and I intend to work with him and his staff persistently to ensure that this is the case. Our parks and public lands, our scenic beauty, our fish and wildlife re-
sources are important to all of us here, to the people we represent, and my state, and in your states.

And I had extensive conversation with Mr.
Bernhardt these important issues. I’ve made it clear to him that I expect him to put his ex-
tensive experience and knowledge to work to deal with these important issues to work for the American people and not to people used to work for. And to exe-
cute his responsibilities in the manner that ensures that our public lands are not just being maintained, but improved. Improved for the benefit of generations to come.

Thank you Madam Chair.

Mr. GARDNER, Madam President, let’s talk about that story and ethics for a second.

Mr. Bernhardt has spent more than 15 years of a 23-year career in public serv-
vice, and most of that time has been spent at the Department of the Inte-
rior. While in his private law practice, he never lobbied the Department of the Interior—not once. During his time as Deputy Secretary, he has focused on the fundamental transformation of the Department and Bureau-level ethics programs to promote ethical compliance and reduce workplace misconduct.

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fore him in previous administrations. Last week, I said that all kinds of ethics agreements and obligations that basically he is doing are what previ-
ous administrations did as well.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the letter from the Department of the Interior Designated Agency Ethics Official dated March 25, 2019.

There being no objection, the mate-
rial was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

Please know that my office takes all credible allegations of potential ethics violations by any DOI employee very seriously and alleges against senior officials are an extreme rarity. Consequently, on the New York Times page 3, the Acting Secretary immediately forwarded the memorandum to the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) guidance. It was determined that the law the Acting Secretary had lobbied on for Westlands Water District, the CVP generally, as reflected in his Ethics Agreement, dated May 1, 2017, and his Ethics Recusal memorandum, dated August 15, 2017, the Acting Secretary was required under 5 C.F.R. §2635.502 to recuse for one year (until August 3, 2018) from participating personally and substantially in any “particular matters involving specific parties” in which Westlands Water District was a party or represented a party. Because Westlands Water District is a state or local government it is excluded from the requirements of paragraph 6 of the Ethics Pledge to act with “matters” or “particular matters of general applicability,” Federal law and OGE opinions supported by Federal law and OGE opinions and categorized certain issues involving the CVP generally. As reflected in his Ethics Agreement, linked together and to participate in any matter that is potentially within the scope of his Ethics Agreement, Ethics Recusal memorandum, the Ethics Pledge, or any law or regulation. Additionally, to eliminate any potential for miscommunication, I have instructed my staff that all ethics advice and guidance on certain issues and topics. Therefore, because he did not lobby on a “particular matter” for Westlands Water District, the Acting Secretary’s recusal related to Westlands Water District ended on August 3, 2018, and was limited in scope to “particular matters involving specific parties” under 5 C.F.R. §2635.502.

The DEO has not issued any authorizations or ethics waivers to the Acting Secretary or other Interior officials on the topics you raised, nor have we referred any matters to the IG on these topics. It is worth noting that the Acting Secretary meets with me and my senior staff frequently and that I have a standing meeting with him once a week to discuss any significant ethics issues at the DOI. Pursuant to the Acting Secretary’s direction, my senior staff meets with me and my senior staff twice a week, at a minimum, to ensure we are aware of who the Acting Secretary is meeting with and the issues he will be discussing. The Acting Secretary’s lobbying efforts, supported by the Acting Secretary and his staff, are designed to ensure his compliance with applicable ethics rules and protect the integrity of the Department’s programs and operations. My experience has been that the Acting Secretary is very diligent about his ethics obligations, his ethics compliance and the creation of an ethical culture a top priority at the Department. If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

SCOTT A. DE LA VEGA,
Director, Departmental Ethics Office and Designated Agency Ethics Official.

Enclosure.

Mr. GARDNER. This letter is in response to a letter from Senators Warren and Blumenthal and states that the Ethics Office has found that Mr. Bernhardt’s actions as Deputy Secretary and Attorney General have complied with all applicable ethics laws, rules, and other obligations, including the requirements of President Trump’s executive order 13770, entitled ‘Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch’.

This letter from the career head of the Department of Interior ethics professionals who served at the White House during the previous administration goes on to say:

My experience has been that the Acting Secretary is very diligent about his ethics obligations and he has made ethics compliance and the creation of an ethical culture a top priority at the Department.

That wasn’t in the New York Times, either, but I think it should be.

This is not about Mr. Bernhardt’s ethics or his integrity or his qualifications; it is about the fact that he has been and will be effective at implementing his ethics obligations. It is not the scope of his ethics obligations. He is the one who decided to participate in any matter that is potentially within the scope of his Ethics Agreement, Ethics Recusal memorandum, the Ethics Pledge, or any law or regulation. Additionally, to eliminate any potential for miscommunication, I have instructed my staff that all ethics advice and guidance on certain issues and topics. Therefore, because he did not lobby on a “particular matter” for Westlands Water District, the Acting Secretary’s recusal related to Westlands Water District ended on August 3, 2018, and was limited in scope to “particular matters involving specific parties” under 5 C.F.R. §2635.502.

I have enclosed the transmittal e-mail from me to the Acting Secretary with a detailed memorandum attached wherein the DEO consolidates and memorializes prior ethics advice and guidance on certain issues and topics. Therefore, because he did not lobby on a “particular matter” for Westlands Water District, the Acting Secretary’s recusal related to Westlands Water District ended on August 3, 2018, and was limited in scope to “particular matters involving specific parties” under 5 C.F.R. §2635.502.

I hope my colleagues will see through the partisan rancor, see through the lens of blue or red, of party politics, and confirm a man who—if you go back to Colorado and talk to people like Russell George, you will learn that he has the greatest respect not only for our public lands but for the people of Colorado, and for that, I am grateful for him and my colleagues who will confirm him today. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

HONORING STATE PATROL CORPORAL DANIEL HOWARD GROVES.

Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, I rise today to honor an officer of the Colorado State Patrol who was killed in the line of duty on March 13.

Corporal Daniel Howard Groves was an outstanding State Patrol officer who served with distinction for more than a decade. His service ended on March 13 as he was responding to an accident scene in the line of duty. Corporal Groves was a dedicated officer who committed his life to serving others. He was a man of humor who wasn’t afraid to crack a joke just to make people smile. According to a fellow officer, he once arrived at training wearing pajamas instead of the required police uniform.

Corporal Groves joined the Colorado State Patrol in 2007 after leaving a career in the technology services industry in Chicago. His family and friends remember him as a man with a tremendous capacity to make others feel welcome and to love others. He was a man of humor who wasn’t afraid to crack a joke just to make people smile. According to a fellow officer, he once arrived at training wearing pajamas instead of the required police uniform.

As other Members of this Chamber know, many parts of the country were hit hard by a bomb cyclone storm system last month. Again today, we are going through another spring storm. That storm caused flooding in much of the Midwest, as we have seen across the national news, and extremely hazardous road conditions in my State, which led to thousands of stranded drivers.

State Patrol Corporal Daniel Howard Groves, like many first responders day, was attempting to aid a driver in the Eastern Plains of Colorado on I-76 who had slid off the road, and he was struck by a passing vehicle.

Corporal Groves, who was 44 years old. He leaves behind a large and loving family, including his parents, his partner Eddie, his four siblings, and many more. We know that his family will continue to honor his sacrifice and ensure that his legacy lives on.

I am grateful for him and my colleagues who will confirm him today. I am thankful for David, and I look forward to working with him and his team at the Department of the Interior. I hope my colleagues will see through the partisan rancor, see through the lens of blue or red, of party politics, and confirm a man who—if you go back to Colorado and talk to people like Russell George, you will learn that he has the greatest respect not only for our public lands but for the people of Colorado, and for that, I am grateful for him and my colleagues. I look forward to confirming him today.

I yield the floor.
His fellow officers remembered him as a man who was drawn to service because of his desire to help, someone who always knew the risks inherent in the job but never let that deter him from doing what needed to be done.

One who spoke at the memorial remembered Corporal Groves as someone who frequently asked, where do you need me to be? He always wanted to be in the spot where he could be most effective, no matter the danger involved.

Even on the morning of March 13, as the weather was taking a turn for the worse, Corporal Groves knew there were drivers on the road who needed his help, and, as many law enforcement officers did that day, he bravely ventured out to offer assistance. This quality makes for a great law enforcement officer but is sadly the quality that we most often take for granted.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Dan and to all first responders who were willing to put their lives on the line to assist those in times of need and a debt of gratitude to their families as well.

I know my colleagues in the Senate will join me in offering our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of Corporal Groves and all those who defend that thin blue line.

As I have done too many times in this Chamber, I remember the words of LTC Dave Grossman, who said, “American law enforcement officers are the loyal and brave sheep dogs, always standing watch for the wolf that lurks in the dark.”

I drive by the spot where Corporal Groves was killed at least two or three times a week, and he will always be in my prayers, along with his family, for his sacrifice.

It is my hope that the thoughts and prayers that we offer to those who wear the blue uniform will bring them comfort as they carry out their solemn duties.

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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM BARR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if any one wonders whether Attorney General Barr is a straight shooter, this week, we got our answer.

Yesterday, at the Senate Appropriations Committee, the country saw another disappointing performance by the Attorney General. In the face of serious questions surrounding the release of the Mueller report, the Attorney General did exactly what President Trump wanted: He dodged questions, peddled a conspiracy theory, and, like the President, lobbed baseless accusations. It is clear that for Mr. Barr, the title he holds is far less important than the boss he serves.

What he did not say is that Russia attacked our democracy, as all 17 Agencies of our intelligence community have confirmed. What he did not say is that the intelligence community concluded the Russians infiltrated our democracy to help Donald Trump. What he also didn’t say is why he continues to wait on releasing the Mueller report. It took him less than 48 hours to summarize over 300 pages but over 2 weeks, and counting, to release the report itself.

Instead of giving straight answers, Mr. Barr seems to be nothing more than a spokesperson for the President’s campaign. He seems more like the has-been so, p.s. Tristan and was willing to sacrifice the Attorney General. He is even using the President’s own tactics: Admit nothing. Deny everything. Make counter-accusations.

Many of us tried to give Mr. Barr a chance, but after this week’s performance, it is clear as day he and the President are working off the same playbook and planning to withhold crucial facts from the American people.

What is really important is this: When Attorney General Barr issues his report, his objectivity will be in total doubt. No one will believe, when he redacts large parts of the report, that it was done on the merits; people will believe he redacted parts of the report to help President Trump. How will the American people be able to trust Mr. Barr, and how will the American people be able to believe that his version of the report is the real version when he redacts portions of the report, was willing to peddle FOX News conspiracy theories before the Appropriations Committee yesterday?

When Mr. Barr was first nominated as Attorney General, the question posed to him was, would he be part of the Trump legal team or an independent agent of the law? I think we have our answer, as we watch him echo President Trump’s statements and enable President Trump’s worst instincts. Whether it is defending the administration’s dangerous healthcare lawsuit or perpetuating conspiracy theories, Mr. Barr is acting more like a member of the President’s campaign than the independent Attorney General he is supposed to be.

Mr. Barr is letting down thousands—tens of thousands—of hard-working people at the Justice Department. They are doing their job. When someone is accused of wrongdoing, the law speaks, the justice system speaks, and that credibility is vital because he will be issuing a report with redactions.

When Mr. Barr issues his report, in terms of what should be redacted and what shouldn’t, his objectivity will be in total doubt because of his performance yesterday.

Again, how will the American people be able to trust the Attorney General? Has given them the most information he can rather than the least and that he has given them a full view of what happened rather than protecting the President? People are just not going to believe it.

The bottom line is that yesterday’s performance calls into complete question the objectivity and even the judgment of the Attorney General. He does not seem to be an independent actor pursuing the rule of law. Rather, he seems to be somebody simply ready to help the President no matter what the price.

Mr. President, on another matter, disaster relief, it is an absolute tragedy that we are seeing from FEMA. We need to help everyone hurt last year and everyone hurt this year—everyone hurt in Puerto Rico, everyone hurt in the Midwest, everyone hurt in Florida, and everyone hurt in Texas, Alabama, Mississippi.

In the American tradition, everyone comes together when we have disasters, and we help everyone.

Our Republican friends seem to have a different view. They want disaster relief that explicitly denies Puerto Rico the help it needs, even though they are American citizens like everybody else. They heard President Trump’s temper tantrum at their lunch a few Tuesdays back, and they have obeyed. This is un-American. We should not be picking and choosing who gets disaster relief.

When Americans suffer, we all step in. We all help. President Trump does not believe that, but where are our Senators who are standing up for this compassion of the American people? It is much greater than President Trump’s small-minded contempt for the people of Puerto Rico.

The Senate, particularly Senators from the disaster States who need that money, ought to have the courage to stand up instead of repeating conspiracy theories and pointing fingers of blame.

Republicans have refused to present a serious solution that can pass the House and the Senate. We all know that if Puerto Rico is not treated equally, it will never be seen on the floor of the House. We all know that the Governor of Puerto Rico has said that the solution Republicans are supporting is not adequate for Puerto Rico. We all know that.

It is a tragedy that the Republican leadership in this Chamber has refused to help American citizens before going into recess. They own the mess they
are creating across America, and with each passing day, the American people see it.

**TAX REFORM**

Mr. President, tax day is coming up, and we have seen another travesty of the Republican Senate.

When the Republicans pushed their tax scam, it was sold as a “middle-class miracle.” They promised it would prioritize middle-class families. President Trump and others promised Americans $4,000 raise every year. That is what President Trump promised about his tax cuts. He said that his tax cuts for the very wealthy and the big corporations would benefit every American to the tune of $4,000 a year. Unsurprisingly, this Republican tax scam has now defaulted on its promise to lift up average American families.

For too many Americans expecting a tax refund, they have gotten nothing or worse. After this tax season, the jig is up.

In fairness, there is one part of America that has made a killing—the very wealthy. Indeed, 83 percent of the benefits will go to the top 1 percent of earners, and the American people know it. A recent poll shows more than 60 percent of Americans believe the wealthy and corporations—big corporations—have been helped by the tax law. They are right.

Unfortunately, corporations aren’t using their windfalls as our Republican friends promised. They are not boosting worker pay, by and large, or increasing benefits or creating jobs. According to a recent survey, 84 percent of companies say they have not changed their plans because of the tax law.

What are they doing with the money they got? They are spending billions in windfall on record corporate stock buybacks, not benefitting their workers, not benefiting their community but benefitting the CEOs of the corporations and the shares generally go up, and benefitting the top 10 percent of America who own 85 percent of all the stocks.

Unfortunately, this story doesn’t end in making the rich richer. American workers are suffering while those same corporate executives and the very wealthy shareholders cash in.

Take the case of CSX, a freight rail company spending billions of dollars on stock buybacks after benefitting from the tax law. Just last week, we heard CSX announce that they are laying off 100 workers in Kentucky. Leader McConnell’s own backyard—not a $4,000 raise but a pink slip. You would think with all of these tax benefits that workers would benefit. It doesn’t seem to be happening. That story that happened in Kentucky can be repeated throughout the country.

As Americans finish their filings this year, they will know exactly who to blame if they see their taxes go up. They will know who to blame if they don’t get a refund or if they owe the IRS.

The tax bill is already a stunningly unpopular piece of legislation. I don’t recall a single Republican campaigning on it. It shows they weren’t proud of it. After this tax season, the Republican tax bill will be even further crystallized in the minds of everyday Americans as a scam that left them out to dry while soaking the ultrawealthy with even more wealth.

**NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT**

Mr. President, on Mr. Bernhardt, yesterday, I sat down with David Bernhardt, President Trump’s choice for Secretary of the Interior, and I pressed him on some things that we should all know before we vote on his confirmation.

I asked Mr. Bernhardt: Do you agree that climate change is real, caused by humans, and that we must act? I asked Mr. Bernhardt if he will commit to not opening up the waters off our coasts to harmful drilling, even off the coasts of States opposed to such drilling, and what he will do about his well-documented web of conflicting interests. I got no answers to these questions.

I remind all of my colleagues on the Atlantic coast that, again, I asked him to at least commit that he will not do drilling off the shores of States that didn’t want drilling off their shores. He would not commit to that, and there is word that there is a plan in the Interior Department to allow that to happen.

This is the same administration that promised to clean the swamp and rid Washington of corruption. Yet it is a twisted parody to think that President Trump wants an oil and gas lobbyist to lead the Department of the Interior. What a contradiction. What a betrayal. What a contradiction.

Mr. Bernhardt reportedly participated in efforts to launch a White House climate denial panel, the sole purpose of which was to rebuke accepted science. We cannot allow the work of our Federal Agencies to fall into the hands of people like this.

It is hard to imagine someone whose background is so at odds with the Department’s mission as Bernhardt’s. In good conscience, I cannot vote in favor of his nomination. For the same reasons, I urge all of my fellow Senators, particularly those along the coast, to vote against this nomination to protect their shoreline and their beaches.

I yield the floor.

**THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICER.** The Senator from South Carolina.

**REMEMBERING FRITZ HOLLINGS**

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak on behalf of Senator Hollings’ passing, along with my colleague Senator Scortt from South Carolina.

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

Mr. GRAHAM. Thank you.

Mr. President, Senator Scortt and I have come to the floor today to recognize a legend in South Carolina and this body. Senator Fritz Hollings, who passed away on April 6 in Isle of Palms, South Carolina. He was 97. He lived a life in Isle of Palms. That was his place to be.

He was born in Charleston, SC, in 1922. He graduated from the Citadel in 1942. He attended the University of South Carolina School of Law. He served as an artillery officer in World War II, earned a Bronze Star, and finished with the rank of captain.

He was in the State house of representatives from 1949 to 1954. He became our Governor in 1958 at age 36. He shepherded South Carolina through the turbulent times of the civil rights movement. He urged the legislature to follow the law after Brown v. Board of Education.

He established the best technical college system in the country. We say that with great pride. Fritz Hollings was the father of the South Carolina technical college system, which has resulted in thousands of jobs being created and educational opportunity for millions in our State.

He was a Senate. When Senator Thurmond retired, I was honored to be able to take his place, and Fritz was my senior for 2 years.

I just want to thank him and recognize what he did for me to become established in the Senate. He was kind. He was gracious. We did not agree on policy, but he could not have been a better friend.

I spent half of my time trying to interpret what he was saying on the floor. I caught about every third word. He has this Charleston accent that even I couldn’t understand at times.

Nobody enjoyed their job more than Senator Hollings. Nobody was ever better at it. When it came to South Carolina, Senator Hollings was able to move mountains. He was the chairman of the Commerce Committee and the Budget Committee.

He was one of the great environmentalists of our times. The ACE Basin in South Carolina is a beautiful place along the coast where three major rivers come together. It was Senator Hollings who established that, now and forever to be preserved. He helped establish NOAA, which has done so much for our oceans.

He was part of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Balanced Budget Act. He was always trying to keep our fiscal house in order.

He was a champion of the military. Being a World War II veteran himself, he always looked out for those in uniform. Senator Thurmond and Hollings were giants of their time, and they
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really made a difference for our State and for the country as a whole.

When it comes to his distinguished career in the Senate, Fritz Hollings was at the top of anybody’s list. He served for 38 years.

He was tireless advocate for the hungry—for hunger. He was trying to combat hunger and poverty before it was cool. He traveled all over this world to try to spread the good news about America.

After Senate life, he established the Hollings Center for International Dialogue to create exchanges in dialogue between the United States and mostly Muslim populations. He was ahead of his time there. For us to win this war on terror, we have to side with people in the faith who reject radical Islam, which the overwhelming majority of people reject, and Fritz understood that.

He was a great husband, father, grand-father, and great-grand-father. He was my friend.

He had the eighth longest tour of duty in the U.S. Senate in the history of the body. Yesterday, with Senator Scott’s help, we passed a resolution unanimously—every Senator signed on—honoring the service of Senator Hollings.

There are so many friends of his in this body. The staff and former Senators all will tell you that Fritz was a force of nature. He had strong opinions. He would come and sit with you whether you asked him or not. He knew what he was talking about. He was prepared. He was a fighter for his causes. He was willing to die for his country. Now he has passed, and the legacy for the people of South Carolina will be enduring.

Our beaches and our oceans and our mountains and our rivers are better off for his service. Our educational system stands out on the technical school side because of his vision. He shepherded us through those very turbulent times during the civil rights movement, where other States were literally on fire. South Carolina had problems, but they paled in comparison to most because of Senator Hollings’ leadership.

He was a lawyer. He loved the law. He was my friend. Senator Scott is from Charleston, and both of us have a tough act to follow when it comes to being Senators in South Carolina. Senator Hollings’ way was to fight for your cause. He is the kind of man who would listen to what you are talking about before you speak, and try to do it with good humor. What more can you say? From the time he was a young man in Charleston until he passed away on April 6, he was always fighting for his causes. He loved his State. He delivered for the people of South Carolina.

When it comes to the Senate, he was a legend. His presence was felt up here. His legacy is enduring. He fought the good fight. He was a faithful servant, and now he is an eternal rest. To his family, I know you are grieving, but you have much to be proud of. To the people of South Carolina, it is not about being a Republican or a Democrat in terms of service; it is about how much you love your State. No Republican and no Democrat ever loved South Carolina more than Fritz Hollings, and no Senator has ever made more of a difference than Senator Hollings.

So Senator Scott and I will do our best to keep up this good man’s legacy. We will have different policy choices, and we will go down a different political path, but we will always be ever mindful of the way we do our job. The way we do our job matters as much as what you do. Let it be said that when it came to doing his job, Fritz Hollings did it professionally, effectively, and with love and passion.

I now yield to Senator Scott of South Carolina.

Mr. Scott of South Carolina. Mr. President, I thank Senator Graham for yielding to me. Without any question, I think Senator Graham did such a great job of distilling the life and some of the accomplishments of Senator Hollings. Without any question, I cannot imagine Mr. Graham spending 36 years or so as a junior Senator from the great State of South Carolina because of the man that he was for the State that may helped his accomplishment, but for a State that faced extinction from an economic standpoint, when industries were leaving our State, the technical college system became the springboard, once again, for the great city of South Carolina to see a rebirth of our economic systems. What we have today is a manufacturing haven whose foundation is the technical college system. When we think about companies like BMW, Boeing, Volvo, Mercedes, Bosch, Michelin, Bridgestone, all these companies became a part of the corporate family in South Carolina because we had a healthy, thriving technical college system born because of the leadership of Senator Hollings.

Senator Hollings not only succeeded in public life, but he also succeeded in his private life. I will tell you that I cannot imagine the reunion between Senator Hollings and his wife, Petay, of over 40 years. I can’t imagine the celebration that is happening in Heaven as those two are being reunited and spending time talking about what has occurred over their lifetimes and the things they had to see.

The Greek proverb that I want to end with, as it relates to Senator Hollings, that says that a society grows when old men plant trees whose shade they know they will never sit under.

Senator Graham and I, the young’sters, comparatively speaking to Senator Hollings and Senator Thurmond—we are sitting under the shade of that tree. Our Nation benefits from people who have the wisdom to look forward, who are willing to die for their country, who create a country where we all benefit.

TAX REFORM

Mr. President, before I yield the floor, I do want to spend a few minutes
talking about what is an obvious day in our near future—tax day. Americans from coast to coast are thrilled with the opportunity to finish their taxes. I say that with the poorest tongue in cheek. I will say that without any question I am excited about this tax season because of the success of our tax reform in December 2017. It is exciting to think about the benefits to so many families throughout this country because of the successful passage of the tax reform bill in December 2017. I stand on the floor and listened to other speakers talk about how perhaps the tax reform package has not delivered consistent with the promises made during the debate. I would like to put some meat on those bones as well.

When you think about the average family who has kids, the doubling of the child tax credit from $1,000 to $2,000 and allowing for more refundability to happen because of the child tax credit being more families healthy because of the doubling of the child tax credit, which is good news. When you think about the size of the refund, $2,873 is, in fact, consistent with the refunds of years gone by, which, once again, reinforces the fact that this bill has presented itself in a positive way and produced results consistent with what we suggested. Because if you get the same refund you had last time—but you have more money in your paycheck today due to tax reform you actually can measure the success of the tax reform by looking at how many dollars you had in your paycheck in 2018 versus 2017, even if your employer did not give you a raise. So the success of our package is without question.

I would like to suggest that as you think about folks like me, and perhaps others in this body who were raised by single parents, a single mom in 2018 with two children did not have a Federal tax burden at all until her income hit over $54,000. That is important, and it is powerful for a specific reason. The average single mother makes around $40,000 a year, not $54,000. That means that for the average single mother in America, because of the success of our tax reform package, her Federal tax burden is down to zero. That is not just good news, that is great news. I know it personally because of a single mother who works a day job trying to keep food on the table. Having doubled the child tax credit and having lowered her taxes by doubling the standard deduction from $9,300 to $18,000, what we see for the single mom is hope and a light at the end of the tunnel that is not a train. This is good news.

Not only is it good news, but some have talked about our plan—we have doubled GDP growth averaged somewhere around 2 percent. In 2018, we saw a 3.1-percent GDP growth. What does that mean for the average person? What it means for the average person is that for the first time in a long time, more than a decade, we saw their wages grow over 3 percent. So not only did their wages grow over 3 percent, but, more importantly, they had more jobs—actually, not just more jobs. This is really good news. They had more jobs. So many more jobs are open today than people are looking for work. In other words, if you think about the number of folks looking for work, the number of openings exceeds that number. That is a transformation in this country in a way we have very seldom seen or experienced.

There is even more good news to that. Our unemployment rate is down to nearly a 50-year low, 3.8 percent. So if we are asking ourselves what these corporations did with the money, we are seeing the evolution or the manifestation of those dollars with these extra resources by seeing the lowest unemployment rate in 50 years. Now, that is not just true for America as a whole, it is true for the subgroups within America who have been challenged the longest and excluded from the workforce. The African-American unemployment rate is around 7 percent over the last 2 years. You have to compare that to, under the previous administration, an unemployment rate of around 10 percent. So the unemployment is near 5 percent. You have to compare that to a 50-percent increase under the previous administration.

We have seen perhaps the greatest renaissance in our country, economically, than we have seen in 20 years, and much of it is due to tax reform being passed. Embedded in the tax reform package was my signature legislation that I am so excited about, the provision that offers the opportunity that is having a transformative impact and effect throughout the poorest, most distressed communities in all of our country. Somewhere around 8,000 opportunity zones have been designated by the Governors in collaboration with the mayors. Mr. President, as a former Governor, you understand better than most of us the process by which one went through in order to establish the zones and the potential of those zones in the most distressed communities in each of the States.

There is good news. The good news is, in places like my home State of South Carolina, is a logistics company named DHL that drives those little yellow vans that ship some of your packages across the country. They are investing $100 million in a distribution and warehouse park, creating nearly 500 jobs in Dorchester County, and they have said the Federal opportunity zone designation was a factor DHL weighed in making this location decision. In Washington State, the Vancouver Downtown Redevelopment Authority president said: “It’s an absolute no-brainer, and a real gift from the federal government and will give us a real shot in the arm in these areas”—these challenged, distressed communities.

In Vegas, the largest opportunity zone expo in the Nation is being held next month with some of the biggest names across the country trying to figure out how they can reinvest their resources in areas where they were unwilling to take a second look, because now the incentive is good enough, and we did so without more bureaucrats and without government money. These are private-sector dollars being deployed in some of the most distressed communities.

In the Midwest, up to 3,000 jobs are on the way to East Chicago, and a local foundation is looking to invest $800 million in a solar farm in Flint, MI. There are so many other States with amazing projects that I would run out of time talking about those.

I will close with two thoughts. One is from Mayor Bowser of DC. She had a March Madness eviction opportunity zones, and she attracted 400-plus folks who are interested in investing and seeing the results of the investments in the local community here in DC.

For folks on the left and on the right, African Americans, Hispanics, Whites, Asians, this is a policy that brings America together. Whether you live in the most affluent communities or the most distressed communities, Americans are looking at opportunity zones as a way to have a conversation with each other. If there is one thing that we all would agree upon, it is that America needs to talk a little more with each other in a civil way about fairness and opportunity.

One of the reasons why I started my national opportunity tour is to highlight some of the successes—from Miami, with my good friend Marco Rubio, to Boston, New Hampshire, and West Virginia, with Senator Capito, to Idaho with Senator States, Colorado, Arizona, and so many other places. I look forward to continuing the conversation and distilling the benefits of the opportunity zones over the next few months.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I am honored to be cochairing the Entrepreneurship Caucus with the Senator from South Carolina. He is right that there are some great examples of people who want to get businesses started and who want to pursue their dreams, and we need to highlight those because we have a lot of people who right now have some great new ideas. If we are going to continue to be a country that is an incubator for those ideas, then, we have to promote those ideas and allow those people to follow their dreams.
So the question is not, Is it happening? We know it is happening. Is it happening because of natural forces now? We know that is happening. Is it happening because of natural forces now? We know that is happening. Even if you believe in the scientific consensus, you have to acknowledge that the human impact is significant. We see this in the impacts of climate change, in the storms and wildfires that we see around the country. We see the effects of climate change in the Arctic, where sea ice is melting at an alarming rate. We see the effects of climate change in the oceans, where coral reefs are bleaching and dying. We see the effects of climate change in the air, where greenhouse gas concentrations are rising. We see the effects of climate change in the water, where sea levels are rising and coastal communities are being flooded.

These are the big effects and the little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. The little effects, but Americans know this is happening. 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Opt out of the collection of nonsensitive information.

By allowing for a clear and conspicuous notification process, consumers will be able to make a more educated choice about the nature of the relationship they want to have with online vendors and with tech companies.

Furthermore, the BROWSER Act will prohibit digital services from denying their service to users who refuse to waive their personal privacy rights. The BROWSER Act also allows the FTC, the Federal Trade Commission, to enforce these rules using its unfair or deceptive acts or practices authorities.

Now the Federal Trade Commission has been our privacy regulator in both the physical and the online space. Just this week, Senator KLOBUCHAR and I sent a letter to the FTC urging stronger action for bad actors in the tech space. Companies like Facebook and Google have transformed society in revolutionary ways and need to recognize that with that great power comes great responsibility. This is the 21st century; it is not the Wild West. These tech companies need to be respectful of your privacy rights.

My friends in the Senate and the House have introduced the legislation I previously proposed as a Member of the House of Representatives. As I said, it is called the BROWSER Act. Americans want to be certain their privacy is protected in the physical and the virtual space. Broadband users—who are each and every one of us—should have the right to say who can or cannot access their private data.

Think about it. At this point, how and when you pay your bills, the credit cards you use, the sites you visit, the merchandise you shop for, friends you connect with, there is somebody tracking that activity with every move of the mouse. They are on it.

Consumers should have the right to clear and conspicuous notice of their privacy rights as they use digital services. They need to be able to opt into the collection of sensitive information while also giving users the ability to opt out of the collection of nonsensitive information.

By allowing for a clear and conspicuous notification process, consumers will be able to make a more educated choice about the nature of the relationship they want to have with online vendors and with tech companies.

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Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the postcloture time on the Bernhardt nomination expire at 1:45 p.m. today. I further ask that the record be immediately notified of the Senate’s action. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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The VEHICLE INNOVATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, transportation is responsible for roughly two-thirds of our national consumption of petroleum and one of the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. But imagine a future where we could produce low-cost, secure clean energy technologies to move people and goods easily across our Nation. Imagine if we could then sell our advanced American technology and products to the rest of the world.

Well, that is a future, by working together, we can indeed achieve. There is no question that the cars and trucks of the future can be equipped with technology to make them safer and more fuel efficient while also saving consumers money.

Rapidly emerging technology has the potential not only to reduce air emissions, but their development could also create jobs in Michigan and across the Nation, and these are jobs that cannot be outsourced. We must ensure that the United States leads the way in developing these innovations. That is why I reintroduced the bipartisan Vehicle Innovation Act with my colleagues Senator ALEXANDER and Senator STABENOW. The Vehicle Innovation Act promotes research and development investments in clean vehicle and advanced safety technologies. The bill also modernizes
the Vehicle Technologies Office within the Department of Energy, which exists to help create and sustain American leadership in the transition to a global clean energy economy.

This office’s leadership has already led to innovations in engine efficiency through vehicle weight reductions and reduced fuel production costs, and the Vehicle Innovation Act will help ensure that these continued innovations move forward.

I again partner on this bill with Senator Alexander and fellow Michigander, Senator Debbie Stabenow. In the last Congress, we were able to pass the Vehicle Innovation Act through the Senate. Now, with fellow Michigan delegation Members, Congresswomen Debbie Dingell and Haley Stevens, leading this bill in the House, there is no reason this legislation should not be enacted into law.

The bill is supported by labor, by industry, and by conservation groups, including the Auto Workers, the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association, the Auto Alliance, the BlueGreen Alliance, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

America should lead the world in clean energy advancements, and I urge my colleagues to support the Vehicle Innovation Act.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, while many folks in Washington, DC, remain ambivalent about what is happening along the southern border, I am here to report that we are reaching a breaking point.

Every month, Customs and Border Protection releases the total number of people who attempt to cross the southern border. The total includes those who cross illegally between the ports of entry. In May, the last-CB was in, there were nearly 9,000 unaccompanied children who were apprehended at the border—53,000 families and 9,000 unaccompanied children. Customs and Border Protection simply lacks the facilities to hold these children and lacks the personnel to provide appropriate care.

Do we really want the Border Patrol handing out juice boxes and diapers as opposed to interdicting dangerous drugs and other contraband that come into the United States? I don’t think so. We know they are desperately asking for additional detention space and staff to be able to manage the migrants who are in custody.

Why is it so important they be detained? It is because, if we engage in the practice that has come to be known as catch and release, then it is doubtful we will ever see these migrants again, even though they will be notified of their time to appear in front of immigration judges months—maybe even years—into the future. They will simply melt into the landscape. If they were to have bona fide reasons to claim asylum but were to fail to appear for their hearings in front of immigration judges, they will have waived those rights and be deported if they are ultimately located in the United States.

We know customs inspectors have been reassigned from their duties at ports of entry to do things like process asylum or deportations. With fewer customs agents on the job, you are now seeing lengthy delays at the ports and checkpoints along the entire border. In what is just right across from El Paso, TX, to Laredo, we have trucks being reported as sleeping in their vehicles for hours and sometimes days so they will not lose their spots in line.

I have heard from some of the car manufacturers that require that there be a flow of their supply chains into Mexico and vice versa that they are literally hiring aircraft to fly from Juarez to El Paso because that 11-minute flight is faster than a trucker waiting 24 hours in line. Also, when many of our car manufacturers that depend on just-in-time inventory can’t get their inventory just in time but have to wait 24 hours, it disrupts their manufacturing lines and endangers their businesses. Of course, it is easy to see how this could have a ripple effect on the entire border and the American economy.

This slowdown isn’t just affecting businesses along the border; it has businesses across the country worried. Mexican products feed the supply chain for many manufacturers in the United States, and these slowdowns affect production. While folks who live far away from the border may have just chosen to look the other way until now, they don’t have a choice anymore. The system is breaking.

The ripples will soon be felt across the country unless Members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, work together and are serious about enacting a solution. We know what we need to do, but politics is preventing us from getting it done. It is time to provide our frontline officers and agents with the personnel, the resources, and the legal authorities they need in order to do the jobs we have asked them to do. Yet, without support from Congress, we are sending them into a losing battle, and we are setting our economy up for a disaster.

GEAR UP FOR SUCCESS ACT

Madam President, on another matter, when the Senate is in recess next week, I, like most of our colleagues here, will be running to my State to talk to my constituents and to hopefully listen to what they have to say.

As I travel from El Paso to Laredo, some of the things I will be talking about will include the GEAR UP for Success Act with students, teachers, and school administrators. GEAR UP seeks to increase college and career readiness for underrepresented and low-income students. It currently serves about 600,000 students nationwide, and Texans have benefited from the $855 million in GEAR UP grants over the last 20 years.

I am glad I have had a chance to visit with some of my constituents in San Antonio and Harlingen about this bill and the incredible impact that GEAR UP grants have had on their students. I guess I didn’t fully appreciate the fact that students really have to begin deciding in the seventh grade what their courses of study will be because, if they don’t take the required courses, they are not going to make it past the other courses they are going to need in order to graduate or to get into college, they may miss the boat entirely. Many of these students come from families whose parents have never attended college and are unaware of the requirement to plan in order for their children to make the right course selections early on as opposed to their waiting until their junior or senior year to begin to think about where to apply or to go to college.

This legislation would allow school districts to better cater to their students’ specific needs rather than to use...
Dick’s first mission, and he was Jimmy Doolittle’s copilot.

After the attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor, this mission was not just of tactical importance—it was a major morale boost for our Nation.

Air Force Chief of Staff David Goldfein recently said:

Those 80 intrepid airmen changed the course of history. They executed a one-way mission without hesitation and against enormous odds.

The mission was, as you might imagine, perilous. Doolittle’s Raiders took off from the USS Hornet with barely enough runway to get airborne. In fact, Doolittle’s aircraft only had a 467 feet which to take off in an aircraft that was not designed to launch from an aircraft carrier. The airplanes inadvertently took off 170 miles further from Japan than they had planned, so they had insufficient fuel to make it to their landing fields in China.

As a result, Dick—then 26 and having had limited experience in jumping out of an aircraft—had to leap out of his B-25 into unknown territory. He later reported that he gave himself a black eye when he pulled the ripcord and finally landed in the branches of a tree, where he spent the night, dangling.

He later said:

They don’t give a Purple Heart for self-inflicted injuries. I gave myself a black eye.

Yet his heroism was certainly rewarded. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for bombing as well as the Bronze Star and the Air Medal. Then, in 2015, Dick and his fellow Raiders received the Congressional Gold Medal.

These men, as you might imagine, shared an incredible bond, and their lasting camaraderie was evident through one special tradition they shared. At each reunion, the crew would share a cognac in silver goblets. Each Raider was associated with a Raider’s name both right-side up and right-side down. After toasting to the men who had died since their last reunion, they would flip over the goblets of those who had passed away.

At their final reunion in 2013, only four Raiders were left. After determining that this would be the final reunion due to their ages and travel limitations, Dick delivered the last toast. Now his silver goblet will be turned side down. After toasting to the men who had died since their last reunion, they would flip over the goblets of those who had passed away.

At their final reunion in 2013, only four Raiders were left. After determining that this would be the final reunion due to their ages and travel limitations, Dick delivered the last toast. Now his silver goblet will be turned over just as it was for the 79 brothers who left this Earth before him.

We remember the final Doolittle Raider today for his incredible courage and sacrifice and a life well lived. America has lost another hero, but our country will never forget him.

I send my condolences to Dick’s family and friends and especially to Rich, his son, and Cindy, his daughter.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I rise today to address the Senate on the nomination of David Bernhardt to head the Department of the Interior.

I ask unanimous consent that I may use this chart in order to further my goal of making it clear why he should not be nominated and confirmed as Secretary of the Interior.

This wheel of Bernhardt’s giveaways makes it very clear what the objective of his tenure as the Secretary of Interior will, in fact, entail.

Bernhardt’s nomination is just a continuation of the Trump administration’s cartel Cabinet. Only a month ago, a former coal lobbyist was confirmed to head the Environmental Protection Agency. Let me me more again. Just last month, a coal lobbyist was nominated and confirmed to be the head of the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States—unbelievable. But now Republicans want to install a former oil lobbyist to head the Department of the Interior because, in Trump’s administration, it is nothing but foxes guarding the henhouse.

We need more answers about Mr. Bernhardt’s lobbying activities. We need answers on whether Mr. Bernhardt used his position at the Department of the Interior to help former clients. The American people need to see the documents associated with Bernhardt’s lobbying activities. Most importantly, we should not confirm a former oil lobbyist to lead the very Agency that is tasked with protecting our public lands from despoliation.

Let me now point to the wheel of giveaways for more answers.

And that is the goal of his appointment.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of our national treasures that is under threat from Big Oil and the Trump administration. This is the wildest place left in America, and it should not be turned into a drilling playground.

Yet Republicans here in the Senate voted in 2017 to hand this special place—the Arctic Refuge—over to Big Oil. Now this administration is trying to hit the gas on drilling there, in one of the Earth’s most pristine wilderness areas.

Last year, Mr. Bernhardt said that he would “expedite” oil development in the wildlife refuge, and he has worked inside the Department of the Interior to limit environmental review of drilling activities. So let’s just imagine gushing oil poisoning the habitat of magnificent creatures like polar bears and caribou, snowy owls and the Arctic tundra, and pumping that oil from the ancestral homeland of the Gwich’in and Inupiat peoples, which they call “the sacred place where life begins.”
I have spent my career protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for future generations, and today I will not support the nomination of David Bernhardt to undermine the protections we have worked so hard to put in place. We must stand up for the generations yet to come that will be able to enjoy this pristine area, the wildlife refuge.

Let’s move on to another part of the wheel of giveaways—even more oil that will be another giveaway during the Bernhardt time at the Department of the Interior.

On January 4, 2018, the Department of the Interior announced a plan to revise the offshore drilling plan to eliminate protections for the east and west coasts, the eastern Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic coast. The plan would open up more than 90 percent of the U.S. coastlines to oil and gas leasing.

Since then, the bipartisan opposition has been defeating. All Governors along the east and west coasts have opposed or expressed concerns about expanding oil and gas exploration off their coasts. More than 240 municipalities and over 2,100 elected local, State, and Federal officials have formally opposed offshore oil and gas drilling and seismic airgun blasting in our ocean. But David Bernhardt is not listening to those concerns. Instead, he is listening to his former fossil fuel clients. He is moving ahead with this terrible offshore drilling plan that would threaten State after State with the threat of a spill in the ocean off of those States.

We should not confirm Bernhardt to lead the Department of the Interior. Handing the keys to the beaches of our country, the coasts of our country, the Arctic oceans, and tourism industries in our country over to Big Oil is not what our citizens want. That is the opposite of what we need to do to protect our environment. That is what David Bernhardt and his fossil fuel friends want. There is no reason that we have to drill off of the coastlines of our country right where people who are swimming will be watching these oil rigs that are going to be drilling down into those ocean areas off of our beaches to find oil that we don’t need. If we increase the fuel economy standards of the vehicles we drive, we will be able to back out the need for all of that additional oil. That is the sin against the environment that is being committed. That is the agenda of David Bernhardt’s at the Department of the Interior.

Instead of being the United States of America—a technological giant that invents its way to the new automotive technologies that reduce the amount of oil we need and reduces the amount of greenhouse gasses that go up into the atmosphere—with David Bernhardt as the Secretary of the Interior, partnered with a new coal lobbyist who is running the EPA, we are going to wind up with more greenhouse gasses going up into the air, a reduction in the efficiency of the vehicles we drive, and putting more profits into the pockets of the Koch brothers and ExxonMobil and the auto industry, which also wants to reduce the fuel economy standards of the vehicles we drive. This is a sin against our environment but also our identity as the technological giant of the planet.

We can do this. We can make our cars more efficient. We can have plug-in hybrids. We can have all-electric vehicles. We can create a revolution that avoids the necessity of drilling off of our beaches and drilling in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. We can do this, and that is what Donald Trump wants. He wants fossil fuel industry representatives at the Department of the Interior and EPA running these Agencies.

David Bernhardt has gone over Oil—the very industry he is tasked with regulating—are as deep as an oil well. Those ties should be disqualifying for anyone nominated to head the Department of the Interior. We need to stop the pollution of our democracy by Big Oil interests.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the nomination of David Bernhardt. I ask my colleagues to consider what we can do to avoid the necessity of despoothing these sacred environmental locations in our country for the oil industry, for the Koch brothers. This is a big moment, this vote we are about to cast. This is one more step by Donal Trump that will result in far more greenhouse gases going up into the atmosphere, far more danger being presented to places that should be put off limits to the oil industry because of the risk of environmental danger that would result from that permission to drill.

That is why we should all pause and really consider whether we want to go deeper and deeper into an era that is completely avoidable if we unleash the technological might of our country.

President Kennedy went to Rice University in 1961, what he said was that we were going to have a mission to the Moon and that mission would require us to invent new metals, new alloys, new propulsion systems that did not exist, and that within 10 years, we would have to then bring that mission back safely from the Moon through heat half the intensity of the Sun and do so successfully.

Auto mechanics is not rocket science. We already know how to improve the fuel economy standards of the vehicles we drive. We don’t need nuclear physics and we don’t need aeronautical engineers to help us do this.

President Kennedy challenged our country and we responded. President Trump is like J.F.K. in reverse. He is saying that we can’t do it; that, instead, what we have to do is, here on Earth, be the leaders in spoiling our most sacred environmental locations.

That is why today is such a monumental opportunity for the Senate to say no on a bipartisan basis to David Bernhardt, who is someone who does not deserve the post of Secretary of the Interior.

I once again urge a “no” vote from all of my colleagues.

I yield the floor.

Madam President, 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I am pleased to be here today to speak in strong support of David Bernhardt’s nomination to be Secretary of the Interior, and I thank all of my colleagues on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. We worked pretty hard together to get Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination last week. We asked it with good bipartisan support. I also thank the majority leader for filing cloture this week so that we can confirm him before we depart for this 2-week work period.

I have several reasons—I have a whole host of different reasons to outline as to why I support Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination. I outlined them...
We like to consider ourselves a partner, Secretary specifically, as our landlord. That has more Federal acres than any state, the Secretary of the Interior controls most of those. We often refer to the Department, and the Secretary specifically, as our landlord. That is not necessarily a title we like. We like to consider ourselves a partner, but I think we truly recognize we need leadership to understand and appreciate the impact their decisions within the Department of the Interior can have on us. I know David Bernhardt understands that. He has been a good partner for Alaskans, but he has also been a good partner for individuals, groups, and States all across the country, and that is why his nomination is supported by a wide range of stakeholder groups from the Alaska Federation of Natives to Ducks Unlimited, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

I think it is also important to note that Mr. Bernhardt moved through our committee process in pretty good order. He answered all of our questions. Again, he demonstrated the depth of his understanding of the issues and his expertise. He really exceeded expectations, which led to a very strong bipartisan vote of 14 to 6 at the business meeting here today.

Now the full Senate has the opportunity to confirm Mr. Bernhardt. Some will continue to make allegations over ethics, but the fact is, as we have reviewed those charges, we have found there is no truth to any of them. I know this has been a subject of discussion on the Senate floor, so I want to lay it out very clearly. There are some news stories that are being printed and have been printed that are filled with unfounded accusation and innuendo. I assure you that has already been reviewed by our committee staff. New stories, old facts—they don’t contain anything new or anything disqualifying. There is nothing amiss here, and there is no valid reason to delay this process.

The Office of Government Ethics has certified that Mr. Bernhardt is in good standing; so has Interior’s Designated Agency Ethics Official. My committee staff has contacted Interior’s Inspector General. They said that there are no open investigations into Mr. Bernhardt. I would tell folks that what needs to happen here is that we need to move forward. We need to reject the last-minute rhetoric that is designed to delay. We need to confirm a well-qualified candidate to be our next Secretary of the Interior.

We have a lot to do. Interior has a lot to do to make sure that we are protecting our lands, increasing our energy security, as well as fulfilling all of the missions of the Department, and the sooner we are able to confirm a Secretary to focus on them, the better.

Mr. Bernhardt is very well qualified to be the Secretary of the Interior. He has the right background, the right experience, and the right perspective for the job. He is ready to lead on a permanent basis, and I am glad that very shortly here we are going to be considering his nomination. I strongly encourage every Member in this Chamber to support him for the position.

Madam President, I come to the floor to speak to the robust support that David Bernhardt has received for his nomination to be Secretary of the Interior. Last week, those of us on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee reported Mr. Bernhardt on a strong, bipartisan vote of 14 to 6. He has actually added support from members that are not on our committee, in 2017, and I hope we will see that again when we vote on his nomination later today.

Mr. Bernhardt’s support is not limited to the Senate. For example, the Congressional Western Caucus is solidly behind Mr. Bernhardt, with many of its members on record in support of his nomination.

Bear in mind, these are members from Western States, where the vast majority of our public lands are located, whose districts are most impacted by the Department of the Interior. It is a very good sign that Mr. Bernhardt has drawn his strong support from Western States.

We have also kept a list of individuals and groups who have submitted letters of support for Mr. Bernhardt. It spans the spectrum of stakeholders, from the Public Lands Council and the Colorado Farm Bureau to the American Exploration and Mining Association and the Corps Network.

Multiple recreation groups have written in urging the Senate to confirm Mr. Bernhardt. The motorized recreation groups, like the American Council of Snowmobile Associations and the Off-Road Business Association, wrote that, “At a time when many of the senators at the agency lack Senate confirmed executives, a person of Mr. Bernhardt’s experience is sorely needed in having [him] at the helm of the Interior Department will strengthen the agency’s resolve to make the lands it manages accessible to the recreating public.

Officials at all levels of government are voicing their support for Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination. The Governor of Wyoming, Mark Gordon, offered this statement: [Mr. Bernhardt’s] recognition of expertise in the States is refreshing . . . I wish [him] a speedy and easy confirmation process.”

The Mesa County Commissioners in Colorado wrote that “Mr. Bernhardt’s extensive knowledge of public lands and energy issues makes him an avid leader with skill to see issues from multiple perspectives to maintain and improve partnerships among federal, state, and local governments.”

The Harney County Court in Oregon has highlighted Mr. Bernhardt’s commitment to balancing the multiple use of public land, writing that, “[He] has proved himself in the past by exhibiting understanding between the balance that is needed from an ecological standpoint, but also, what is needed from the economic and social aspect of public land use. He will work towards a fair approach to assess and distinguish between the multiple issues that we are facing with the [bureau].”
Tribal groups and entities are also supportive of his nomination. In my home State, the Alaska Federation of Natives noted that, “Mr. Bernhardt has demonstrated a thorough understanding of the legal frameworks of the major laws covering Alaska Native subsistence and cultural rights and protections . . . he listens well, is articulate in his responses, and draws reasonable conclusions.”

The Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council wrote in that, “the Tribe has worked with Mr. Bernhardt] previously and firmly believes that his knowledge and experience make him a very good fit for the Department . . . we also believe he is committed to building strong working relationships that rely on good faith and respect among all interests at the table.”

We have truly heard from a very wide range of organizations in support of this nomination. The Archery Trade Association wrote to us that “Mr. Bernhardt has demonstrated tremendous commitment to conserving and protecting our nation’s natural, historic and cultural resources . . . [his] experience with the Department of the Interior and in the West; his willingness to listen, build relationships, be responsive; and his ability to handle it professionally . . . uniquely qualified for this position.”

One of the reasons that such a diverse group of stakeholders support Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination is that they have worked with him during his nearly ten years at Interior, including most recently as Deputy Secretary and then Acting Secretary. He has proven that he can work with groups, he has formed strong relationships with them, and they respect and support him.

For example, the Gila River Indian Community wrote that, “based on our experience working with Mr. Bernhardt] has demonstrated tremendous commitment to conserving and protecting our nation’s natural, historic and cultural resources . . . [his] experience with the Department of the Interior and in the West; his willingness to listen, build relationships, be responsive; and his ability to handle it professionally . . . uniquely qualified for this position.”

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great job, and we always enjoy working with them. MJ, enjoy your new endeavor in life.

NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT

Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the nomination of Mr. David Bernhardt to be the Secretary of the Interior. On February 13, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources voted to report David Bernhardt’s nomination to be the Secretary of the Interior last week by a vote 14 to 6. Members on both sides held and continue to hold strong feelings on Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination. Both sides have scrutinized his record carefully, as we should, considering the enormous responsibility entrusted to the Secretary of the Interior.

Whether it be payments for miners for their healthcare benefits, processing permits for the privilege of energy production on Federal lands, or ensuring the U.S. Geological Survey can conduct its critical work of collecting and analyzing data on our changing climate, the Department of the Interior has a huge amount of responsibility and diverse jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Secretary of the Interior is the guardian of our Nation’s greatest natural resources.

The Department of the Interior manages nearly half a billion acres of Federal land, or about 20 percent of the Nation’s land. One of every 5 acres in the United States is under their control. These lands include some of our most special places—our national parks, trails, seashores, and historic sites. In addition, the Department manages another 1.7 billion acres of submerged land on the Outer Continental Shelf.

The Department of the Interior is also the largest supplier of water in the 17 Western States. It manages nearly 500 dams and over 300 reservoirs that supply water to over 31 million people and irrigate 10 million acres of farmland.

Furthermore, nearly 20 percent of energy we use is produced on lands managed by the Secretary. These include not just coal and oil and natural gas but also hydropower, geothermal, solar, and wind energy. In addition, the Secretary of the Interior manages our trust obligations to nearly 600 federally recognized Indian Tribes and provides services to nearly 2 million Native Americans.

By any measure, the job of Secretary of the Interior is an enormous and special responsibility.

As a former Governor, I have always believed that an executive is entitled to deference when selecting his or her team, as long as the candidates are qualified and ethical. I have carefully reviewed Mr. Bernhardt’s experience and his qualifications. I met with him twice before his hearing and spoke with him again by phone afterwards. I questioned him about his willingness to be a good steward of our Nation’s greatest natural treasures—our national parks, monuments, and historical sites. I questioned him about his responsibility to balance our resource needs with environmental protection and fairness to the owners of our public lands, which are all of us, the American people. I spoke to him about the need to make sure that those who are granted the privilege of using our public lands leave them in better condition than they found them.

Based on my extensive discussion with him and my review of his record, I believe he is clearly qualified to serve as Secretary. He held senior positions in the Department for 8 years during the Bush administration, including over 2 years as the Solicitor, which is the third highest office in the Department. He has served as the Deputy Secretary for the past 2 years and as Acting Secretary since January. He knows the Interior Department inside and out, and he is well-versed on all of the issues that come before it. He clearly has the knowledge and experience to serve as Secretary.

Now, the opposition to Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination comes not from any lack of knowledge or experience but from questions about appearances of conflicts of interest. He explained one matter to me, a law practice prior to being confirmed as Deputy Secretary. I had extensive conversations with Mr. Bernhardt about these potential conflicts of interest and his compliance with ethics laws and regulations. He assured me that he takes the same oath I take—public service, not self-service. We also spoke about the importance of ensuring a culture at the Department of the Interior that reflects the highest level of ethical compliance and integrity.

Based on my extensive discussion with Mr. Bernhardt and the assurances he gave me, I voted for him in the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources last week, and I will support his nomination when we vote on the floor to confirm him.

But I said before the vote in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee—and I will say it again—that I expect him and the Department to hold itself to the highest ethical standards because I assured him I will. Mr. Bernhardt must work to ensure the commitment to ethical and scientific integrity, and I intend to work with him and his staff persistently to ensure this is the case.

Our parks and public lands, our scenic beauty, and our fish and wildlife resources are important to everybody and especially to the people of West Virginia, which I represent, and to the people of all of our States and to the Nation’s outdoor recreation economy. West Virginians count on the Secretary of the Interior as the guardian of our public lands, as I know you do.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is privileged to serve on as ranking member, has a lot of work to do. We have to address the park maintenance backlog. We have to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, ensure that companies granted the privilege of developing public energy and mineral resources pay the royalties they owe the taxpayers and nothing less, and see that our public lands and resources are worked in a manner that ensures that our public lands are not just being maintained but improved for the benefit of generations to come.

For that reason, I will vote to confirm him to this important position, and I ask your consideration for the same.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, recently I came to the Senate floor to speak about the airborne leg of the nuclear triad. Today I rise to discuss the value of another leg of the triad—our intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs.

Following the brief deployment of the Atlas and Titan ICBM systems in the early 1960s, the United States deployed the first Minuteman ICBMs in support of the strategic deterrence mission. Over half a century later, today the United States deploys 400 Minuteman III ICBMs, each carrying a single warhead. While the Minuteman III system was deployed in the 1970s, much of its technology dates to the previous decade. The system was originally designed for a 10-year service life but has sustained an exceptionally high availability rate and is expected to remain in service through the 2030s, thanks to a series of life-extension programs. But we cannot extend the current system beyond 2030, and that is why we are now developing its replacement—the ground based strategic deterrent. Doing so will require resources in a budget-constrained environment and, perhaps for that reason, we are hearing renewed calls to abandon the triad and cut our ICBM force.

However, this step would be foolish and dangerous to the United States and to our allied security for several reasons.

First, ICBMs are highly reliable and always ready. That is why they are regarded as the most responsive leg of the triad. Unlike bombers and submarines, which may require time to arm or maneuver, the ICBM force provides the President the ability to promptly respond if deterrence fails. This virtue is often mischaracterized and used as a source of risk.

The system’s rapid response is described as a “hair trigger” by critics who often paint chilling pictures of 400 ICBMs automatically flying to their...
targets and causing Armageddon, either by accident or as a result of cyber interference.

I want to be clear that there is no “hair trigger” about our ICBMs. We have many safeguards put in place to ensure that they operate only as intended. For example, our ICBMs are actually targeted on the open-ocean spaces as a means of ensuring that, even if all of our safeguards failed and a missile somehow managed to launch by accident, it would land in the ocean and not accidentally start a nuclear war. The critics conveniently fail to mention this.

Former STRATCOM commander General Robert Kehler recently testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee, and he said: “It isn’t the same thing at all as thinking about a Wild West hair trigger . . . It’s not the way it works.”

The high readiness of the ICBM force also provides an important hedge against uncertainty. Since we no longer maintain bombers on nuclear alert, the ICBMs and the submarines reinforce each other so that a technical failure in one leg of the triad does not render our day-to-day deterrent ineffectual.

Those who advocate for doing away with the ICBM force must account for the fact that, under their proposals, in such moments there would not have been an additional leg of the triad to ensure our Nation isn’t left without a nuclear deterrent. As our nuclear forces continue to age, reliability challenges will only grow.

Critics often describe the ICBM force as being vulnerable, even going so far as to call our missiles sitting ducks. It is true that silos are not hidden, they aren’t mobile, and they can be targeted. But, again, this is a misunderstanding of what actually is the strength of the ICBM force.

In a letter before the Senate Armed Services Committee, General Hyten stated that the ICBM force “creates the most significant targeting problem for an adversary, because there are 400 separate targets across the United States. All would have to be independently targeted by an adversary. That targeting problem is hugely problematic and creates a significant advantage for us.”

Simply put, destroying 400 hardened and geographically dispersed silos is an extremely difficult proposition. Only Russia possesses the capability to destroy our ICBM force. No other nation on Earth can do so, and it would greatly diminish Russia’s arsenal in the process. That is not a vulnerability. As General Hyten clearly states, it is a significant advantage for our Nation.

For these reasons and many others, Republican and Democratic administrations alike have maintained ICBMs as part of our nuclear forces for decades. The role of ICBMs has been reconsidered and reviewed many times, and their value has been repeatedly reaffirmed in a bipartisan manner. For example, last November the report by the bipartisan National Defense Strategy Commission stated that the triad presents insurmountable targeting challenges for adversaries, imposes disproportionate costs on adversary defenses, and hedges against unforeseen geopolitical changes.

Mr. President, I will close by saying that our ICBM forces make key contributions to our overall nuclear forces and, as Members on both sides of the aisle agree, they are an essential ingredient to our national security—our nuclear deterrent. Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

VENEZUELA

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Good afternoon. The crisis in Venezuela is a crisis in America. Senator Rubio, Congressman Diaz-Balart, and I have been talking about this for years and working on a policy based on a comprehensive strategy. More than 200,000 Venezuelans live in Florida, and their concerns are our concerns.

Make no mistake: this is a crisis. It is a humanitarian crisis that threatens the lives of Venezuela and our country. Maduro has created a flood of refugees numbering in the millions. It is also a crisis that threatens the safety and security of our allies in Latin America and in the United States of America.

The dictatorship of Nicholas Maduro and the creeping influence and military presence of our global adversaries represent a clear and present danger to the entire Western Hemisphere. There are some who will say that this is not our fight, that the millions of Venezuelans suffering 2,000 miles away are not our concern. Some have criticized the mere mention of the crisis in Venezuela by those like myself as American imperialism or a U.S.-backed coup attempt. That is our fight. Freedom and democracy in Latin America is our fight. I remind these critics that the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing. We cannot let evil triumph in Venezuela. It would be a failure of leadership with disastrous consequences.

There is only one option left to get aid to the people of Venezuela. It is something that no one is willing to talk about. There is one clear call that we will have to consider the use of American military assets to deliver aid. Maduro and his thugs have left us no choice.

I applaud President Trump and his administration for taking bold action by recognizing Juan Guaido as the legitimate President of Venezuela and organizing the international community to do the same. The sanctions implemented by this administration against the Maduro regime and its puppet are not enough. They must see through their commitment to freedom and democracy in Latin America. Yet Maduro remains in power, the people of Venezuela continue to suffer, and the influence of Cuba, Russia, China, and international terrorist organizations grows.

We must do more, but in order to understand where we go from here, we need to look at history. Hugo Chavez might have been clever and charismatic, but he never intended to govern democratically. He built a socialist dictatorship by hollowing out all the democratic institutions: the constitution, the electoral system, and the judiciary. He manipulated the business sector bend to his will or face elimination. He nationalized entire sectors of the economy and used them to pay off his cronies. He took over the oil sector and made the national energy company his piggy bank. He made common cause with our enemies—most notably, the Castro regime. Cuba received and continues to receive free oil from Venezuela and in return provides political and internal security operatives. In other words, Cuba provided Maduro with可爱 military thugs to help stop freedom.

Chavez allowed his regime to engage in illicit trafficking of drugs and people. He cooperated with Middle Eastern terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Iran and was providing military thugs to keep the terrorist state of Iran. This cooperation has only intensified under Chavez’s successor, Maduro.

The path of socialism chosen by the Chavistas inevitably led to a failed state that relies on bad actors for survival. It’s a U.S.-backed regime that threatens the safety and security of our allies in Latin America and in the United States of America.

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We cannot ignore the impact the socialist policies of Chavez and Maduro has had on the people of Venezuela. Nine out of ten households say they don’t have enough money to buy food.

That is socialism. Eighty percent of children under 5 are in some state of malnutrition. That is socialism. Inflation is over 10 million percent this year and their currency is worthless.

What does that mean to the average person? A bundle of carrots costs 3 million bolivars. A dozen eggs costs $150 USD. That is socialism. Venezuela has the highest murder rate in the world. That is socialism.

More than 3.5 million refugees—about 12 percent of the population—have fled to nearby countries because they can’t get food, water, medicine, or safety from their government. Two million more Venezuelans are expected to flee before the year is out, with Colombia taking the brunt of this refugee crisis. Colombian resources are strained, as they do all they can to help the refugees fleeing persecution, starvation, and sickness, while the Maduro regime blocks aid caravans, sets them on fire, and continues to cooperate with the narcotrafficking rebels that plague Colombia.

I want to thank my good friend President Duque for all he is doing. Other nations in the region, such as Brazil and Peru, have also chipped in, accepting hundreds of thousands of refugees.
For weeks, millions of Venezuelans have been left without running water and amid a series of massive blackouts. Journalists report scenes that are now a part of the daily life for Venezuelans: dozen's sleeping in line for their turn at a well in one of the city's biggest slums, the water coming out of the taps down the well hoping to hit water; people parked by the highway, waiting their turn to place bottles under small streams that run down the Avila Mountain.

Dictators call these conditions a genocide because the violence and starvation are being imposed on the civilian population as a conscious policy of Maduro and his Cuban puppet masters. Dictators like Maduro recognize weakness as an opportunity. The hungrier and sicker his people are, the easier they are to repress. This is the kind of evil we are facing in our hemisphere. But one thing is clear: Maduro underestimates his people. They may be oppressed, but they are not weak. They may be hungry, but their hunger is for freedom, and they are making their voices heard. We need to listen.

Nicholas Maduro is an illegitimate President. His election was a sham, just like the elections in Cuba and Russia—a complete sham and a joke. Dozens of countries across Latin America and Europe have recognized Juan Guaido’s right to the interim Presidency. As President of the National Assembly—the only democratic body left in Venezuela—Juan Guaido has the right and the duty to preside over new elections and the return of democracy.

The people still in power in Venezuela are corrupt bureaucrats and military officers engaged in embezzlement, narcotrafficking, and human rights abuses. Since being tested by LDPR, 2014 and 2017, the regime has reinforced a repressive apparatus that uses armed mobile civilian gang known as, colectivos, specialized police units, and anti-riot forces of the National Guard to terrorize and control the civilian population through arbitrary arrests, beatings, detentions, and killings.

The Maduro regime has gone so far as to arrest the Chief of Staff for Interim President Guaido, Roberto Marrero. I met his wife Romy on Monday in Miami. She fled the country 3 weeks ago with their 7-year-old son, right before TS arrived to destroy their home. The majority of the armed forces want change in their country, but they live under the repressive forces of control, threats, intimidation, and violence.

Russian mercenaries protect Maduro because he can’t trust his own troops, and the Russian Government has provided military advisers and specialists to maintain the Maduro regime's defenses, including surface-to-air missile systems. Russia has also sent nuclear-capable bombers to Venezuela, in violation of the Venezuelan Constitution, to intimidate the United States and other countries in the region.

In short, Russia is expanding its military presence in Venezuela to prop up a regime hostile to the United States and create a foothold in the Western Hemisphere. Not since the Cuban Missile Crisis has Russia taken such an aggressive step to expand their influence in the region.

Meanwhile, China evades sanctions we have placed on the regime by investing in the country and extending generous loans to prop up the dictatorship in Caracas. The United States faces a serious national security threat and a humanitarian crisis at our doorstep. This is becoming as dangerous for us as the Syrian civil war has been for Europe, Israel, and Jordan. Left unchecked, it will destabilize our regional allies and provide a base of operations for our enemies.

Today, I am urging the administration, Congress, and the American people to focus on the crisis for what it is—a rising tide of repression, political collapse encouraged and funded by our enemies. The socialist dictatorship of Nicholas Maduro and his Cuban, Russian, Chinese, and narcotrafficking allies do not care how many millions of Venezuelans suffer and starve. They are determined to remain in power, sucking the life out of a once-vibrant nation and creating an outpost for adversaries and a safe harbor for terrorists intent on harming Americans.

We cannot let this stand. We will be judged for our response to this crisis—most not whether we can tolerate this crisis that is worsening daily—we surely cannot. The question is, when will we act to end it? Hostile regimes like Russia, China, and Cuba are digging in. They are training killers, distributing weapons, and operating police and criminal networks in Venezuela. Their message is clear: They don’t intend to give up without a fight.

History has proven that permitting the former Soviet Union to establish a presence in Cuba penetrated a six-decade, totalitarian dictatorship that has exported instability to the region and worked against U.S. national security interests. Our safety, national security, and the peace of our hemisphere demand that we take action. We cannot allow global actors to continue spreading misery within its borders and into neighboring countries.

There is a democratic government-in-waiting in the form of National Assembly and Interim President Juan Guaido. U.S. policy relies on rallying his internal support and forcing those around Maduro to see their future as brighter if they defect and support the movement toward freedom and democracy. There are steps we can take to accelerate this process.

First, we must follow through on American policy and indict regime leaders for human rights violations and for narcotrafficking and money laundering crimes.

The region’s strongest supporters do not care if the people suffer, but they do care if their stolen fortunes and their freedom are at risk. We must make clear to them that their future is in jeopardy if they continue to support Maduro and interference from Cuba, Russia, and China. There will be nowhere to run, nowhere to hide. The United States will give no quarter to those who support Maduro dictatorship instead of freedom and democracy for the people of Venezuela.

Second, we must break the hold the Cuban Government has on Venezuela. It is imperative that the United States fully implement the sanctions contained in the LIBERTAD Act to allow U.S. nationals to sue over property confiscated by the Cuban Government and to deny entry to those who traffic in stolen property. Cuba cannot continue to freely incite violence in Venezuela while profiting from the use of stolen property and human trafficking. Chavez and Maduro kept the Cuban regime afloat for decades, and now Cuban operators are keeping the Maduro regime in power. It is time we recognize that these problems are one and the same.

Third, we must encourage our allies in the region to join us in this effort.

President Trump has repeatedly called on regional counterparts to exert more leadership, and he has a right to do so. The United States has implemented strong sanctions on Venezuelan leaders, embargoed oil, and targeting the regime. Our allies must join us in this effort.

The Lima Group, made up of our friends in the region, has given broad support to the strategy of isolating the Maduro regime in favor of Interim President Guaido, urging additional sanctions. That is welcome, but they should not rule out the possibility that they need to pursue more aggressive means to secure this threat. Their security and economic interests are also at risk. They should remember that the Maduro regime and its supporters want Venezuela’s neighbors to live in fear. Even before this crisis began in earnest, Colombia and Guyana faced regular interventions and threats from the Venezuelan regime. Maduro and his supporters do not want peaceful relations with other countries except on their own terms. I am quite sure that Cuba, China, and Russia do not care if the people suffer, but they do care if their stolen fortunes and their freedom are at risk. We must make clear to them that their future is in jeopardy if they continue to support Maduro and interference from Cuba, Russia, and China.
Fourth, we must not appear weak in the face of Chinese, Russian, and Cuban determination to prop up Maduro.

Our adversaries question our will and determination. Put simply, they don’t think we are serious. We should disabuse them of this notion. All options, including the use of American military assets, must remain on the table. If sanctions can cripple the Maduro regime, we must continue on that path, but so far, sanctions alone are not stopping the Maduro regime, and the United States is not considering the use of military assets to bring aid to the millions of starving and sick Venezuelans. I call on all of our allies and those supporting Guaidó to help us in this effort.

Let me repeat that. The United States must consider the use of military assets to bring aid to the people of Venezuela, but that doesn’t end the conversation. If embargoes and blockades can help, we should consider them. A military force on the part of the United States and our allies in the region is necessary to rid us of the scourge of Maduro and his thugs, then we cannot rule it out. If the Venezuelan people, through their elected National Assembly and their own laws and Constitution, request assistance to restore constitutional government and democracy, we should be ready to answer that call. The Maduro regime has not been broken yet and can count on billions of dollars looted from the Venezuelan people and generated from 20 years of narcotrafficking.

The Cubans, Russians, and Chinese see Venezuela as an economic opportunity, but, more importantly, they see a chance to intimidate the United States—to be a thorn in our side. This is a “great power” confrontation and one that our national defense strategy might not explicitly contemplate. Yet it is a confrontation we must be willing to meet with decisive action.

The people want change, and even now they think of survival as much as they think of a democratic future. They are looking to the future. They are looking to the United States and democratic countries to help them. We must answer that call.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to the nomination of David Bernhardt to be Secretary of the Interior.

I opposed his nomination as Deputy Secretary of the Interior because of his numerous conflicts of interest as a former lobbyist.

Bernhardt’s tenure, both as Deputy Secretary and now the Acting Secretary at Interior, has since confirmed my initial concerns and given rise to new ones.

As a former partner at a powerful DC lobbying and law firm, Bernhardt represented numerous oil, gas, mining, and water companies with ongoing business before the Department that he now oversees.

The Washington Post recently reported that he has at least 22 known conflicts of interest, the most of any of President Trump’s nominees.

This is particularly concerning given that Mr. Bernhardt’s recusals mandated by President Trump will expire in August. Bernhardt has failed to commit to continuing recusing himself beyond then on any issues that could benefit former clients.

In fact, during his recent confirmation hearing, Bernhardt stated that recusal is “really the best strategy”—an unacceptable stance.

By refusing to recuse himself, Bernhardt has shown a potential willingness to put his former clients’ needs before the public good.

One troubling example is his relationship with Cadiz, a company that wants to profit by draining a critical aquifer in the Mojave Desert.

Before coming to the Department of the Interior, Mr. Bernhardt was a partner and led the natural resources division of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Cadiz’s lobbying firm that retains a financial stake in the project.

This project would destroy the treasured California desert that I have fought my entire Senate career to protect.

In order to sell the water, Cadiz needs to build a more than 40-mile pipeline through the desert to connect to an aqueduct.

Several months after Bernhardt was nominated as Deputy Secretary, the Department of Interior temporarily suspended its own solicitor’s opinion requiring Cadiz to get Federal permits to build its pipeline along a railroad right-of-way.

That solicitor’s opinion was ultimately reversed 2 months after he was confirmed, completely removing the Federal permitting authority for this project.

The timing of this decision is extremely troubling, particularly in light of the Interior Department’s own independent science that has repeatedly questioned the sustainability of this project.

The U.S. Geological Survey, which is part of the Interior Department, stated in 2002 and confirmed in 2017 that the natural recharge rate of the aquifer is only 2,000 to 10,000 acre-feet per year. Cadiz proposes to withdraw water at more than 24,000 acre-feet, or 16 billion gallons, per year for 50 years.

Taking that much water would rob the desert of its most precious natural resource and harm the surrounding flora and fauna.

Now the Federal Government, despite its own science saying Cadiz would take too much water and legal opinions requiring Federal review, has removed itself from the permitting process.

Even the mere appearance of favoritism or special favors for Cadiz is extreme, given Bernhardt’s stated desire and a concern with this nomination.

I am also concerned that throughout his tenure at Interior, Bernhardt has shown a willingness to ignore the public’s interest for political purposes.

During President Trump’s government shutdown—the longest in U.S. history—Acting Secretary Bernhardt kept most of the national parks open to avoid public backlash for the shutdown.

Left open but severely understaffed, major damage occurred to parks across the country. Few places felt the impact of his poor decision more than Joshua Tree National Park.

Joshua trees were cut down, cultural artifacts stolen or destroyed, and pristine desert habitat marred by vehicle traffic.

I have twice requested from Mr. Bernhardt a full accounting of the damage and costs of his decision and have not received a response.

I am also deeply concerned by steps Interior has recently taken to expand offshore oil drilling, despite bipartisan opposition from coastal States.

Coastal citizens don’t want new offshore drilling along our coast. We still remember the horror of the 1969 Santa Barbara spill, when an offshore oil rig leaked more than 100,000 barrels, the third largest oil spill behind the Exxon-Valdez and Deepwater Horizon disasters.

There has been no new drilling in State waters since that spill and no new drilling in Federal waters off the coast of California since 1984.

The Department of the Interior is openly discussing the option of restarting such drilling.

Bernhardt’s ties to the fossil fuel industry give me zero confidence that the Interior Department will reach the right conclusion if he is confirmed.

For the reasons I have stated, I cannot vote to confirm Mr. Bernhardt.

Should he be confirmed, I again ask that he fully recuse himself from all matters related to former clients during his tenure as Acting Secretary.

I urge my colleagues to carefully consider this nomination before voting.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 6 minutes prior to the scheduled vote.

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to oppose the President’s nominee for Secretary of the Interior, David Bernhardt. Once again, instead of draining the swamp, President Trump is flooding the swamp with a whole new breed of corporate-sponsored creatures. Already, we have a former coal lobbyist running the Environmental Protection Agency. We have chemical lobbyists running the EPA’s chemical safety programs. And unless we put the brakes on Mr. Bernhardt’s nomination, soon we will have a fossil fuel lobbyist running the Department of Interior.

For a State like New Jersey, which depends on a healthy, vibrant coastal
economy. Mr. Bernhardt’s extensive ties to the fossil fuel industry are troubling, to say the least.

The Secretary of the Interior is charged with the stewardship of public lands and waters and safeguarding our nation’s natural resources for generations to come. Yet the Washington Post has reported that Mr. Bernhardt has so many conflicts of interest that he must carry a card around just to keep track of them. Think about that. Mr. Bernhardt has so many fossil fuel company business pending before the Interior Department that he cannot keep track of them.

How Mr. Bernhardt would approach his position as Secretary of the Interior is no mystery. During his time as Acting Secretary, he has gained a reputation as a general in the Trump administration’s war on science. Reports suggest that he has suppressed scientific evidence in order to benefit corporate interests at the expense of environmental protection.

Rather than be responsive to Congress about our concerns, Mr. Bernhardt has displayed a stubborn lack of transparency. In response to many Trump administration inquiries from Congress, Mr. Bernhardt has failed to respond to basic requests for information. With his hearing in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee quickly approaching, we asked Mr. Bernhardt to respond prior to coming before Congress. This way, committee members could have at least a baseline understanding of his views while crafting their questions. We received no response.

Mr. Bernhardt then came and testified before the committee. He could have used the opportunity to enlighten us about his views on offshore drilling. He chose not to. Now, 3 weeks later, we still lack answers, even as the majority seeks to confirm him as Secretary of the Interior.

When an individual seeking confirmation by the Senate refuses to answer basic questions posed by 18 Senators, that should be a red flag for all of us. The questions that were asked weren’t technical. They weren’t “gotcha” questions. They were straightforward questions about one of the most fundamental jobs the Secretary of the Interior has—the stewardship of our Nation’s coastal waters and economies that depend on clean coastal waters because that is what we are risking if we vote for Mr. Bernhardt.

I cannot fathom going home to my constituents and telling them that I gave the nominee for Secretary of the Interior a free pass on basic questions about the job he is applying for.

With the radio silence from this nominee on offshore drilling, I have no reason to believe Mr. Bernhardt will deviate from the path chartered by this administration. Every Member of this Chamber knows what that path looks like.

We have seen the weakening of protections put in place after the BP oil spill, endangering the safety of workers and the livelihood of our vibrant coastlines. We will see the start of seismic blasting in search of oil up and down our coasts without any concern for the devastating impact on wildlife and our fisheries. We will see the finalization of President Trump’s offshore drilling plan—one that would open the entire Atlantic Ocean, the entire Pacific Ocean, the entire Gulf of Mexico, and the entire Arctic Ocean to offshore drilling. If this plan comes to fruition, sooner or later we will see another crisis of the magnitude of the Deepwater Horizon.

My friends, my colleagues, this is not a matter of if; it is a matter of when. When that day comes, every Member of this Chamber who supported David Bernhardt is going to have to answer to their constituents, to the shore businesses who see their livelihoods washed away in a slick of oil, to the fishermen who are suddenly out of a job through no fault of their own, to coastal towns that see their communities and the tourism and recreation industries their economies depend on wiped out.

I refuse to go down without a fight. A vote for David Bernhardt is a vote for offshore drilling. I ask my colleagues to oppose his nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all post cloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bernhardt nomination?

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 77 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Alexander  
Barrasso  
Blackburn  
Bunning  
Boozman  
Braun  
Burr  
Capito  
Cassidy  
Collins  
Corayn  
Cotton  
Cramer  
Crapo  
Crux  
Daines  
Enzi  
Erf  
Fischler  
Nunes  
Paul  
Pompeo  
Risch  
Roberts  
Romney  
Round  
Rubio  
Sasse  
Scott (FL)  
Scott (SC)  
Sheehy  
Sinema  
Sullivan  
Thune  
Tillis  
Toomey  
Wicker  
Young

NAYS—41

Baldwin  
Bennet  
Biemntal  
Burr  
Canwell  
Carlin  
Casper  
Casey  
Cortez Masto  
Duckworth  
Durbin  
Feinstein  
Gillibrand  
Booker  
Harris  
Perdue

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore will now take the Chair.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 103.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of William Cooper, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.


LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 188.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).


LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 214.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

Mitch McConnell, Thom Tillis, Mike Crapo, John Hoeven, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, John Hoeven, Thom Tillis.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 29.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

Mitch McConnell, Johnny Isakson, Roger F. Wicker, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, Pat Roberts, Roy Blunt, Deb Fischer, David Perdue, Todd Young, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, John Hoeven, Thom Tillis.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 26.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of J. Campbell Barker, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of J. Campbell Barker, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Mitch McConnell, Johnny Isakson, Roger F. Wicker, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, Pat Roberts, Roy Blunt, Deb Fischer, David Perdue, Todd Young, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, John Hoeven, Thom Tillis.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 33.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.


LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.


CONFIRMATION OF DAVID BERNHARDT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

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 nomination of Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.


The bill clerk read the nomination of Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Joshua Wolson, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 nomination of Joshua Wolson, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.


Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motions be waived.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motions be waived.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONSENT TO WAIVE MANDATORY QUORUM CALL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David Bernhardt, of North Dakota, to be Secretary of the Interior, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Ryan Zinke, and to confirm David Bernhardt as the next Secretary of the Interior for the United States of America.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David Bernhardt, of North Dakota, to be Secretary of the Interior, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Ryan Zinke, and to confirm David Bernhardt as the next Secretary of the Interior for the United States of America. It was a strong vote—56 to 41.

I want to begin my remarks this afternoon by rising to express my gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Bernhardt for stepping up to the plate to continue to serve his country and to continue to serve the Department of the Interior now in the role of Secretary, the individual who is going to be running the Department of the Interior for the United States of America.

I thank my colleagues. It was a bipartisan vote in the Senate, which I think is important for voting for now-Secretary Bernhardt. Actually, I would like to be the first Senator to call him Secretary Bernhardt. If you and your family are watching, Mr. Secretary, thank you.

I also want to mention that I have been listening to some of the speeches made by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. To be perfectly blunt, I find what we just witnessed a bit disheartening. I would like to say at the outset that we can and should disagree on policy disputes. Certainly issues like land issues are really important to my State, mine, and many others. We can disagree about the direction of how we are going to move some of those policies forward. What is disheartening, though, is when you have someone like Mr. Bernhardt, who is willing to serve his country, and I am going to talk about that—essentially getting his reputation dragged through the mud on the Senate floor. It is not a good thing. It doesn’t encourage people to want to serve.

So, Mr. Secretary, thank you. I know this wasn’t an easy confirmation process.

When you look at his background, this is actually one of the most qualified individuals to serve as the Secretary, whom we had in many years. He was the Solicitor General under President George W. Bush, confirmed by the Senate; he was the Deputy Secretary for the last 2 years, confirmed by this body; and now he is the Secretary. I would say those are very high qualifications. I just want to talk about him for a little bit.

Why do I support Mr. Bernhardt? The Secretary of the Department of the Interior is really important to America. It is critically important to my State, the great State of Alaska. We have over 200 million acres of land under the Department of the Interior’s control in Alaska—200 million acres. That is over two times the size of California. In fact, one-quarter of all the lands that the Department of the Interior manages for the United States reside in Alaska. Let me repeat that. One-quarter of all the lands that the Secretary of the Interior manages in America are in my State.

So we take this role of Secretary of the Interior very, very seriously, which is why I wanted to come to the floor and again thank Secretary Bernhardt...
and let him know that even though there were a lot of Senators down here really ripping into him, the vast majority of us—56 of us, at least—think he is going to do a great job.

Why do we think that, Mr. Secretary Bernhardt, with all respect to Mr. Secretary Jewell with regard to Alaska, sometimes Secretaries of the Interior understand our State and that we are different and unique and that Federal laws passed by this body say so. Other Secretaries of the Interior don’t. They don’t understand that in Alaska you have to balance conservation with resource development and economic opportunity. Secretary Bernhardt does understand this, and this is refreshing. Secretary Zinke did this. This was refreshing. It was a refreshing break from the previous administration, the Obama administration, where Secretaries of the Interior, like Sally Jewell, went out of their way to tilt Federal power in a way that disadvantaged the State of Alaska, despite Federal law saying you shouldn’t do that.

Well, we just had a U.S. Supreme Court decision 2 weeks ago saying that that practice of the Department of the Interior does not have the same authority as the Secretary of the Interior to take different actions and actions that were for him. Let me give one really bad example. The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies—who are they? Those are the men and women in each State who manage fish and game like the Department of the Interior. Here is what they had to say:

The Association is appreciative of Mr. Bernhardt’s continued support for the great and small agencies in conserving our nation’s natural resources.

The Congressional Sportsmen Foundation says:

Mr. Bernhardt has demonstrated he is a true advocate for sportsmen and women of the State of Alaska with a big community throughout his career in natural resources management, and implementing Secretarial Orders that promote sportsmen’s access to public lands.

That is a very big issue in my State. Even a group like Ducks Unlimited says: “His integrity in following the law is beyond reproach.” Let me say that one again. “His integrity in following the law is beyond reproach.”

David Bernhardt is a champion of conservation and the right person for the job.

When I was the commissioner of natural resources in the great State of Alaska—which actually is a job similar to the Secretary of the Interior and as a manager of a big and complicated lands issue. He did a great job. He was a hard worker. He was a man of integrity. So the list goes on and on of the supporters.

So, again, Mr. Secretary, Mr. Secretary Bernhardt knows that, and that is one of the reasons why I am so pleased to have voted for him and supported his confirmation, which we just saw on the Senate floor. It is not just me who supports him. Let me provide some quotes from letters and comments. I know I have a mixture, after listening to some of my colleagues the last couple of days, you would have thought that everybody was against him. Actually, most groups who care about conservation were for him. Let me give one really important group—the Alaska Federation of Natives, an extremely important group in my State. The Secretary of the Interior has trust responsibilities to lower 48 Indians and Alaska Natives. This group had this to say about Mr. Bernhardt:

He listens well. He is articulate in his responses. He draws reasonable conclusions.

Moreover, he has established a trusting relationship with the Alaska Native community around the issues of resource development and subsistence hunting and fishing.

So they have been complimentary and supportive.

The Thompson Farm Bureau says:

This President’s nomination of David Bernhardt as Secretary of the Interior is great news for American agriculture. He understands the needs of America’s farmers and ranchers and is an excellent choice for Interior Secretary.

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies—who are they? Those are the great news for American agriculture. He is an excellent choice for Interior Secretary.

The Congressional Sportsmen Foundation says:

Mr. Bernhardt has demonstrated he is a true advocate for sportsmen and women of the State of Alaska with a big community throughout his career in natural resources management, and implementing Secretarial Orders that promote sportsmen’s access to public lands.

That is a very big issue in my State. Even a group like Ducks Unlimited says: “His integrity in following the law is beyond reproach.” Let me say that one again. “His integrity in following the law is beyond reproach.”

David Bernhardt is a champion of conservation and the right person for the job.

When I was the commissioner of natural resources in the great State of Alaska—which actually is a job similar to the Secretary of the Interior and as a manager of a big and complicated lands issue. He did a great job. He was a hard worker. He was a man of integrity. So the list goes on and on of the supporters.

So, again, Mr. Secretary, we just want you to know that given your background as former Solicitor of the Department of the Interior and former Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior and as someone who has gotten rave reviews from groups all across the country, and now as the Secretary of the Interior, my view is that you are actually one of the most qualified individuals to hold this position. So congratulations. You certainly earned it. We appreciate your service to this great Nation of ours, your service to the Department of the Interior, and your service to my State, the great State of Alaska, and we certainly look forward to working with you as you continue your public service for our country, for Interior, and for Alaska. I list to the floor to commend you on a strong bipartisan support, and we are going to look forward to working with you.

TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA ERIKSON

Mr. President, it is Thursday afternoon, and it is one of the times that I enjoy the most here in the Senate because it is the time when I get to come down to the floor and do a little bragging about my State and, most importantly, do a little bragging about the people who make Alaska such a wonderland place and such a unique place.

Now, we have all heard the stories about the grandeur, size, and beauty of the great State of Alaska, and they are all true, as you know. To anyone watching, we would love for you to come on up for a visit. You will love it. It will be the best trip of your life. Right now, for example, what is happening in Alaska is that it is a wonderful time of the year. We are gaining daylight every day. The snow is melting. The birds are beginning their huge migration back to Alaska. Some flowers are even starting to bloom in parts of the State. It is a wonderful and incredible time.

And so, State, and we all come down here and like to talk about our States, it is the people who truly make my State so special. It is generous people who work tirelessly day in and day out to help one another. So each week, I come down to the Senate floor and talk about one of these individuals, and I call that person “Alaskan of the Week.”

Today, that person is a wonderful leader and a good friend of mine, Cynthia Erickson. As I mentioned, we live in the great State of Alaska and raise a family, build a good exciting life of service and meaning. But Alaska, like all States, has its share of challenges, and one of the biggest and most pernicious challenges in Alaska is that we, unfortunately, have the highest rates of domestic violence and sexual assault in the country—as a matter of fact, in a lot of categories, the highest, including child abuse.

Now, when I was attorney general, we made confronting this issue a very big priority. We are continuing to push these initiatives in the Senate. Just yesterday, Senator GILLIBRAND and I introduced a bill that would seek to change the culture around sexual assault and domestic violence through a national ad campaign. We called that bill the Choose Respect Act, and we introduced it yesterday. This is a bill that will be part of a whole series of bills focused on trying to bring respect to our country with regard to these issues. Stay tuned to that.

Here is a fact. We can do all of those kinds of important pieces of legislation here in the Senate on these kinds of critical issues, but as I think we all know that it is really the work done on the ground by members of the community and the grassroots that ultimately has the biggest and most lasting impact on these critical issues—the biggest and most lasting impact on changing the culture that we need to change, not just in Alaska but in the country, on these issues of abuse and domestic violence.

I am happy to say that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of people across my State—heroes all, no doubt—who have banded together using their passion, creativity, and energy to be there for victims and survivors and to help them break out of cycles of violence that often can be generational cycles.

Let’s talk about one of those heroes, a very special woman, Cynthia Erickson, and today’s Alaskan of the Week, who has spent countless hours...
helping to stop the generational cycle by helping Alaskan children, one child at a time, who are victims of abuse themselves and who are living in households where violence is prevalent.

Confronting the abuse of children can be a very difficult issue. It is heartbreaking and so tragic that we often don’t want to talk about it and you want to sweep it under the rug. But Cynthia, with a group of children she has gathered, is working to break that culture of silence one kid at a time. I can’t think of anything more important than that.

Before I talk about what she is doing and what she has been doing, let’s talk a little bit about her background. Her family is from Ruby, in Western Alaska, on the mighty Yukon River. She was raised in Tanana, a village of about 300 people near the confluence of the Yukon and Tanana Rivers, where she has been living for the past 33 years.

Many years ago I had the opportunity to visit with Cynthia and her husband in Tanana. She hosted me and some other State of Alaska officials. I remember being so welcomed by her and her family but also coming away thinking: This is a woman who is a leader and a woman of spirit and a woman of energy and a woman of passion.

We see that a lot in Alaska with Cynthia. She graduated with a degree in elementary education from the University of Fairbanks. Her family owns a store that she worked at, but she never lost her love for children. Her house was a place where children throughout the town in Tanana went. She had things for them to do, but it was also one of those homes—and we all know the homes we are talking about in different communities throughout Alaska and the country—that kids felt safe in. That was her home.

About 15 or 6 years ago, when there was a series of suicides in her village and in nearby villages, she knew she had to do something. She called the local politician. He talked her into coming to Juneau, our State capital, to work for him. She did that for a few months, and she gathered as much information as she could about programs available to help children in crisis. But she wasn’t satisfied. She concluded that there wasn’t nearly enough being done.

When she got back home, she took matters into her own hands. Amassing a group of children, she started a 4-H club, which eventually morphed into a nonprofit called “Setsoo ‘Yeh.” That is Athabaskan for “My Grandmother’s House.” In Cynthia’s house, kids gather to crochet, to sew, to cook, and to be. They glide on the snow outside in the winter, and they swim together in the summer. She told a reporter recently, when she was being honored: ‘Sewing and the beading—we all sewed our own kuspuk—in between all that, we talk about our problems.”

Why? Why did she call it “My Grandmother’s House”? Because every child that she spoke to who was having problems—and she spoke to a lot of them—had fond memories of a grandmother’s home—a place where soup is served, where there is music, mulled wine, and a place of love and safety. Currently, Cynthia’s “My Grandmother’s House” is a virtual space for kids in far-flung villages, but she envisions real houses all across the State—houses where children can gather and talk together.

First, she had to raise awareness of these issues that affect so many children in Alaska. In 2014 she and seven of these brave kids went to the Alaska Federation of Natives conference. That is the biggest gathering of indigenous people in North America every year. AFN comes together for the conference, usually in Anchor or Fairbanks, and these young kids spoke on stage about what they had experienced. I remember this. It was so powerful. The stories they told of abuse that they or their friends had experienced were heartbreaking and very difficult to listen to. Importantly, they implored the elders in the audience to talk to their kids about abuse. That took so much courage from these children and their courageous leader, Cynthia.

When the presentation was over at AFN, it received a standing ovation. People cried, they thanked Cynthia, and they thanked these courageous young kids for at long last having the courage to speak out—remarkable.

Last summer, Cynthia and 11 children and an experienced mental health therapist—traveled on a plane, a bus, a boat—we have a very big State—to Fairbanks and to the villages of Minto, Tanana, Ruby, and Galena. It was a healing journey, they called it. At the villages, they formed a talking circle to talk about their experiences. Again, this is courage. It is not easy for young children to do this. They ate together, danced, prayed together, and talked some more. Cynthia said about this journey: “It’s empowering the children. It’s giving them a voice. It’s grassroots. There are so many programs out there to help kids, but there are not boots on the ground [on the frontlines]. They aren’t grassroots. These kids have had enough. They are sick of waiting for help. I tell them all the time, ‘We are the ones we’ve been waiting for’ [for the help].

That is a beautiful statement and a powerful statement: We are the ones we have been waiting for. It is a grassroots movement to do what we all know is right—to work to stamp out this kind of horrific behavior.

We just learned last night that Cynthia has been appointed to the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights. It is no surprise to me. This is a woman of energy, passion, and inspiration who has done so much for these kids—and, by the way, a woman of courage. I am confident she will do a great job in that new position—very important position in Alaska. She will bring her empathy, her common sense, and her passion to protect Alaskans—particularly our children—across the State.

Cynthia, from the bottom of my heart, my friend, thanks for all the great work you do. Thanks for your courage. Thanks for your energy. Thanks for being an inspiration for all of us. Thank you for protecting our most precious asset, our most precious resource—our kids in Alaska. Thank you for creating My Grandmother’s House. Everybody needs a grandmother’s house. Thank you. And congratulations on being our Alaskan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, in a little bit, we are going to have the opportunity to vote to confirm Drew Wrigley as the next U.S. attorney for the District of North Dakota. First of all, I want to thank Leader McCONNELL and Leader SCHUMER for providing this opportunity to vote to confirm this outstanding candidate.

A little bit about Drew. First of all, he is a good personal friend. Drew is a sincere public servant. He has served our State as our Lieutenant Governor previously as—subsequently as—U.S. attorney for North Dakota under President George W. Bush. He has a servant’s heart.

The thing I like so much about Drew is, besides being a professional prosecutor—and prior to even being a U.S. attorney, he was a longtime prosecutor in Philadelphia in the district attorney’s office. He is good at his job. He is smart. He is compassionate. He cares as much as anything about the rule and the letter of the law and the victims of crimes. But the thing I like the most about Drew is that he is a courageous prosecutor. He doesn’t just take the layups. He is willing to push to the edge for victims, for justice. He takes the tough cases, and he takes them on. Win or lose, he fights as hard as he can for the cause of justice and for the victims of crimes.

So it is a great honor for me today to advocate for Drew’s confirmation, and I look forward to the opportunity in a little bit to vote for it.

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

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 196, 160, 161, and 298.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Drew H. Wrigley, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years; Wing Chau, of Rhode Island, to be United States Marshal for the District of Rhode Island for the term of four years; Ramona L. Dohman, of Minnesota, to be United States Marshal for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years; and Nick Edward Proffitt, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Wrigley, Chau, Dohman, and Proffitt nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative business for 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.

REMEMBERING MIRIAM ZAYED

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in the early 20th century, hundreds of emigrants left the Palestinian town of Beitunia to come to Chicago for a better life. Many could not read or write in English. Still, they set about succeeding in America and fitting into society, overcoming obstacles in a new land, becoming salesmen, shopkeepers, and factory workers. Miriam Zayed grew up in this community outside of Chicago.

Khali Gibran once wrote, “I slept, and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke, and I saw that life is all service. I served, and I cried that service was joy.” The call to service isn’t an easy path, and not nearly enough answer this call, but there are times when you meet someone who embodies the joy of service. This was Miriam Zayed.

Miriam passed away last fall in October after a lifetime of leadership. She spent her life fighting for Arabs and Muslims in the Chicagoland area and the rights of everyone.

Born and raised in Chicago, Miriam always had a love of politics and education. She convinced her parents to let her go to Chicago State University, becoming among the first in her family to attend college. But there was one stipulation: she had to go with her every day. Miriam’s thirst for knowledge would not be deterred by having her mom take her to and from school and wait outside her classes. She went on to receive her master’s degree from National Louis University in curriculum education.

Miriam was one of the first Arab Americans in the Chicagoland area to run for public office when she ran for District 230 School Board in the 1990s. As treasurer of the Arab-American Democrat Club, Miriam brought all local politicians and candidates to attend the annual candidate’s forum brunch and encouraged the Arab-American community to attend and be recognized as voting constituents. I have attended the AADC forums, and among you, it was always a full house, and Miriam was always working. She never sat for the entire event.

Those that attended AADC brunches, events at the United Holy Land Fund, or the Beitunia Club events knew the tireless work of Miriam Zayed. She never sought the limelight, but all who knew her respected her.

When she wasn’t building her community, Miriam was teaching in the Chicago Public School system in the Englewood neighborhood in Chicago. For decades, she taught at the Earle Elementary School and took her classes to the Art Institute in Chicago, and for some students, it was the first time they ever went downtown. She educated her students about State government and introduced them to public officials. Miriam purchased school supplies and clothing for her students too. Miriam also somehow found time to run her own business as a certified public accountant, helping people in the community with their tax preparation and planning needs. She treated everyone as family.

The week before she passed away, a candidates’ forum and brunch that she helped organize took place to celebrate politics and the 2018 election. By then, she was too ill to attend as she had done so many times before. The brunch’s keynote speaker, Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, reported that April would be designated Arab American and Middle Eastern Heritage Month by the State of Illinois. There wasn’t a better place to make that declaration.

In May of this year, Miriam will be awarded the 2019 Najeeb Halaby Award for Public Service posthumously by the Arab American Institute Foundation at the Khalil Gibran Spirit of Humanity Awards. This award is given to those who promote greater understanding and appreciation of diversity and inclusion. Her decades of work for her students, the greater Chicago area, and the many communities of which she was a member make her more than worthy of the award.

Miriam’s joy in service and love for her family and community will be missed. She is survived by her husband Refat Zayed; her children Hythem Zayed, Belal Zayed, Holly (Zayed) Murad, and Lena Hussien; and by her brothers and sisters, Nancy, Zayid, Adele, Heyam, Hanan, Cindy, and Dena.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN OSTENBURG

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the late Pulitzer award-winning historian Studs Terkel in his seminal book, “The Good War,” described how the Second World War helped give birth to a new middle generation, Park Forest has never been stronger.

Park Forest has always been on the frontlines of progress. The town won the All-American City award twice, first in 1953 and then in 1977, for its work in racial integration and open housing initiatives. For the last 20 years, my friend, Mayor John Ostenburg, has maintained this tradition while leading Park Forest through a new time of transition and anxiety. Now, as John passes his leadership to a new generation, Park Forest has never been stronger.

John’s vocations and career highlights were too numerous to count.

John was born and raised in Springfield, IL. Graduating high school in 1963, he joined a Catholic seminary called the Clerics of St. Viator, where he developed a lifelong sense of justice and humanity. His expertise and insights into the studies of the Trappist monk Thomas Merton earned the admiration of so many, and John regularly is published discussing Thomas Merton.
A young seminarian, John joined 35,000 others in rallying with Dr. Martin Luther King at Soldier Field in Chicago and then marched with him as he went to Chicago City Hall to post his demands on its doors. He remains, to this day, a lifelong member of the NAACP. Making a difference has always been part of who John Ostendorf is as a person. He witnessed firsthand the violence at the 1968 Democratic Convention while working as a campaign manager for Eugene McCarthy’s Presidential campaign.

Upon leaving the seminary, John became a reporter at the Springfield State Journal covering the African-American community. He would go on to be an editor for the Joliet Herald-News, a sports editor for the Tinley Park Crescent Newspapers, and a reporter for the Hammond Times. He even was part-owner and managing editor for the Lockport Free Press.

What brought him to Park Forest was one day when he took a job as communications director for Prairie State College. John has been a classroom teacher at the grade school, high school, community college, and university levels. His expertise teaching and administrative skills made him an ideal leader in the Chicago Teachers Union. He edited the union’s publications, chaired the communications department, and was legislative director and chief of staff from 2007 to 2010. He also helped move the organization out of debt into fiscal stability.

John’s love of Park Forest and its residents always came through to everyone. It was the late Marge Fried- man Scherr, a legend in the community, that talked him into running for the Park Forest village board. She saw greatness in him. He lost in 1983, but he didn’t give up. He won a 2-year term in 1985, and after the board approved a staggered 3-year term, won again in 1985.

In 1992, John ran and won a seat in the Illinois Legislature for the 80th District. He lost reelection 2 years later, but it was a blessing in disguise. John returned to the Park Forest village board in 1997, and in 1999, he ran and won his first term as mayor. He would go on to win reelection in 2003, 2007, 2011, and 2015, becoming the longest serving mayor in the history of Park Forest.

During his time as mayor, John helped Park Forest continue its tradition as a place of progress. His visionary approach made the town an All-American award finalist in 2000 and 2006. John continued Park Forest’s tradition of diversity by encouraging unity and equality in Chicago Southland, earning a 2009 Award from Diversity, Inc. John’s expertise in housing is respected nationally, and he has served on panels for the Brookings Institute on confronting poverty in America.

John implemented the Park Forest Sustainability Plan to help ensure residents maintain high-quality life for future generations through green projects that bring the community together. Under John’s leadership, Park Forest was the recipient of the Distinguished Budget Award and Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for more than 20 years.

John’s focus on service to others and the greater good is a trademark of his lifetime. His role model Thomas Merton once said, “We do not exist for ourselves.” John’s career is a reflection of this. Son, father, grand-father, author, and mayor are all roles he has filled while he has helped the people of Park Forest, the people of Illinois, and I take pride in calling him a friend. We thank him for his public service. John will never cease being a servant to people.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE PATERSON

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. president, Katherine Paterson is a Vermont author with more than 30 titles to her name and a list of awards that other writers could only dream of. She has a keenly special knack for introducing young readers to difficult topics about life and death, as she did with her well-known novel, ‘Terror.’ She has just added a prestigious and fitting recognition to that long list, having been named the American Academy of Arts and Letters’ 2019 E.B. White Award winner. The award pays tribute to her lifetime achievement in children’s literature.

What is notable about this latest award is the modesty by which Katherine Paterson comes to it. In an interview with Vermont Public Radio, VPR, the author who has twice won both the National Book Award and the Newbery Medal said her latest award held special meaning.

“Anv award that has the name ‘E.B. White’ attached to it brings with it a great thrill of joy, since he’s one of my real heroes,” she told her VPR audience. “He probably was one of the best writers in America, and yet he respected children so much that he wrote some of his best work for them. And that makes me incredibly happy.”

Clearly, some of E.B. White’s influence has rubbed off, as Katherine Paterson’s own novels show great respect for her readers, young and old alike. Her writing has been hailed for its heartfelt and honest exploration for young readers. Her achievement is all the more impressive given that Kath- erine Paterson’s first language was Chinese, having been born to Christian missionaries who immersed her in the culture before being forced to leave China in the late 1930s. Her studies of both Chinese and Japanese cultures, as well as her religious interests, are evi- dent in her collection of writings.

We are fortunate that Katherine and her late husband John chose to settle in Vermont more than three decades ago. On both local and national levels, she has been most generous with her time, visiting schools and inspiring young people to read, while advocating for organizations that promote literacy. It is no wonder that Katherine Paterson has been named a Living Leg- end by the Library of Congress.

I am proud to recognize the achieve- ments and devoted following that Beau Ties Ltd. has accumulated over its nearly three decades in business. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a “Seven Days” article ti- tled, “Middlebury’s Beau Ties Collars the Market on Dapper Neckwear.” It tells the story of Beau Ties Ltd., from its humble beginnings to now and of its importance to Vermont’s economy and its many satisfied customers, myself included.

There being no objection, the mate- rial was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

RECOGNIZING VERMONT’S BEAU TIES LTD.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is not often that I say the words “Vermont” and “bow tie” in the same sentence, except, of course, when discussing the famed Beau Ties Ltd. of Vermont. Beau Ties, Vermont’s sole bow tie manufac- turer, got its start as a mom-and-pop operation more than 25 years ago and maintains that ethos. They are an amazing example of the many small businesses that are the heart and soul of Vermont.

Beau Ties was started in 1993 by bow tie aficionado Bill Kenerson and his wife Deborah Venman. They ran the company out of their home and sold their bow ties through the mail. Over the years, the company has grown to employ 30 Vermonters and now has its own manufacturing facility in Middlebury. They sell hundreds of different bow ties, and their selection is constantly changing to keep customers coming back.

Though they are no longer at the helm, Bill and Deborah’s desire to keep the company in Vermont has been hon- ored. In fact, the company has never left the facility that it moved into in 1998, and many of its employees have been with Beau Ties for over 20 years.

Among its clientele, Beau Ties Ltd. can count the late Orville Redenbacher and Bill Nye. The company has also cut cloth for the Obama White House and is the official tiemaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Vermont Statehouse. I have also sport- ed Beau Ties before: I wore one of their bow ties to the investiture of Judge Geoffrey Crawford, now chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont.

I am proud to recognize the achieve- ments and devoted following that Beau Ties Ltd. has accumulated over its nearly three decades in business. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a “Seven Days” article ti- tled, “Middlebury’s Beau Ties Collars the Market on Dapper Neckwear.” It tells the story of Beau Ties Ltd., from its humble beginnings to now and of its importance to Vermont’s economy and its many satisfied customers, myself included.
Anyone who wears a bow tie is making a statement. It can be “I’m conservative,” “I’m a wedding party,” “I’ll be your server this evening,” or “I’m intelligent and dexterous enough to knot my own bow tie. Regardless of the message, bow ties get noticed. Who sport them?

Not everyone can pull one off—or tie one on. Those who wear bow ties are a rarefied set. And for many bow tie enthusiasts around the country, their bow tie is a template: Beau Ties Ltd of Vermont: a modern, one-story manufacturing facility in a Middlebury industrial park. There, bow tie aficionados are Occidentally seeing getting their pictures taken in front of the giant polka-dotted bow tie out front.

Never heard of Beau Ties? That’s unsurprising in Vermont, where few people routinely wear ties of any kind. According to Elizabeth Smith, copresident and CEO of Beau Ties, most of the company’s clients live out of state and buy their products online or through their catalogs.

But this predominantly retail business, now in its 26th year, boasts an impressive clientele of famous bow tie-wearing blokes: the late popcorn entrepreneur Orville Redenbacher, science educator Bill Nye “The Science Guy” and retired “CBS Evening News” host Charles Osgood, who has his own signature line of bow ties with the company.

Beau Ties has also produced ties for the Obama White House, Tiffany & Co., PBS, and countless colleges, prep schools and fraternal organizations. It’s also the official tie maker for the Vermont State House and the Vermont Statehouse. And its private-label clients include fine menswear retailers Ben Silver, Barneys New York and Brooks Brothers.

On a reporter’s recent tour of the facility, Smith and fellow copresident Cy Day Tall rarely referred to their clientele as “customers.” Instead, they were “our guys” or “our fellows.” While the bow tie market isn’t huge, or exclusively male, the people who purchase their bow ties, neckties and other fashion accessories—cumberbunds, cufflinks, suspenders, cravats, pocket squares—tend to return time and again. Often they’ll phone the company and ask to speak to a specific employee who helped them in the past.

“In our mind, we’re a family business,” explained Smith, who splits management duties with Tall. Smith handles customer service and sales, while Tall is the chief marketing officer and “wordsmith” of the catalog, the heart of their retail business.

Beau Ties’ familial feel extends to its staff, too. Of the 30 employees, several are mothers—daughter or grand-parent/grandchild pairs. Many have been with Beau Ties 20 years or more. All but three are women. The company also hires no seasonal help, Smith noted, so that everyone can earn a decent living with benefits.

Notwithstanding its reputation for formal attire, Beau Ties is actually a casual and relaxed workplace, where several seamstresses were spotted sipping iced tea and joking among themselves while sewing. Zooey, a small black pug, and Margy, an energetic Welsh corgi, enthusiastically greeted a visitor.

Beau Ties was founded in 1993 by Bill Kenerson and his wife, Deborah Venman. Kenerson, a native of New Haven, Conn., and a Marine Corps veteran who attended Yale University, moved to Vermont in 1978 to buy the Killington Country Resort. A year later he took a job at Simmonds Precision Products in Vergennes, where he worked until 1990. In 1991, then-governor Richard Snelling tapped him to serve as commissioner of economic development.

Though Kenerson had a strong business background, he had no training in men’s apparel, Smith said. But he was a dyed-in-the-wool bow tie enthusiast, and many of his favorites from his father and grandfather. Discouraged by the dearth of quality ties he liked, he and Venman launched their own bow tie business in the spring of 1992.

Two months later, they hired Vivian LaFave, a New Haven seamstress, who set up their shop in her basement and began cutting and sewing. Kenerson and Venman purchased in New York City’s garment district. LaFave is still with the company and considered the grand dame of the showroom.

Kenerson and Venman began by marketing just eight bow ties via a one-page circular, which they mailed to 8,000 people; it eventually evolved into a catalog. The company also advertised in periodicals that Kenerson assumed would appeal to fellow bow tie wearers, such as Smithsonian magazine and the New Yorker.

Smith remembers the surge of business that occurred the day after Kenerson ran an ad on page two of the Wall Street Journal in the late 1990s. “We couldn’t answer the phone fast enough,” she recalled.

For several years, Kenerson and Venman ran the business out of their home, said Smith. However, the company quickly outgrew that space.

“Deb had to get up and get dressed every morning because we had to go through their bedroom just to get to our offices,” she noted. In November 1999, Beau Ties moved into its current building. Wanting to maintain the homey, family feel, Kenerson had it outfitted with a large kitchen, an outdoor deck, a grill and even a dog run.

Soon, the company was producing 56 to 48-page catalogs that featured nearly two dozen new ties per month, as well as some ancillary products. The company’s website also lists another 500 to 600 bow ties, which come as pre-tied, clip-on or “freestyle” that is, DIY knots.

Basically, the styles fall into two categories—preformed and patterns for “the conservative fellows” and the loud, bold and bright colors for the more flamboyant dressers. On the day of Seven Days’ visit, the current line of green Celtic themes (for St. Patrick’s Day), hearts (for Valentine’s Day), and purple, green and gold masks (for Mardi Gras). Mostly, the fabrics come from China, Italy and the UK, Smith said.

It’s worth noting that the “Ltd” in the company name isn’t an aesthetic flourish but reflects the time-sensitive availability of its products.

“Bill and Deb’s concept was to be limited,” Smith explained. “I don’t have to have [them] to entice them to buy from me every month.”

Beau Ties continued to grow throughout the 2000s. By September 2012, however, Kenerson, who was facing significant health challenges, sold the company to its current owners: David Kramer, who lives in New York State, and David Matter, in California. Though other buyers approached him, Smith said, Kenerson insisted on finding people who would keep the company in Vermont and run it the same way he had.

“This was Bill’s baby,” Smith added. “Every single person who worked here was pretty valuable to him.” As she noted, Kenerson was pretty much the face of Beau Ties and the bow ties he had created and sold to the public. “He would call in and usually answered customers himself. A mere two months after the sale, the “Bean” of Beau Ties died at the age of 81.

Though one might assume that the typical Beau Ties customer is a stodgy, Barry Goldwater-type conservative, Smith said that members of the younger generation also want to fashion one on.

Representative of the new demographic is Bill Ruddick, who’s been working at Beau Ties since he was 17. His grandfather, Barb, works there, too. The younger Brown, a dapper youth who sports a bow tie daily, is now the company’s social media manager.

“The bow tie wearer is the musician. He’s the architect, He’s the fella who works in a museum,” Smith said. “He’s the attorney and the judge. He’s the young guy who wants to wear something on ‘bow tie Friday.’ He’s the preppy kid who wants something to wear to the yacht club.”

Doctors and other health care professionals tend to prefer bow ties, too. Why? The short ties don’t drape onto their patients and spread germs, Smith explained. Pediatricians like them because babies and toddlers can’t grab them. In fact, Burlington pediatrician Joe Hagan belongs to a professional group of doctors around the country called the Pediatric Travel Club, which gets its neckwear from Beau Ties.

Beau Ties is unique in another respect, Smith added: It accepts old neckties from customers who want them converted into bow ties. Such “one-off” special orders are yet another way to maintain customer loyalty.

“Some guys will send in a hundred of them,” Smith added. “We make an awful lot of cheap ties here.”

Like other industries, Beau Ties enjoys great benefits and faces challenges from being in the Green Mountain State. Its location far from its customer base increases the cost of shipping. For years, the company printed its catalogs on the East Coast until, as Tall put it, distribution costs became “exquisitely painful.”

At the same time, Tall noted, “Vermont always has a certain cachet, and we certainly play that up in every letter we write.”

“People call in and say, ‘I want a tie. I want that manufacturer.’” Smith added. “I don’t mean to sound smarmy, but I’m the one who goes out into the world to sell this stuff, and I’m always so proud. I never have a product that I don’t think is amazing. And how fortunate am I? I get to see it get made every day.”

(At the request of Mr. Schumer, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

**VOTE EXPLANATION**

**Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, I was absent for vote No. 77 on Executive Calendar No. 200, the nomination of David Bernhardt to be Secretary of the Interior. Had I been present, I would have voted no on the nomination.**

**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to join in the celebration of National Library Week. This year’s theme, “Libraries = Strong...
communities,” is fitting. Every day, our libraries help make our communities stronger and more vibrant, as they innovate and mobilize resources to provide programs and services that meet ever-evolving community needs.

That is why I have been proud to work during my time in the Senate on ways to support our Nation’s libraries. Last December, on a bipartisan basis, I secured passage and enactment of my legislation to reauthorize and enhance the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This law authorized Federal funding, a relatively modest investment, through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, to enable libraries and museums to work in partnership at the State and local levels and with nonprofits, universities, businesses, and others to support, educate, enlighten, and enrich our communities. For libraries, this law seeks to ensure they are equipped to serve community needs, in areas such as workforce, economic and financial literacy; critical and emerging technologies. Critically, this new law ensures that increases in library formula funding will be shared more broadly across States and specifically smaller ones like West Virginia.

Just last week, I hosted a conversation with our State’s library professionals to follow-up on a similar roundtable I held in Rhode Island in 2016 as I began my work on the Museum and Library Services Act. It was inspiring to hear the many ways in which our libraries are hard at work transforming themselves to serve their diverse communities. I was glad the director of IMLS, Dr. Kathryn Matthew, could join us for this event. We have a special duty in Rhode Island to elevate the work of IMLS, which is one of my predecessor, Senator Pell’s, many lasting gifts to our State.

While the President’s budget proposes to once again eliminate funding for IMLS, I have been able to instead secure an increase of $11 million for this agency over the last 2 years. There is broad, bipartisan support for the work IMLS does, and I am continuing to work with my colleagues to increase funding so we can advance IMLS’s mission.

My work on libraries extends to ones in our schools, which also need our care and attention. Studies show that effective school library programs, staffed by a certified school librarian, are volunteers, which can do EKGs and cortisone injections, manage chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma,
and hypertension, and remove minor skin cancers right in his office.

Second, by keeping you out of the emergency room. For $60 a month, patients have unlimited office visits, and they can email, text, and use an app to contact his office—anytime, day or night. So for example, if you have stomach pains at 11 pm, you can call next Dr. Gross, who knows that it might just be a side effect of a new medicine he prescribed you.

And third, primary care is patients’ access point to a physician. When Dr. Gross refers people for additional care, he is able to provide cost and quality information about the different options so his patients can choose the best option.

For example, one of his patients with rheumatoid arthritis was quoted $1,800 for blood work. He was able to find a laboratory to offer the blood tests for under $100. This echoes what Adam Boehler, who leads the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, recently told me. He estimated that primary care is only 3-7 percent of health care spending but affects as much as half of all health care spending. And as Dr. Roizen, Health and Medicine director at Cleveland Clinic has said before this Committee, regular visits to your primary care doctor, along with keeping your immunizations up to date and maintaining your health, such as a healthy body mass index and blood pressure, will help you avoid chronic disease about 80 percent of the time. This is why, according to Dr. Roizen, over 84 percent of all health care spending is on chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease. I believe we can empower primary care doctors, nurse practitioners, and physicians assistants to go even a step further.

At our first hearing, we heard about how the cost of health care is in a black box—patients have no idea how much a particular treatment or test will end up costing. Even if information on the cost and quality of health care is easily accessible, patients still have trouble comparing different health care options.

For example, earlier this year, hospitals began to post their prices online, as required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, but to the average consumer, this information has proved to be incomprehensible.

And while the data may be incomprehensible today, it is a ripe opportunity for innovation. The ACA initiated Community Health Care Bluebook, a Tennessee company that testified a hearing last fall, and non-profit organizations to arrange the data so primary care doctors, nurse practitioners, and physicians assistants can help their patients have better outcomes and better experiences at lower costs.

There are other ways to lower health care costs through expanded access to primary care. Dr. Gross’ direct primary care clinic is one example. Another is community health centers, who are often located in a community that is a minority or an underserved neighborhood and that are where 27 million Americans go for their primary care. And employers are increasingly taking an active role in their employees’ health and the cost of health care.

One of our new committee members, Senator Braun, was an endorser of a thousand people and was aggressive about helping his employees reduce health care costs. Like primary care doctors, more good data could help employers like Senator Braun more effectively lower health care costs. Employers are also employing a doctor on-site so employees don’t have to take time off of work to see their doctor.

On-site primary care makes it easier to keep employees healthy by helping to manage a chronic condition or get a referral to a specialist. Today, I am interested in hearing more about specific recommendations to improve access to affordable primary care.

ACCESS TO CARE: HEALTH CENTERS AND PROVIDERS IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of my opening statement at the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee be printed in the RECORD.

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

ACCESS TO CARE: HEALTH CENTERS AND PROVIDERS IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

Mr. ALEXANDER. This is the first hearing of the new Congress so let me take a few minutes to talk about what we hope to accomplish these next two years.

Number one, reducing health care costs. And number two, making college a degree is worth students’ time and money.

On health care costs, this Committee has held five hearings on reducing the cost of health care. Brent James, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, said that up to half of health care spending is unnecessary.

That staggering number should startle the American people. That is a massive burden on American families, businesses, and state and federal budgets.

I sent a letter to health experts, including the witnesses at our five hearings, asking for specific recommendations to reduce health care costs. I’d like to encourage anyone with a specific recommendation to submit your comment by March 1 to lowerhealthcarecosts@help.senate.gov.

A second priority is updating the Higher Education Act to ensure that the expense of a college education is worth it for students. The last time we seriously addressed higher education was in 2007. A lot has happened since then.

In 2007, there was no iPhone. A microblogging company named Twitter had just started and started to scale globally. And Amazon released something called Kindle. In a new book, New York Times columnist Tom Friedman put his finger on the year 2007 as “the technological inflection point.” So we need to take a look at this federal support for higher education that affects 20 million students and 6,000 universities, colleges, and technical institutions. And our goal includes simplifying the federal aid application; a fairer way for students to repay their loans; and a new system of accountability for colleges. I will be working on these priorities with Ranking Member Patty Murray, with members of the HELP Committee, and other Senators interested in getting to the bottom of health care costs and updating the Higher Education Act.

We hope to conclude our work on both of these things in the first six months of this year.

And in addition, in these next few months, we need to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, which supports the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to older adults and their caregivers and reauthorize the Violence Against Women and Children’s Health, Violence Prevention and Treatment Act, important legislation that funds major grant programs that provide a social services response to issues of child abuse and domestic violence.

And today’s topic—extending federal funding for community health centers, as well as four other federal health programs, which are all set to expire at the end of this fiscal year.

Community health centers actually fit into this larger topic of the Older Americans Act. This Committee, which is primary care.

There are more than 300,000 primary care doctors in the United States, according to the American Academy of Family Physicians, a doctor that most of us go to see for day-to-day medical care—an annual physical, flu vaccine, or help managing a chronic condition like diabetes. It is our access point to additional medical care, and can refer us to specialists, if, for example, we need to get our hip replaced or a MRI.

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And today’s topic—extending federal funding for community health centers, as well as four other federal health programs, which are all set to expire at the end of this fiscal year.
Two weeks ago, Senator Murray and I took the first step by introducing legislation that will extend funding for community health centers for five years at $4 billion a year in mandatory funding. The legislation also extends funding for four additional federal health programs set to expire in September: the Teaching Health Center Graduates Medical Education Program; National Health Service Corps; Special Diabetes Program; and Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

Today we will hear about how the community health centers program is working and how to ensure 27 million Americans can continue to have access to quality health care closer to their homes and at a more affordable cost.

Community health centers, and hospitals across the country, rely on a well-trained health care workforce. Two federally funded workforce programs, which train doctors and nurses, expire this year.

The first is the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program that helps train primary care doctors and dentists in community-based settings, often at community health centers.

And second, the National Health Service Corps, which provides scholarships and loan repayments for health care professionals who go to work in rural or underserved areas.

More than half of these doctors choose to work at one of the 12,000 community health centers sites across the country as part of their service requirement. I look forward to hearing from the witnesses today and learning more about all three of these programs, and discussing how we can work together to ensure funding for these programs is extended so Americans can continue to have access to affordable health care closer to home.

REMEMBERING JIM MOODY

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the career and legacy of former U.S. Representative Jim Moody, who passed away on March 22, 2019. Born James Powers Moody, he was an influential leader in Democratic politics in Wisconsin in the 1970s and 1980s.

Born in 1935 in Virginia, Jim spent much of his childhood abroad. His father was an official with the American Red Cross, and his mother worked in relief efforts for refugees. Jim was heavily influenced by his parents' international focus, and he developed a passion for foreign cultures and global affairs at an early age. He attended school in Shanghai before graduating from an English-language high school in Ateneo in the Philippines, where he grew up. Judge Fox attended law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1959 and married Katharine deRosset Rhett on December 30, 1959. Judge Fox served as a corporal in the United States Army Reserve from 1951-1953.

Judge Fox attended law school at the University of North Carolina School of Law, where he graduated in 1957 with highest honors. Subsequently, he took a clerkship with Judge Donnell Gilliam of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Judge Fox was an official with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, served in Pakistan and Bangladesh. He spoke many languages, including Greek, Farsi, Croatian, Spanish and French.

Jim received a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy's School of Government in 1967 and a doctorate in economics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1973. Eugene McCarthy's 1968 presidential campaign inspired Jim's exploration of politics. He was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1976 and to the State Senate in 1978. With his mother at his side as his campaign manager, he ran for the 1982 Democratic nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives from Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District in southeastern Wisconsin, where he served five terms.

Moody was a progressive voice in Congress. He was a leader of Wisconsin's greatest progressive, Robert M. "Fighting Bob" La Follette. He was an early advocate of gay rights and wilderness preservation. In 1991, he authored a federally funded universal health care bill to cover the 37 million Americans who lacked insurance at the time, including 550,000 Wisconsinites. He proposed paying for the coverage with higher taxes on corporations and wealthy individuals.

After an unsuccessful U.S. Senate race in 1992, he returned to his passion for international affairs. In 1995, he became the chief financial officer of the United Nation's International Fund for Agricultural Development, which follows the Minimal Access to Food standards in the agricultural sectors of developing countries. He served on the board of the National Iranian American Council and as an elections observer in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Ukraine. His post congressional career also included work as professor, an economist and a financial adviser.

Jim Moody took his role as a public servant very seriously. It was a responsibility and an honor that he carried proudly. He cared deeply about the economic stability and well-being of his constituents and of people around the globe. He will be fondly remembered as one of Wisconsin's great progressive leaders.

REMEMBERING JAMES C. FOX

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, Judge James C. Fox, who served as a Federal District Court Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina for more than 35 years, passed away Saturday, March 23, 2019, at the age of 90.

Judge Fox was born on November 6, 1928, in Atchison, KS. As a young boy, his family moved to Greensboro, NC, where he grew up. Judge Fox graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1950 and married Katharine deRosset Rhett on December 30, 1950. Judge Fox served as a corporal in the United States Army Reserve from 1951-1953.

Judge Fox attended law school at the University of North Carolina School of Law, where he graduated in 1957 with highest honors. Subsequently, he took a clerkship with Judge Donnell Gilliam of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Judge Fox entered private practice in 1959 with the firm Carter & Murchison in New Hanover County, NC, where he practiced for 20 years. While in private practice, Judge Fox served as the county attorney for New Hanover County for 13 years.

President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Fox to serve as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina on September 13, 1982. Judge Fox served the residents of North Carolina for more than 35 years. He served as chief judge from 1990 to 1997 and assumed senior status on January 31, 2001. Even after assuming senior status, Judge Fox maintained a full caseload until he retired in 2017. Judge Fox was known as courteous but firm and was widely respected by everyone who came into his courtroom.

In addition to his decades of public service, Judge Fox served as director of the law alumni association for the University of North Carolina in 1964 and president of the law foundation at the University of North Carolina from 1977 to 1986. Judge Fox was on numerous civic boards, including the University of North Carolina Board of Visitors, the Boy Scouts, the United Way, the Family Service Society, Opportunities, Inc., Davis Healthcare, and the Children's Home Society. Judge Fox was also an active member of Ducks Unlimited.

He loved the outdoors and spent significant time and resources on conservation management efforts.

Most importantly, Judge Fox was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. I am grateful to Judge Fox for his service and to his family for sharing his time with the residents of North Carolina. He will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO DIANA MILSTEIN

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the career of Diana Milete. Diana has spent her life in public service and has made a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of Ohioans.

Diana came to my congressional office when I was very first elected to the House and has been with us ever since, through all my time in the House and my entire 12 years in the Senate. When she retires at the end of this month, she will have served more than three decades in Federal service.

Helping Ohioans is one of the most important things that Diana does, and as the head of our constituent services program, her work has touched the lives of more than 59,000 Ohioans. These were seniors trying to navigate Federal Agencies to get the Medicare and Social Security benefits they earned over a lifetime of work. They were veterans and their families trying to secure medals and VA benefits. They were Ohio workers trying to claim the tax credits they earned.

Diana went far beyond the call of duty for so many Ohioans. I remember 2½ years ago, right before the Fourth of July, our office received a request for assistance from a
man in Cleveland named Danny Salarz, who was trying to arrange visas for his family to visit him from the Dominican Republic. You may recognize the name Danny Salarz—he was the Cleveland Indians’ star pitcher, and the reason he wanted his family to come visit was because he had been selected to play in the MLB All-Star Game in San Diego. Diana got right on the case, and, working with other members of our team, she was able to make sure Danny’s family got visa appointments in time for the game. Danny’s mother got to come watch the game with her son, and he sent our office a picture of him and his family at Petco Park—a picture that hung on Diana’s wall.

Of course Diana’s efforts weren’t restrained, and she worked on several cases related to ALS patients, who faced a mandatory waiting period of two years before they could receive disability benefits. Tragically, ALS is a fast-progressing disease, and many patients pass away before the 2-year waiting period is over. Diana brought the issue to our office’s attention, and our legislative staff went to work. I joined my colleagues in the House and Senate to introduce legislation to fix this, and we eventually got it done. We reduced the 2-year waiting period to 5 months. This year, as Diana’s time with our office comes to a close, I have joined a bipartisan group of colleagues to introduce legislation to eliminate the waiting period for ALS patients all together. That is how our office works best—we talk to Ohioans, dedicated workers in Ohio like Diana listen to their stories and bring their issues to the attention of our office, and our legislative staff works on a solution.

We are all going to miss Diana when she retires at the end of this month, but she has earned a long and happy retirement spent with her family in Lorraine. Diana’s impact on this office will be felt long after she is gone. She has built one of the best casework operations in the country, and I know her team is going to carry on Diana’s legacy, serving Ohioans with compassion and dedication for years to come.

Diana, thank you for your service to the people of Ohio.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING EVERETT CHAVEZ
- Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, it is an honor to remember and recognize the life of Governor Everett Chavez. Governor Chavez devoted his life to the people of Santo Domingo Pueblo and to building a strong future for the next generation of leaders in Indian Country.

Chavez served three terms as the Governor of Kewa Pueblo, also known as Santo Domingo.

Governor Chavez also served as the superintendent of the Santa Fe Indian School, mentoring Native youth and setting high expectations for their educational achievements. He was a proud graduate of the University of New Mexico, where he received a degree in electrical engineering.

Thanks to his dedication, many students received scholarships for college, and put their education to work in their communities.

Governor Chavez was powerful in influencing policy to benefit Indian Country at the highest levels of government.

Governor Chavez served on President Obama’s advisory committee for Native American and Alaskan Natives. He worked with New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver to increase voter registration and election participation in Native communities.

He was constantly building partnerships and implementing major initiatives in his community.

He was hard at work serving others until the very end.

New Mexico has lost one of our greatest leaders.

My thoughts are with Governor Chavez’s family.

His legacy will endure in all of those he inspired through his selfless actions.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES “CHUCK” JOHNSON
- Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, today I have the privilege of recognizing the distinguished service of Commander Charles “Chuck” Johnson, a highly respected Korean and Vietnam war veteran. Having enlisted in the U.S. Army at age 16 before completing his high school education, Chuck served his country honorably for 21 years on the front lines of combat in both Korea and Vietnam.

Chuck’s commitment to serve did not waver after returning home, and he has spent much of his civilian life advocating and caring for Nevada’s veterans, fighting to ensure that their service is never forgotten. Commander Johnson is a slow-walker of the Southern Nevada chapter of the Korean War Veterans, an important piece of his life. Chuck played a critical role in establishing a Korean War Memorial at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, NV, which stands as a testament to the more than 9,000 Korean war veterans buried there. Chuck persisted for over 24 years to see this project come to fruition, and as a community, we are beyond grateful for his dedication to this worthy cause.

Known as a leader and community servant throughout southern Nevada, Chuck was most recently recognized as News 3 Las Vegas’s Veteran of the Month. Throughout the month of March, we saluted Chuck for his tireless work to make our community, State, and country a better, safer, and more just place. I am grateful for Commander Johnson’s sacrifice and patriotism and look forward to observing his continued work on behalf of veterans in Nevada and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA HEINZ
- Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Jessica Heinz, an intern in Washington, D.C., all the hard work she has done on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Jessica is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is currently pursuing a master of science degree in terrorism and security policy at American University. Jessica is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience and has been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jessica for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING VERMONT MEALS ON WHEELS
- Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the tremendous work of Vermont’s Meals on Wheels programs. Last year, Meals on Wheels prepared and home-delivered nearly 800,000 freshly cooked nutritious meals to more than 5,700 Vermont seniors. In our State the second oldest in the Nation, these meals are essential to helping ensure that older Vermonters, particularly those living in rural areas, have access to adequate nutrition.

These meals are made possible by the hard work of hundreds of dedicated volunteers, including 1,000 volunteer drivers also provide invaluable social interaction and companionship for the seniors they visit, which goes a
long way to combat the effects of isolation that many older Vermonters face, especially if they live alone or in a more rural community. Without this social interaction, seniors are more likely to have feelings of loneliness and depression, which puts them at higher risk for dementia, chronic disease, falls, and hospitalization.

The regular visits by Meals on Wheels volunteers serve another purpose, as well. The drivers check to make sure that the seniors are safe, secure, and warm. They know each person they visit and recognize immediately if something doesn’t seem right. It is no exaggeration to say that Meals on Wheels volunteers have averted tragedies and even saved lives after finding seniors who have fallen or are in the midst of a medical emergency.

Last month was “March for Meals,” when Meals on Wheels programs across the country commemorate the March 1972 signing into law of an amendment to the Older Americans Act of 1965 to create the Senior Nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older. As we often do, many of my Vermont staff rode along with Meals on Wheels volunteers across the State to see the wonderful work they are doing and highlight the importance of Meals on Wheels in the lives of thousands of Vermonters.

Let me end by thanking the Meals on Wheels staff and volunteers in Vermont for their remarkable work.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and other purposes to the appropriate committees. (The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:24 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1644. An act to restore the open internet of the Federal Communications Commission.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 1644. An act to restore the open internet of the Federal Communications Commission.

H.R. 1957. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize and improve the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-969. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of a rule entitled “CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS” (RIN 0960–AS6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-977. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustments” (RIN 314–AH5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2019; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-30. A resolution adopted by the Town Commission of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Florida, expressing the Commission’s opposition to legislation prohibiting local regulation of vacation rentals; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-31. A resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, California, relative to new Title X regulations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-32. A petition from a citizen of the State of Ohio relative to the Ohio State Supreme Court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 Ms. Smith (for herself and Mr. Casey):

S. 1140. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the treatment under section 351(k)(7) of such Act (relating to exemptions from the requirement of certain products deemed to have a biological product license pursuant to section 7002 of the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. Stabenow (for herself and Mr. Burr):

S. 1141. A bill to provide predictability and certainty in the tax law, create jobs, and encourage investment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Heinrich (for himself, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Whitehouse, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Merkley, Ms. Smith, Mr. Reid, Mr. Booker, Mrs. Feinstein, and Ms. Hassan):

S. 1142. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax credits for energy storage technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. Duckworth (for herself and Mr. Peters):

S. 1143. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve testing and inspections for lead on military installations, in Department of Defense housing and schools, and in military dependents’ children and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.
By Mr. RUBIO:
S. 1144. A bill to amend the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 to improve mapping under the National Flood Insurance Program and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SHELBY:
S. 1145. A bill to repeal the current Internal Revenue Code and replace it with a flat tax, thereby guaranteeing economic growth and fundamentally reforming our tax code for all Americans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):
S. 1146. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to require the Assistant Secretary for Aging to identify and disseminate best practices for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TESTER, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. FUKUOKA, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PIAS cko, Mr. KAD听, Mr. WATERS, Mr. MARKY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. PEETERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. CORTez MACK, Ms. SMITH, Mr. JONES, and Ms. ROSEN):
S. 1147. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):
S. 1148. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic control training and veterans when hiring air traffic control specialists; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. ROSENTHAL):
S. 1149. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. SASSE, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRUM, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. LANKFORD):
S. 1150. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a child tax credit for pregnant moms with respect to their unborn children; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT (for Florida) (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):
S. 1151. A bill to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. COTTON):
S. 1152. A bill to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain parcels of Federal land in Arlington, Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mrs. FISCHER):
S. 1153. A bill to explicitly make unauthorized access to Department of Education information technology systems and the misuse of identification devices issued by the Department of Education a criminal act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mrs. KESSELRIN):
S. 1154. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an advisory committee to be appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of an electronic health record; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. KENNEDY):
S. 1155. A bill to terminate the prohibitions on the exportation and importation of natural gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MORA8, and Mr. REED):
S. 1156. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of each military department to develop resilience plans for installations of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. KASEY):
S. 1157. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a scholarship program for educators of rural students and provide for loan forgiveness for rural educators, to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide professional development grants for rural elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TUNITA:
S. 1158. A bill to establish a 5-year ban on individuals appointed to Executive Schedule positions and Members of Congress engaging in lobbying above the federal level; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. CASEY):
S. 1159. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish the Office of Inclusivity and Sexual Health and a rural outreach grant program carried out by that office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SMITH:
S. 1160. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to increase support for mental health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER):
S. 1161. A bill to support the education of Indian children; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):
S. 1162. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the individual tax penalty for tax reform law violators and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARAPO (for himself, Ms. STABBORN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. RISCH):
S. 1163: A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veteran student loan repayment or forgiveness programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCHAFFER, and Mr. WICKER):
S. 1164. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit black market adop-
tion of children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CARPER):
S. 1165. A bill to clarify responsibilities related to unaccompanied alien children, to provide additional protections and tracking mechanisms for such children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. BROWN): S. 1166. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to make grants for establishment or expansion of internet exchange facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. KING, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SMITH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. WARNER, and Mr. WYDEN):
S. 1167. A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to provide additional protections and tracking mechanisms for such children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):
S. 1168. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. BENNET):

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. ALExANDER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. INHOVE, Ms. MC SALLY, Mr. THUNE, Ms. SASSE, Mr. ROMNEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ARNOLD, Mr. COLLINS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. WICKER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. GRAHAM):
S. 1170. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish additional criteria for determining when employers may join together in a group or association of employers that will be treated as an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of sponsoring a group health plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. WARNER):
S. 1171. A bill to suspend the current compensation packages for all officers of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. CARDIN):
S. 1173. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend the period during which certain recipients may access the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1185. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumption relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

S. 1186. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3796 North Earl Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the “Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

S. 1187. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1188. A bill to promote the expansion, maintenance, and enhancement of small rural electric systems; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1189. A bill to require the Secretary of State to determine whether the Russian Federation should be designated as a state sponsor of terrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. 1190. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1191. A bill to reauthorize section 340H of the Public Health Service Act to continue the expansion, maintenance, and establishment of approved graduate medical residency programs at qualified teaching health centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S. 1192. A bill to set minimum standards for tax return preparers; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1193. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for the establishment of a national network of Intramural Research Programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S. 1194. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1195. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3796 North Earl Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the “Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

S. 1196. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for the construction of new all-electric homes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. KING):

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. CASSIDY):
By Mr. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. KAIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. VAN HOLlen, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. SHAKEN, Mr. MERRILK, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. SANCHEZ): 

S. 1203. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the public service loan forgiveness program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. 

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. KAIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. HASSAN): 

S. 1204. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to establish an Advisory Commission on Supporting Students with Mental Health Disabilities in Institutions of Higher Education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. 

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. WydEN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL): 

S. 1205. A bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to require creditors to request demographic information from applicants for certain types of credit in order to prevent credit denial or the use of credit scoring practices that have an adverse impact on applicants of a particular race or sex; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. MCALsTY): 

S. 1207. A bill to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Navajo Nation in Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs. 

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY): 

S. 1206. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit aircraft from having in place cameras and microphones that can monitor passengers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. MCALsTY): 

S. 1208. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustained in the line of duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary. 

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. DURBIN): 

S. 1209. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to approval of abbreviated new drug applications; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. 

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. MERRILK, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MCCAUL): 

S. 1210. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the exclusion for benefits provided to volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders; to the Committee on Finance. 

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. MCCALIS): 

S. 1211. A bill to provide for improvements to Tribal transportation facilities and Tribal transportation safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs. 

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. McCALIS): 

S. 1212. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to expand and clarify the prohibition on inaccurate caller identification information and to require providers of telephone service to offer technology to subscribers to reduce the incidence of unwanted telephone calls; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL): 

S. 1213. A bill to provide health insurance reform and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance. 

By Mr. MARKEY: 

S. 1214. A bill to establish and protect individual and collective privacy rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 

By Mr. MARKEY: 

S. 1215. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services. 

By Mr. INHOFE: 

S. 1216. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the taxable income limit on percentage depletion for oil and natural gas produced from marginal properties; to the Committee on Finance. 

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. DUCKWORTH): 

S. 1218. A bill to require the review of the service of certain members of the Armed Forces during World War I to determine if such members should be awarded the Medal of Honor, to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor based on the results of the review, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services. 

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. COONS, and Mr. KING): 

S. 1219. A bill to provide for the discharge of parent borrower liability if a student on whose behalf a parent has received certain student loans becomes disabled; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. 

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN): 

S. 1220. A bill to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. 

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, referred (or acted upon), as indicated: 

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW): 

S. Res. 159. A resolution designating April 24, 2019, as “Meningitis B Awareness Day”; to the Committee on the Judiciary. 

By Mr. JOHNS (for himself, Mrs. SHEHEEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Mr. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. BRIDGES): 

S. Res. 160. A resolution recognizing the contributions of defense laboratories to the technological dominance of the United States Armed Forces and supporting the designation of April 25, 2019, as “Department of Defense Laboratory Day 2019”; to the Committee on Armed Services. 

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS): 

S. Res. 161. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Day to End Victims of Violence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations. 

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS): 

S. Res. 162. A resolution supporting the designation of April 2020 as “National Donate Life Month”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. 

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ): 

S. Res. 163. A resolution commending and congratulating the Lady Bears of Baylor University on winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I women’s basketball championship; considered and agreed to. 

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAIN): 

S. Res. 164. A resolution commending the University of Virginia men’s basketball team for winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men’s Basketball Championship; considered and agreed to. 

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBuchar, Mr. WHITEnHOUSE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MERkLEY, Mr. CoONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BALDWIN, Mr. KING, Mr. PITTS, Mr. CASSidy, and Mr. VAn HOLLen): 

S. Res. 165. A resolution recognizing the importance of vaccinations and immunizations in the United States; considered and agreed to. 

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY): 

S. Res. 166. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2019, as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”; considered and agreed to. 

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. CORTez MASTO, Mr. GARNDER, Mrs. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. Hirono, Mr. CASSidy, Mr. MANChIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. REED, Mr. HOyENVAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CAPTo, Mr. UDAll, Ms. MCAlsTY, Mr. WHITEnHOUSE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. EnzEL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOgман, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SmITH, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDin, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BROWN): 

S. Res. 167. A resolution designating the week of April 20, 2019, through April 28, 2019, as “National Park Week”; considered and agreed to. 

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. Jones, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BOOgMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CAPTo, Mr. CARDin, Mr. CARpER, Mr. CASSidy, Mr. CoONS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRADDOCK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENzEL, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. HYDE-SmITH, Mr. MANChIN, Mr. MENendez, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. ROYOM, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEnHOUSE, Mr. WICkER, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. PERDUE): 

S. Res. 168. A resolution designating April 2019 as “Financial Literacy Month”; considered and agreed to.
By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. KAINZ)

S. Res. 169. A resolution requesting a statement under section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 with respect to violations of human rights by the Government of Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 170. A resolution recognizing the Fifth Anniversary of the Chibok Girls Kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria to redouble efforts to bring an end to the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 171. A resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding restoring United States government access to the West Bank and Gaza; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Con. Res. 14. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 29
At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 29, a bill to establish the Office of Critical Technologies and Security, and for other purposes.

S. 151
At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BECK) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 151, a bill to deter criminal robocall violations and improve enforcement of section 227(b) of the Communications Act of 1994, and for other purposes.

S. 203
At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) 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. 213
At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 213, a bill to amend the SOAR Act.

S. 255
At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 255, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include individuals receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits under the work opportunity credit, increase the work opportunity credit for vocational rehabilitation referrals, qualified SSI recipients, and qualified SSDI recipients, expand the disabled access deduction for expenditures for facilities to remove architectural and transportation barriers in the handicapped and elderly.

S. 296
At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to amend XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 323
At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 323, a bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish the Recognition Inspiring School Employees (RISE) Program recognizing excellence exhibited by classified school employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through high school.

S. 312
At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 342, a bill to reauthorize title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve and encourage innovation in international education, and for other purposes.

S. 386
At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARRNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 427
At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 427, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

S. 509
At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 509, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard.

S. 566
At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 566, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services.

S. 622
At the request of Mr. JONES, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 622, a bill to amend the United States Code to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 651
At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 651, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs.

S. 693
At the request of Ms. WARNEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 693, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to require that the POW/MIA flag be displayed on all days that the flag of the United States is displayed on certain Federal property.

S. 696
At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to designate the same individual serving as the Chief Nurse Officer of the Public Health Service as the National Nurse for Public Health.

S. 715
At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 715, a bill to improve the productivity and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector by directing the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the National Academies and other appropriate Federal agencies, to develop a national smart manufacturing plan and to provide assistance to small- and medium-sized manufacturers in implementing smart manufacturing programs, and for other purposes.

S. 716
At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 716, a bill to impose sanctions...
under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to combat corruption, money laundering, and impunity in Guatemala, and for other purposes.

S. 750

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. McSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 750, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 755

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 755, a bill to provide incentive payments to physicians to practice in rural and medically underserved communities, and for other purposes.

S. 764

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 764, a bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of anti-Semitism for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities.

S. 867

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 867, a bill to protect students of institutions of higher education and the taxpayer investment in institutions of higher education by improving oversight and accountability of institutions of higher education, particularly for-profit colleges, improving protections for students and borrowers, and ensuring the integrity of postsecondary education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. TRUDE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 895, a bill to provide for a permanent extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals.

S. 901

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support individuals with younger onset Alzheimer’s disease.

S. 925

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 926, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that kombucha is exempt from any excise taxes and regulations imposed on alcoholic beverages.

S. 948

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 948, a bill to provide incentive payments to physicians to practice in rural and medically underserved communities, and for other purposes.

S. 988

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 988, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit prescription drug plan sponsors and MA–PD organizations under the Medicare program from retroactively reducing payment on clean claims submitted by pharmacies.

S. 1013

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1013, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize school-based health centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1036

At the request of Mr. CASHEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1036, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee.

S. 1043

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1043, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

S. 1062

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1062, a bill to provide authority for the President to impose economic sanctions in an action resulting from a cruise ship accident occurring on the high seas.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1125

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1125, a bill to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

S. CON. RES. 5

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 5, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. CON. RES. 13

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 13, a concurrent resolution reaffirming the United States commitment to Taiwan and to the implementation of the Taiwan Relations Act.

S. RES. 85

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 85, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of Easterseals, a leading advocate and service provider for children and adults with disabilities, including veterans and older adults, and their caregivers and families.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARIDIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 120, a resolution opposing efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement targeting Israel.

S. RES. 144

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 144, a resolution designating May 5, 2019, as the “National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls”.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. REED) (by request):

S. 1215. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Senator REED and I are today introducing, by request, the Administration’s proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. As is the case with any bill that is introduced by request, we introduce this bill for the purpose of placing the Administration’s proposals before Congress and the public without expressing our own views on the substance of these proposals. As Chairman and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee, we look forward
to giving the Administration’s requested legislation our most careful review and thoughtful consideration.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Barrasso, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Eissenstat, Mr. Braun, Mr. Blunt, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Inhofe, Ms. McCain, Mr. Thune, Mr. Sasse, Mr. Romney, Mrs. Hyde-Smith, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Cramer, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Scott, of South Carolina, Ms. Ernst, Mr. Perdue, Mr. Wicker, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Daines, Mr. Lankford, and Mr. Graham):

S. 170. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish additional criteria for determining when employers may join together in a group or association of employers that will be treated as an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of sponsoring a group health plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Association Health Plans Act of 2019. I have been championing association health plans, which I sometimes call small business health plans, for more than 15 years. As a small business owner, I understand firsthand the difficulties these employers face trying to provide health insurance for their employees. Even the smallest company can’t provide comprehensive health insurance to their employees, but it can be a real struggle to afford those plans.

In part due to these pressures, the number of small businesses offering coverage has dropped substantially over the years, from 47 percent in 2000 to 30 percent in 2017.

Few families are shielded from the rising costs of healthcare and, by extension, the rising cost of health insurance. But among the hardest hit are American small businesses.

Small businesses have limited ability to pool risk and lack coverage in the market, so they often end up paying more for health insurance than large employers who have more buying power. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, small businesses pay about 8 to 18 percent more on average than large businesses for the same health insurance policy.

To their way of thinking, a small shoe store probably can’t get an insurance company to play ball, but 1,000 family shoe stores probably could. This is the premise of the association health plans.

Let’s set small businesses band together and leverage their shared power to obtain cost-effective, comprehensive and affordable health insurance as though they were a single large employer.

This does not mean they are allowed to cut corners. The coverage each association member is subject to the consumer protection requirements that apply to large employers. That includes important consumer protections established on a bipartisan basis under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, ERISA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, HIPAA, and the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, COBRA. Association health plans also comply with Affordable Care Act requirements for large-employer health plans.

Association health plans are not a new concept. They have long been permitted under Federal law. For example, the Wyoming Chambers Health Benefit Plan has served Wyoming’s Chambers of Commerce since 2007. It currently offers comprehensive and affordable coverage to 11 local Chambers of Commerce, 52 employers, and 255 employees.

Last year, the Trump administration issued a new rule that made it easier for small businesses to band together for the purposes of offering an association health plan. Specifically, the Department created a new “pathway” for forming the association so that small businesses can band together by common industry or common geography. For example, flower shops across the Nation might band together to offer an association health plan, or small businesses in unrelated professions might band together just within my State of Wyoming.

The final rule also allowed self-employed Americans to receive coverage through association plans established under the new pathway. It did not rescind the old pathway, so association health plans in existence before the final rule can continue to operate unchanged, or new ones can use that pathway to form.

The final rule also does not change existing ERISA preemption rules that authorize broad State insurance regulation of association health plans either through health insurance issuers or through health insurance associations. I will repeat that again. The final rule does not change existing ERISA preemption rules that authorize broad State insurance regulation of association health plans established under the new pathway. It did not rescind the old pathway, so association health plans in existence before the final rule can continue to operate unchanged, or new ones can use that pathway to form.

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Rothenberg association health plans have formed under the new pathway since the Department of Labor finalized the final rule. For example, the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce formed an association health plan covering 500 small businesses and 100 sole proprietors. The Georgia Chamber of Commerce began taking steps to launch a new self-insured association health plan that could health plan that could enroll 800,000 people. Two Michigan small business associations joined forces to create an association health plan that has enrolled nearly 400 small businesses throughout the State.

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This is not to say there is not more that can be done. The final rule is an important step forward, but it is not a silver bullet. There is more Congress can do to advance association health plans and there is more Congress can do to improve our healthcare system and address the issues of rising healthcare costs and rising drug prices, all while ensuring protections for people with preexisting conditions, but one thing we can do immediately to help people with preexisting conditions is to pass the bill I am introducing today. The district court judge struck down the Labor Department’s final
rule and did not issue a stay, so thousands of currently covered individuals are at risk of losing their health insurance coverage. Passing this bill will ensure that they do not.

Small businesses ought to have the opportunity to band together and leverage their combined strength so they can negotiate and provide their employees with comprehensive and affordable health insurance coverage. That coverage should be subject to the same consumer protection requirements that apply to employers offering similar coverage. Small businesses and their employees are the bedrock of our country’s economy, and proper health insurance coverage is a key element of family well-being and peace of mind. This bill will strengthen those foundations so we can continue to prosper as a country.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 159—DESIGNATED APRIL 24, 2019, AS “MENINGITIS B AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

RESOLVED, That the Senate—

Whereas it is the custom of the Senate to increase awareness of serious illnesses that affect the lives of the people of the United States;
Whereas meningococcal disease, more commonly referred to as “bacterial meningitis,” is an infection caused by the bacterium Neisseria meningitidis;
Whereas meningococcal disease is uncommon, and the flu-like symptoms of the disease make diagnosis difficult;
Whereas meningococcal disease can cause serious illnesses, such as—
(1) an infection of the lining of the brain and spinal column known as “meningitis”;
and
(2) blood infections known as “sepsis”;
Whereas meningococcal disease can strike quickly and may lead to severe or permanent disabilities, such as hearing loss, brain damage, seizures, and limb amputation, and may even lead to death within 24 to 48 hours;
Whereas, although 1 in 10 people are carriers of Neisseria meningitidis bacteria with no signs or symptoms of disease, Neisseria meningitidis bacteria may sometimes cause illnesses;
Whereas there are different strains of meningococcal disease, including strains caused by Neisseria meningitidis serogroups A, C, W, Y, and B;
Whereas vaccines exist to help provide protection against all strains of meningococcal disease caused by the serogroups common in the United States;
Whereas meningococcal disease is spread from person to person via the exchange of Neisseria meningitidis bacteria through respiratory and throat secretions during close or lengthy contact, including contact such as—
(1) sharing beverages or eating utensils;
(2) kissing; and
(3) spending time in close contact with someone who is sick or who carries the bacteria;
Whereas community settings in which large groups of people gather, such as college campuses, may increase the risk of transmission of meningococcal disease;
Whereas, because of the way meningococcal disease is spread through close personal and social behavior of young adults ages 16 to 23 increases the risk of those adults contracting the disease;
Whereas students in dormitory settings and at cross-country ski events are particularly vulnerable to meningococcal disease;
Whereas college students aged 18 to 24 were found to be 3.5 times more likely to contract meningitis B, a strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B, compared to their peers not in school;
Whereas the single best way to help prevent all common strains of meningococcal disease is to be vaccinated with—
(1) a MenACWY vaccine to protect against the strains of meningococcal disease caused by serogroups A, C, W, and Y; and
(2) a separate MenB vaccine to protect against the strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B;
Whereas the incidence of meningococcal disease in the United States has steadily declined from 1.20 cases per 100,000 individuals in 1965 to a historic low of 0.11 cases per 100,000 individuals in 2017;
Whereas, although vaccines for serogroups A, C, W, and Y have been available for many years, a vaccine for serogroup B was not available until 2014; and
Whereas, despite the existence of a vaccine for serogroup B, Neisseria meningitidis B has been responsible for all United States college campus outbreaks since 2011, with some cases resulting in death;
Whereas, because the strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B requires a new, separate vaccination, students heading to college may mistakenly think that, if they have received the MenACWY vaccine, they are protected against all strains of the disease, and may not realize that they are not protected against the strain caused by serogroup B;
Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B accounts for approximately half of all cases of meningococcal disease among individuals ages 15 to 22 in the United States;
Whereas vaccination for serogroups A, C, W, and Y is routinely recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
Whereas the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults ages 16 to 23 against the strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B should be made at the individual level with health care providers;
Whereas a recent study found that many doctors are not talking to patients about the MenB vaccine with 49 percent of pediatricians and 69 percent of family physicians who do not regularly discuss the MenB vaccine during routine visits with individuals ages 16 to 18;
Whereas meningitis vaccines are covered by public and private health insurance plans, and individuals should be encouraged to contact health insurance plans to determine coverage of MenACWY and MenB vaccines;
Whereas the Federal Vaccine for Children program covers both MenACWY and MenB vaccines for—
(1) children and adults who have no health insurance or whose health insurance does not cover those vaccines; and
(2) children less than 19 years of age who are American Indian, Alaska Native, or eligible for Medicaid or other State health plan coverage;
Whereas, in 2012, before meningitis B vaccines were available in the United States, 19-year-old Emily Nicole Stillman, while a sophomore at Kalamazoo College in Kalamazoo, Michigan, tragically contracted bacterial meningitis before meningitis B vaccines were available in the United States;
Whereas, on February 2, 2013, after just 36 hours in the hospital, Emily Nicole Stillman passed away; and
Whereas, in 2014, Alicia Stillman, the mother of Emily Nicole Stillman, created the Emily Stillman Foundation—
(1) to preserve the memory of Emily Nicole Stillman;
(2) to advocate for organ and tissue donation; and
(3) to advocate for the increased availability of vaccines for all vaccine-preventable diseases, including the increased availability of meningitis vaccines for children;
Whereas, despite the existence of a vaccine for serogroup B, meningitis B has been responsible for all United States college campus outbreaks since 2011, with some cases resulting in death;
Whereas, because the strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B requires a new, separate vaccination, students heading to college may mistakenly think that, if they have received the MenACWY vaccine, they are protected against all strains of the disease, and may not realize that they are not protected against the strain caused by serogroup B;
Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B accounts for approximately half of all cases of meningococcal disease among individuals ages 15 to 22 in the United States;
Whereas vaccination for serogroups A, C, W, and Y is routinely recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
Whereas the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults ages 16 to 23 against the strain of meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B should be made at the individual level with health care providers;
Whereas a recent study found that many doctors are not talking to patients about the MenB vaccine with 49 percent of pediatricians and 69 percent of family physicians who do not regularly discuss the MenB vaccine during routine visits with individuals ages 16 to 18;
Whereas meningitis vaccines are covered by public and private health insurance plans, and individuals should be encouraged to contact health insurance plans to determine coverage of MenACWY and MenB vaccines;
Whereas the Federal Vaccine for Children program covers both MenACWY and MenB vaccines for—
(1) children and adults who have no health insurance or whose health insurance does not cover those vaccines; and
(2) children less than 19 years of age who are American Indian, Alaska Native, or eligible for Medicaid or other State health plan coverage;
Whereas, in 2012, before meningitis B vaccines were available in the United States, Kimberly Coffey, a 17-year-old high school senior on Long Island, New York, died from meningitis B;
Whereas Patti Wukovits, R.N., the mother of Kimberly Coffey, created the Kimberly Coffey Foundation, a vital organization with the mission of—
(1) providing education to the public and health care professionals about meningococcal disease; and
(2) advocating for two types of vaccination for meningococcal disease;
Whereas the goal of the Kimberly Coffey Foundation is to ensure that no other family will endure the loss of a child or have a loved one experience the devastating effects of meningococcal disease;
Whereas June 15, 2019, marks the seventh anniversary of the death of Kimberly Coffey; and
Whereas the Meningitis B Action Project, a joint initiative of the Kimberly Coffey Foundation and the Emily Stillman Foundation, is committed to raising awareness about meningococcal disease throughout the United States;
Whereas students, parents, educators, and health care providers should learn about all strains of meningococcal disease and how to protect against all strains of the disease; and
Whereas April 24, 2019, should be designated as “Meningitis B Awareness Day” to coincide with the observance of World Meningitis Day; Now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the Senate—
(1) designates April 24, 2019, as “Meningitis B Awareness Day”; and
(2) encourages—
(A) all individuals to contact health insurance plans to determine coverage of MenACWY and MenB vaccines; and
(B) students, parents, educators, and health care providers to learn about all strains of meningococcal disease and how to protect against all strains of the disease.


Mr. JONES (for himself, Mrs. SHAHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Ms. DUCAYTH, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE Smith, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:
Whereas the national security innovation emanating from the defense laboratories will be predicated on:

(1) a pipeline of trained and experienced scientists and engineers eligible for a security clearance; and

(2) the facilities, infrastructure, instrumentation, and support capabilities needed—

(A) to attract and retain those scientists and engineers; and

(B) to bolster the activities of those scientists and engineers to meet the technology problems of the Department of Defense;

Whereas research and development supported by the Department of Defense has—

(1) led to new products and processes for state-of-the-art Armed Forces; and

(2) composed indispensable elements in the technology transformation process that will enable the United States to achieve industrial base; and

(3) acknowledges that the knowledge base, and facilities of the United States are critical foundations of research and engineering to address long-term challenges;

(4) commits to find ways to increase investment in the national network of defense laboratories in order to increase support of—

(A) federally sponsored research and development;

(B) critical scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this resolution as “STEM”) personnel;

(C) STEM development activities; and

(D) necessary supporting infrastructure and facilities;

(5) encourages defense laboratories, Federal agencies, and industry to hold an outreach event on April 25, 2019, “Department of Defense Laboratory Day 2019”, to make the public more aware of the important contributions defense laboratories make to national defense and economic prosperity; and

(6) recognizes the outstanding dedication, qualifications, service, and accomplishments of the scientists, engineers, technicians, and support staff of the defense laboratories.

SENATE RESOLUTION 161—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. Cooper) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. Res. 161

Whereas April 25 of each year is recognized internationally as World Malaria Day;

Whereas malaria is a leading cause of death and disease in many developing countries, despite being preventable and treatable;

Whereas fighting malaria is in the national interest of the United States because—

(1) reducing the risk of malaria protects members of the Armed Forces and other people of the United States serving overseas in malaria-endemic regions; and

(2) reducing malaria deaths helps to lower risks of instability in less developed countries;

Whereas United States support for efforts to fight malaria—

(1) is in the diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian interests of the United States;

(2) generates goodwill toward the United States; and

(3) highlights the values of the people of the United States through the work of governmental, nongovernmental, and faith-based organizations of the United States;

Whereas, in 2017, approximately 58,000 people died from malaria, which is a decrease of approximately 50 percent, as compared to 2000;

Whereas the United States Government has played a leading role in the recent progress made toward reducing the global burden of malaria, particularly through the President’s Malaria Initiative and the contribution of the United States to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and

Whereas the United States Government is pursuing a comprehensive approach to ending malaria deaths through the President’s Malaria Initiative, which is led by the United States Agency for International Development and implemented with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of State, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and private sector entities; therefore, the Congress hereby

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day;

(2) recognizes the importance of reducing malaria prevalence and deaths to improve overall child and maternal health, especially in sub-Saharan Africa;

(3) commends the recent progress made toward reducing global malaria morbidity, mortality, and prevalence, particularly through the efforts of the President’s Malaria Initiative and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

(4) welcomes ongoing public-private partnerships to research and develop new and affordable tools for surveillance, diagnostics, treatment, and prevention;

(5) recognizes the goals, priorities, and authorities to combat malaria set forth in the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-25; 117 Stat. 711) and the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-290; 122 Stat. 2631);

(6) supports continued leadership by the United States in bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to combat malaria and work with endemic countries to develop and effectively executing their own national responses to malaria; and

(7) encourages other members of the international community to sustain and increase their support for, and financial contributions to, efforts to combat malaria worldwide.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, today I wish to offer a resolution recognizing the critical contributions the laborato-

ries of the United States to global health and national security. The Department of Defense, in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, designates April 25, 2019, as “Department of Defense Laboratory Day 2019” in order to celebrate the work and accomplishments of the men and women in those defense labs. Many of the technological advantages on which our military rests are rooted in the diligent, dedicated work and innovative mindset of the scientists and engineers in our defense labs. Their work does not only provide military innovations needed to support our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines in the wars of the past century, but they are critical foundations of research that will fuel the processes and technologies needed for the next century and beyond. In addition to the cutting-edge research and development of new technologies, our defense laboratories are a resource to the national economy and innovation ecosystem of the nation—providing the people, facilities, experience, operational problems, and capabilities for technology transfer that support the warfighter, industry,
acadia, other parts of federal government, and even many of our allies and partners throughout the world. The nearly 76,000 scientists and engineers employed by the Department of Defense labs are exemplars of public service, and the outstanding dedication, qualifications, and service, of the professional and scientific accomplishments of these scientists, engineers, technicians, and support staff of the defense laboratories should make all Americans proud.

In recognizing the men and women of the defense labs, I am especially proud of the contributions Alabama makes. As the home to multiple Army laboratories—including the Aviation and Missile Center, Space and Missile Defense Technical Center, and the Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory—Alabama punches far above its weight in terms of contributions of people, facilities and resources to the defense laboratory network. This results in one of the highest per capita concentrations of scientists and engineers in the country, with an extraordinary economic impact on the State. Not only do these labs provide thousands of jobs in Alabama, they bring in billions of dollars in investments and return those dollars back into the communities in which they reside.

The network of Department of Defense laboratories is not just an asset for the Department, but is a national asset as well. With over a hundred DoD-funded Nobel prizes, and thousands of patents and publications, defense laboratories are technological and economic engines on par with any industry or university laboratory. I applaud the work of the defense labs, and all of the scientists and engineers that make them successful, especially those in Alabama. I urge my colleagues to support the contributions of the labs by supporting the proclamation of April 25th as the 2019 Laboratory Day.

SENATE RESOLUTION 162—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2019 AS “NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH”

Ms. WARREN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

Whereas, in April 2019, more than 113,000 individuals were on the official waiting list for organ donation managed by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274) (referred to in this preamble as the “national transplant waiting list”);

Whereas, in 2018, 36,529 transplant procedures were performed in the United States with organs from 10,721 deceased donors and 6,841 living donors, yet on average, 20 people die each day while waiting for an organ donation;

Whereas, in 2018, the number of organ transplants performed in a single year, for the sixth consecutive year, yet every 10 minutes, 1 person is added to the national transplant waiting list;

Whereas organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit up to 8 individuals, and tissue donation from a single deceased donor can benefit an additional 75 individuals;

Whereas, in 2018, 1,499,179 Americans died each day while waiting for an organ donation, thus saving more lives; and

Whereas organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit an additional 75 individuals;

Whereas, in 2018, a record was set for the number of organ transplants performed in a single year, for the sixth consecutive year, yet every 10 minutes, 1 person is added to the national transplant waiting list;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 2019 as “National Donate Life Month”;

(2) supports the increased ideals of National Donate Life Month;

(3) supports promoting awareness of organ and tissue donation by increasing public awareness;

(4) encourages States, localities, and territories of the United States to support the goals and ideals of National Donate Life Month by designating April as “National Donate Life Month”;

(5) commends each individual who—

(A) is a registered organ donor who may have a positive effect on the life of another individual; or

(B) indicates a wish to become an organ and tissue donor;

(6) acknowledges the grief of families who face the loss of loved ones and commends the families who, in their grief, choose to donate the organs and tissues of deceased family members;

(7) recognizes the generous contribution made by each individual who has donated an organ or tissue to save and enhance the life of another individual;

(8) acknowledges the advances in medical technology that have enabled organ transplantation with organs donated by living individuals to become a viable treatment option for an increasing number of patients;

(9) commends the medical professionals and organ donation and transplantation experts who have worked to improve organ donation of deceased and living individuals and to increase the number of deceased and living donors, thus saving more lives; and

(10) salutes each individual who has helped to give the gift of life by supporting, promoting, and encouraging organ and tissue donation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 163—COMMEMDING AND CONGRATULATING THE LADY BEARS OF BAYLOR UNIVERSITY ON WINNING THE 2019 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN’S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas, on April 7, 2019, the women’s basketball team of Baylor University, the Lady Bears, won its third National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I women’s basketball championship (referred to in this preambule as the “national championship”) by defeating the University of Notre Dame by a score of 82–61 and completing the season with an impressive overall record of 37–1; whereas Head Coach Kim Mulkey is the only woman in the history of women’s basketball to have played and coached a national championship team and has now led the Lady Bears to 3 national championship titles during her tenure at Baylor University;

Whereas junior forward Lauren Cox served to bring her team together throughout the season and played with commendable skill during the championship game, scoring 8 points and 8 rebounds before leaving the game due to an injury;

Whereas point guard Chloe Jackson, named the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four, showed immense fortitude and exemplary leadership by rallying her team during the last quarter of the game to honor her injured teammate and bring home a victory for the Lady Bears with a tiebreaking layup in the last 3.9 seconds of the fourth quarter;

Whereas all of the following players should be congratulated for their teamwork, dedication, and display of impressive athletic talent: NaLyssa Smith, Didi Richards, Trinity Oliver, Honesty Scott-Grayson, Aisira DeCosta, Moon Ursin, Lauren Cox, Juicy Landrum, Kalani Brown, Chloe Jackson, Queen Egbo, and Caitlin Bickle;

Whereas the Lady Bears displayed impressive courage and determination against the Fighting Irish of the University of Notre Dame, defenders of the 2018 national championship title;

Whereas the women of Baylor University’s 2018–2019 women’s basketball team have continuously pursued excellence in not only athletics, but academics as well; whereas the Lady Bears have proven themselves a paragon of hard work and sportsmanship, as exemplified by an impressive season of 37 wins and only 1 loss and championship titles in both the Big 12 women’s basketball tournament and the Big 12 regular season;

Whereas the accomplishments of the Lady Bears in their 2018–2019 season inspire strength, unity, and cooperation in the hearts of women across the State of Texas; and

Whereas the Lady Bears are the pride of their loyal fans, current students, alumni, and the Lone Star State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the Lady Bears of Baylor University on winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I women’s basketball championship and completing a successful 2018–2019 season.

SENATE RESOLUTION 164—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2019 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I MEN’S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas on Monday, April 8, 2019, the University of Virginia men’s basketball team (referred to in this preamble as the “Virginia Cavaliers”) won the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preambule as the “NCAA”) Division I Men’s Basketball Championship by defeating the Texas Tech Red Raiders by a score of 85–77 at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers made history by winning the first National Championship in men’s basketball for the University of Virginia;
Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers were regular season co-champions of the Atlantic Coast Conference (referred to in this preamble as the “ACC”), marking the fourth time the team has won this title in the past 6 seasons;

Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers finished the 2018–2019 season with a record of 35–3 and as the top-ranked scoring defense in the country, holding opponents to just 55.5 points per game;

Whereas Tony Bennett, the head coach of the Virginia Cavaliers, has, along with his staff, established a program built on “The Five Pillars” — Humility, Passion, Unity, Servanthood, and Thankfulness;

Whereas Coach Bennett has, in his 10 seasons at the University of Virginia, been named National Coach of the Year 3 times, placed his team second all-time behind legendary coach John Wooden;

Whereas for the second consecutive season, Coach Bennett was named ACC Coach of the Year;

Whereas De’Andre Hunter and Kyle Guy received All-ACC First Team honors for the 2018–2019 season;

Whereas Ty Jerome received All-ACC Second Team honors for the 2018–2019 season;

Whereas De’Andre Hunter was named ACC Defensive Player of the Year and was named to the ACC All-Defensive Team;

Whereas to advance to the Final Four, true freshman Kihei Clark executed a precision half-court pass to teammate Mamadi Diakite, setting up his buzzer-beating tying basket;

Whereas the pass from Clark to Diakite was termed “the play of the century” by teammate Ty Jerome;

Whereas De’Andre Hunter finished the championship game with 27 points and 9 rebounds in 44 minutes;

Whereas Kyle Guy finished the championship game with 24 points and a 33.3 field goal percentage in 45 minutes;

Whereas De’Andre Hunter, Kyle Guy, and Ty Jerome—all part of the Virginia Cavaliers’ 2016 recruiting class — scored 67 of Virginia’s 85 points in the championship game;

Whereas Kyle Guy was 11-for-11 in his final free throws of the tournament;

Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers made all 12 of their free throws during overtime of the championship game;

Whereas the entire Virginia Cavaliers team will forever be remembered for their resilient and overtime victory in the 2018 NCAA Tournament and by winning the national championship just 1 year later;

Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers represented the Commonwealth of Virginia with remarkable class, sportsmanship, dedication, and teamwork; and

Whereas the Virginia Cavaliers brought pride to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Charlottesville, and the greater University of Virginia community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and honors the University of Virginia men’s basketball team for their performance in the 2019 National Colleget Athletic Association Division I Men’s Basketball Tournament;

(2) highlights and celebrates the grit, resilience, and commitment to excellence of the players, coaches, managers, parents, and families of the Virginia Cavaliers; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to

(A) the President of the University of Virginia, James E. Ryan;

(B) the Director of Athletics at the University of Virginia, baby Williams; and

(C) the head coach of the University of Virginia men’s basketball team, Tony Bennett.

SENATE RESOLUTION 165—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WATTERSON, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KING, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 165

Whereas the contributions of Louis Pasteur and Edward Jenner to the discovery of the principles of vaccinology are among the most consequential health findings in human history;

Whereas a vaccine made possible the eradication of smallpox, saving millions of lives; whereas, because of the vaccine for polio, a highly infectious disease caused by the poliovirus, the international community—

(1) has eliminated polio in all but 3 countries; and

(2) has saved an estimated 15,000 Americans from paralysis annually;

Whereas vaccines have dramatically reduced the spread of debilitating and potentially life-threatening infectious diseases, including—

(1) diphtheria;

(2) tetanus;

(3) measles;

(4) mumps; and

(5) rubella;

Whereas vaccines have prevented the spread of infectious and potentially fatal diseases, including—

(1) chickenpox;

(2) shingles;

(3) influenza;

(4) hepatitis A;

(5) hepatitis B;

(6) meningococcal disease;

(7) pneumococcal disease;

(8) rotavirus;

(9) pertussis (also known as “whooping cough”); and

(10) meningitis;

Whereas the vaccine-preventable human papillomavirus (also known as “HPV”) is known to cause certain types of cancer; and

Whereas for communities are in overwhelming consensus that vaccines are effective and safe;

Whereas misinformation about vaccine safety and the widespread and debunked theories about the dangers of vaccinations pose a great risk to public health;

Whereas scientifically sound education and outreach campaigns about the importance of vaccination and immunization are fundamental for a well-informed public;

Whereas communities with low vaccination rates compromise, in a particular way, the health and livelihood of—

(1) infants;

(2) young children;

(3) seniors;

(4) individuals with immunoodeficiency disorders; and

(5) individuals with weakened or compromised immune systems, including individuals taking medication that affects the immune system, such as medications to treat cancer;

Whereas substantial research has shown that vaccination is a highly cost-effective form of preventive medicine;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the “CDC”) estimates that, between 1994 and 2013, vaccinations saved nearly $295,000,000,000 in direct costs and $1,380,000,000,000 in total societal costs in the United States;

Whereas vaccines in the United States—

(1) undergo extensive safety and efficacy testing before licensure by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(2) are continually monitored for adverse events;

Whereas there are 4 post-marketing surveillance systems in the United States tracking adverse events after vaccination;

Whereas the CDC estimates that—

(1) vaccinations will prevent more than 21,000,000 hospitalizations and 732,000 deaths among children born between 1994 and 2013; and

(2) vaccines save the lives of an estimated 2,500,000 children under age 5 each year;

Whereas 1 in 5 children worldwide lack access to common vaccines and, as a result, an estimated 1,500,000 people die each year from vaccine-preventable diseases or complications of vaccine-preventable diseases, such as diarrhea and pneumonia;

Whereas strong investments in biomedical research to improve existing vaccines and develop many more life-saving vaccines are beneficial to all people;

Whereas a robust immunization infrastructure, preventing and responding to outbreaks of infectious diseases at the source, is essential to the public health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas each State determines the vaccination requirements for the people of that State;

Whereas State vaccination requirements are informed by recommendations approved by the CDC and developed by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices;

Whereas encouraging high vaccination rates and promoting visibility of the United States protects the people of the United States from contracting and spreading vaccine-preventable diseases;

Whereas the World Health Organization (referred to in this preamble as the “WHO”) recently identified vaccine hesitancy as a health threat for 2019;

Whereas addressing the many factors that contribute to vaccine hesitancy is crucial to increasing vaccination rates and improving or achieving herd immunity;

Whereas routine and up-to-date vaccination is the most effective method available to prevent the transmission of potentially fatal infectious diseases; and

Whereas the United States has been a leader in promoting vaccinations around the world through—

(1) the United States Agency for International Development;

(2) the CDC;

(3) Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance;

(4) the Global Polio Eradication Initiative;

(5) the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (commonly known as UNICEF);

(6) the WHO; and

(7) many other multilateral and non-governmental organizations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the international community, global and domestic health organizations, the private sector, school and community leaders, and faith-based organizations for their tireless work and immense contributions to bolstering global and domestic health through vaccines approved by the

(2) affirms that vaccines and immunizations save lives and are essential to maintain—

(A) the public health; and

(B) the economic and national security of the United States;
(3) recognizes that—
(A) low vaccination rates or the lack of vaccination can create an environment in which a public health crisis could emerge;
(B) justifications—
(i) are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (referred to in this resolving clause as the "FDA") as safe and effective; and
(ii) meet the gold standard of safety established by the FDA; and
(C) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises medical providers and parents in the United States that the benefits of currently recommended vaccines greatly outweigh the risks of those vaccines; (4) encourages a continued commitment to biomedical research—
(A) to improve vaccines; and
(B) to develop new vaccines against other infectious and fatal diseases; and
(5) urges all people, in consultation with their health care providers, to follow the scientific evidence and consensus of medical experts in favor of timely vaccinations to protect—
(A) the individual vaccinated; and
(B) the children, family, and community of the individual vaccinated.

SENATE RESOLUTION 166—EXPressing SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 1, 2019, AS "SILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY"

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 166

 Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces;
 Whereas the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were wounded or became ill in combat in the wars fought by the United States;
 Whereas the Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the people of the United States remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Silver Star Flags for that purpose;
 Whereas the designation of the Silver Star Families of America is to evoke memories of the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States through the presence of a Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Flag flying;
 Whereas the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States should never be forgotten; and
 Whereas May 1, 2019, is an appropriate date to designate "Silver Star Service Banner Day": Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates the week of April 20, 2019, through April 28, 2019, as "National Park Week"; and
(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe Silver Star Service Banner Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 168—DESIGNATING APRIL 2019 AS "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH"

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. CORTIZ, MASTRO, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HENRICH, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. REED, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. SATERNOV, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. UDALL, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ENZI, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDS, Mr. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 168

 Whereas, on March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park as the first national park for the enjoyment of the people of the United States;
 Whereas, on August 25, 1916, Congress established the National Park Service with the mission to preserve unimpeached the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations;
 Whereas the National Park Service continues to protect and manage the majestie landscapes, hallowed battlefields, and iconic cultural and historical sites of the United States;
 Whereas the units of the National Park System can be found in every State and many territories of the United States and many of the units embody the rich natural and cultural heritage of the United States, reflect a unique national story through people and places, and offer countless opportunities for recreation, volunteerism, cultural exchange, education, civic engagement, and exploration;
 Whereas the national parks of the United States continue to attract record-breaking numbers of visitors, with approximately 382,000,000 recreational visits to these incredible places in 2018, the third highest level since recordkeeping began in 1906;
 Whereas visits and visitors to the national parks of the United States are an important economic driver—estimated to be approximately $18,200,000,000 in spending in 2017;
 Whereas the dedicated employees of the National Park Service put their mission to protect the national parks of the United States so that the vibrant culture, diverse wildlife, and priceless resources of the parks will endure permanently; and
 Whereas the people of the United States have inherited the remarkable legacy of the National Park System and are entrusted with these cherished parks for the National Park System throughout its second century: Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates the week of April 20, 2019, through April 28, 2019, as "National Park Week"; and
(2) encourages the people of the United States and the world to visit and experience the treasured national parks of the United States.
Whereas, in 2003, Congress—
(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and
(2) directed that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9161 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission; now therefore be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates April 2019 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about:
(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and
(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and
(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—REQUIRING THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN 2012 FOR HER EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA—
Whereas the Secretary of State in 2012 for her efforts to ensure that the Government of Saudi Arabia—
(1) executed or permitted the execution of innocent civilians; and
(2) violated international humanitarian law.

RESOLVED, That the Senate—
(1) designates April 2019 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about:
(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and
(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and
(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—REQUIRING THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN 2012 FOR HER EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA—
Whereas the Secretary of State in 2012 for her efforts to ensure that the Government of Saudi Arabia—
(1) executed or permitted the execution of innocent civilians; and
(2) violated international humanitarian law.

Resolved, That—
(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—
(A) the materials described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of such section; and
(B) the United States take appropriate steps to avoid disproportionate harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure; and

SENATE RESOLUTION 170—RECOGNIZING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHIBOK GIRLS KIDNAPPING BY THE BOKO HARAM TERRORIST ORGANIZATION AND CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO BRING AN END TO THE CONFLICT IN NORTHEAST AND CENTRAL NIGERIA AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS
Whereas Boko Haram’s campaign of mass kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria to redouble efforts to bring an end to the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims.

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the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has caused the displacement of 2,400,000 people in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger; 

Whereas the Department of State designated Boko Haram as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in 2013, and supports efforts to defeat Boko Haram with security and development assistance; 

Whereas Boko Haram rejects modern education and science, is engaged in an armed revolt against the Government of Nigeria, and has committed egregious campaigns of violence against schools, public institutions, law enforcement, and civilians; 

Whereas Boko Haram has conducted brutal mass kidnappings of women, girls, and boys, and has abducted thousands of women and girls from schools and markets, and has attacked villages and houses, and on public transportation; 

Whereas, on April 14, 2015, Boko Haram militants attacked a boarding school in Chibok in Borno State, where girls from surrounding areas had gathered to take final exams; 

Whereas the Boko Haram terrorists arrived in Chibok at night, fired their guns indiscriminately, burned down houses, raided the dormitories, and kidnapped 276 girls who were between 12 and 17 years of age; 

Whereas the girls were kidnapped by running into the forest or jumping off the kidnappers’ trucks as they were driving away; 

Whereas the 219 kidnapped girls were held captive, repeatedly raped, starved, and, in some cases, forcibly converted to Islam and married to their captors; 

Whereas child, early, and forced marriages are serious human rights violations; 

Whereas the international community, including the United Nations Secretary-General and the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Security Council, condemned the abduction and called for the immediate release of the girls; 

Whereas Boko Haram ruthlessly killed some of the kidnapped girls for trying to escape, while other girls died during childbirth while in captivity; 

Whereas thousands of women, girls, and boys kidnapped by Boko Haram have endured similar horrific experiences; 

Whereas the parents of the kidnapped girls and concerned citizens banded together and embarked on a campaign of awareness to urge the rescue of the girls, using the Twitter hashtag #BringBackOurGirls, through which more than 3,000,000 people around the world expressed their outrage at the abductions and continue maintaining a vigil for the girls’ return to their families; 

Whereas the United States Government sent advisors to Nigeria and supplied surveillance and reconnaissance to help rescue the girls; 

Whereas 21 of the kidnapped girls were released in October 2016, and an additional 80,000 people, further burdening the stigmatization and marginalization of women and girls in the northern region of Nigeria, routinely forcing girls to choose between forced marriages to its fighters (for the purpose of sexual slavery) or becoming suicide bombers; 

Whereas on February 19, 2017, Boko Haram militants in the town of Dapchi abducted 110 girls from the Government Girls Science and Technical School and 2 other children; 

Whereas of the children from the Dapchi kidnapping have been released and 5 of the children are presumed to have died in captivity; 

Whereas Leah Sharibu remains a hostage because she refuses to convert to Islam; 

Whereas a surge in violence at the end of 2018 has led to the placement of an additional 80,000 people, further burdening already overwhelmed communities and humanitarian services; 

Whereas, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Nigerian Red Cross Society, an estimated 17,000 individuals from Nigeria are missing, including 7,100 children; 

Whereas for several years the United States Government has provided assistance for women and girls targeted by Boko Haram, including a doubling of 5-year regional strategy required under Public Law 114–266 to address the grievous threat posed by Boko Haram and other violent extremist organizations; 

Whereas the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development to meet their obligation under section 7056(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115–31) to create a strategy to address the needs of women and girls adversely impacted by extremism and conflict; 

Whereas in section 1(c) of Public Law 114–266 (130 Stat. 1383), Congress stated that ‘‘[w]omen are serious human rights violations; 

Whereas in section 10 of Public Law 114–266 (130 Stat. 1398), Congress stated that ‘‘lack of economic opportunity and access to education, justice, and other social services contributes to the ability of Boko Haram to radicalize and recruit individuals’’; 

Whereas educating girls transforms societies for the better by giving girls the knowledge and tools to make positive decisions about their futures, live healthier lives, provide nurturing environments for their families, and play active roles in their communities and economies; 

Whereas the United States Government has appropriated $11,000,000 in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 for programs to combat child marriage; 

Whereas in section 2 of the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–68; 131 Stat. 1292), Congress found that ‘‘[w]omen in conflict-affected regions have achieved significant success in . . . moderating violent extremism . . . and stabilizing societies by enhancing the effectiveness of security services and justice institutions, and decisionmaking processes’’; and 

Whereas in section 4 of the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2512) states, ‘‘It shall be the policy of the United States to promote the meaningful participation of women in all aspects of overseas conflict prevention, management, and resolution, and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts’’; Now, therefore, be it 

Resolved, That the Senate— 

(1) recognizes the tragic fifth anniversary of the Chibok girls kidnapping and calls for the immediate release of all Boko Haram captives, especially the remaining Chibok girls and Leah Sharibu; 

(2) applauds the extraordinary bravery of survivors of Boko Haram, who continue to come forward to share their stories and experiences at great personal risk; 

(3) urges the Government of Nigeria, in cooperation with regional partners and the international community, to redouble efforts to defeat Boko Haram; 

(4) calls on the Government of Nigeria— 

(A) to prioritize the recovery of women and girls who have been abducted and enslaved by Boko Haram; 

(B) to work to determine the whereabouts of the thousands of missing people in Nigeria and provide a full accounting of the number of missing persons, respectively; 

(C) to undertake concrete efforts to reduce the stigmatization and marginalization of those abducted by Boko Haram and provide counseling and support; 

(D) to allow women and girls to be reunited with their families whenever appropriate; 

(E) to appropriately fund $1,000,000,000 from the Excess Crude Account, as approved by the Nigerian State Governors in December 2017, to humanitarian assistance, development, education, and deradicalization programs; and 

(F) to accept international assistance in a timely manner when offered; 

(6) calls on the Department of State and the Department of Defense to rapidly implement the 5-year regional strategy required under Public Law 114–266 to address the grievous threat posed by Boko Haram and other violent extremist organizations; 

(7) requests the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development to meet their obligation under their mandate to defeat Boko Haram through development and security partnerships with Nigeria and other regional partners; 

(8) requests that the Department of State track and report the number of missing persons kidnapped by Boko Haram and includes the number of annual Trafficking in Persons Report; and 

(9) commends the swift enactment of the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–68), and encourages the President to immediately release the Women, Peace, and Security Strategy record to undergo section 5 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 21521–1).
Resolved. That it is the sense of the Senate that—
(1) the Executive branch should expend before the end of fiscal year 2019 all bilateral assistance to the West Bank and Gaza that Congress appropriated for such assistance in fiscal year 2018, including
(A) $196,500,000 for the Economic Support Fund;
(B) $60,000,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement; and
(C) $1,000,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs;
(2) programs and activities funded by the Economic Support Fund as described above are focused primarily on providing food, essential goods and services, and other humanitarian goods and services, and these expenditures must be consistent with the restrictions and exceptions provided in the Taylor Force Act (title X of division S of Public Law 115–141); and
(3) legislation should be enacted to clarify that programs and activities funded through the Economic Support Fund and that are consistent with the Taylor Force Act (title X of division S of Public Law 115–141) may not be used as a basis to assert jurisdiction over the Palestinian Authority as being non-compliant with the Anti-Terrorism Clarification Act.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 14—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

Mr. SCHACHTZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following concurrent resolution: which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 14
Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),
SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on June 9, 2019, for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED
SA 248. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHACHTZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARRREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 268, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table, as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds not otherwise provided for, for the following purposes: namely:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS
PROCESSING, RESEARCH AND MARKETING
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
For an additional amount for the ‘‘Office of the Secretary’’, $3,005,442,000, which shall remain available until December 31, 2020, for necessary expenses related to losses of crops (including milk, on-farm stored commodities, and harvested adulterated wine grapes), trees, bushes, and vines, as a consequence of Hurricane Florence, other hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, volcanic activity, snowstorms, and wildfires occurring in calendar years 2018 and 2019 under such terms and conditions as determined by the Secretary: Provided, That the Secretary may provide assistance for such losses in the form of block grants to eligible states and territories and such assistance may include compensation to producers, as determined by the Secretary, for past or future crop insurance premium, crop restoration, and livestock and poultry losses: Provided further, That the amounts provided under this heading, tree assistance payments may be made under section 1501(e) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(b)) to eligible orchardists or nursery tree growers (as defined in such section) of pecan trees with a tree mortality rate that exceeds 7.5 percent (adjusted for normal morality) and is less than 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality), to be available until expended during the period beginning January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2018: Provided further, That in the case of producers impacted by volcanic activity, past or future crop insurance premium, crop restoration, and livestock and poultry losses: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading and applicable policies of crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) as required by the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7350) shall not exceed 85 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading for producers who did not obtain a policy or plan of insurance for an insurable commodity for the applicable crop year under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) for the crop insuring the loss or did not file the required paperwork and pay the service fee by the applicable State filing deadline for a noninsurable commodity for the applicable crop year and for the crop insuring the loss shall not exceed 70 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That producers receiving payments under this heading shall be required by the Secretary, to keep all necessary records and submit such reports to the Secretary, that the Secretary shall be required to purchase crop insurance where crop insurance is available for the next two available crop years, excluding tree insurance policies, and producers receiving payments under this heading shall be required to purchase coverage under NAP with crop insurance premium for the next two available crop years, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That, not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress specifying the type, amount, and method of such assistance by state and territory: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY
EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM
For an additional amount for the ‘‘Emergency Forest Restoration Program’’, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $480,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS
For an additional amount for ‘‘Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations’’, for necessary expenses for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $125,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM
ACCOUNT
For an additional amount for the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs that are authorized and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, for necessary expenses incurred as a consequence of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE
S. 101. In addition to other amounts made available by section 309 of division A of the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017 (Public Law 115–72; 131 Stat. 1229), there is hereby appropriated $600,000,000 for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide a grant to the Government of Puerto Rico for disaster nutrition assistance in response to Presidentially declared major disasters and emergencies: Provided, That the funds made available under this heading to the Government of Puerto Rico under this section shall remain available for obligation by the Commonwealth
until September 30, 2020, and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available: Provided, further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 102. In addition to amounts otherwise made available under section 18 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, $500,000 shall be available for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 103. For purposes of administering title I of subdivision B of title II of Public Law 115–72, losses to agricultural producers resulting from hurricanes shall also include losses of peach and blueberry crops in calendar year 2020 due to the cold. Provided, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided, further, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 104. (a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a person or legal entity that is eligible to receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program established pursuant to the Credit Facilities Act (15 U.S.C. 711 et seq.), the average adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is less than $900,000, and (b) persons or legal entities may not receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program described in subsection (a)(1), directly or indirectly, from the credit facilities established pursuant to the Credit Facilities Act (15 U.S.C. 711 et seq.), the average adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is less than $900,000, and (c) a person or legal entity that is eligible to receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program described in subsection (a)(1), directly or indirectly, from the credit facilities established pursuant to the Credit Facilities Act (15 U.S.C. 711 et seq.), the average adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is less than $900,000, and (d) a person or legal entity that is eligible to receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program described in subsection (a)(1), directly or indirectly, from the credit facilities established pursuant to the Credit Facilities Act (15 U.S.C. 711 et seq.), the average adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is less than $900,000.

SEC. 105. There is hereby appropriated $500,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

TITLE II
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)
Pursuant to section 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3233), for an additional amount for “Economic Development Assistance Programs”, for necessary expenses related to the continuation of the Economic Development Assistance Program described in subsection (a)(1), flood mitigation, recovery, and restoration of infrastructure and transportation facilities directly or indirectly, of more than $125,000.

SEC. 106. In addition to amounts otherwise made available under section 18 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, $5,000,000 shall be available for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 107. For an additional amount for the “Emergency Conservation Program”, for necessary expenses related to the continuation of the Emergency Conservation Program, except that up to 2 percent of the amount appropriated, up to 2 percent of the amount appropriated, up to 2 percent of the amount appropriated, up to 2 percent of the amount appropriated, $400,000 shall be transferred to the “Office of Inspector General” for carrying out investigations and audits related to the spending provided under this heading. Provided, That the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

FISHERY DISASTER ASSISTANCE
For an additional amount for “Fishery Disaster Assistance” for necessary expenses associated with the mitigation of fishery disasters, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and other natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2018, and tornadoes occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM
BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES
For an additional amount for “Buildings and Facilities” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoon Yutu, $1,336,000: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.
For an additional amount for "Payment to the Legal Services Corporation" to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act by providing for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, Super Typhoon*>*(Haiyan), Atlantic Storm*<sub>1</sub> Gita: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Construction" for necessary expenses, $780,000,000, to remain available until expended, to construct and operate the Water Resources Development Act of 1986: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps", $300,000,000, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Air Force", $400,000,000, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Central Utah Project Completion Account", $350,000,000, for necessary expenses to address emergency situations at Corps of Engineers projects caused by natural disasters, including disasters in 2019, $908,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies", as authorized by section 5 of the Act of August 18, 1941 (33 U.S.C. 701n), for necessary expenses to prepare for, and response to, hurricanes and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to such disasters, including disasters in 2019, as authorized by law, $510,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

For an additional amount for "Central Utah Project Completion Account", $350,000,000, to be deposited into the Utah Reclamation

**Federal law:**
For an additional amount for "Investigation", $45,000,000, to remain available until expended, to conduct an investigation of the causes of the failure of the St. Johns River Flood Control Project, except for damages due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**Mississippi River and Tributaries**
For an additional amount for "Mississippi River and Tributaries" for necessary expenses to address emergency situations at Corps of Engineers projects caused by natural disasters, including disasters in 2019, $357,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**Mississippi River and Tributaries**
For an additional amount for "Central Utah Project Completion Account", $350,000,000, to be deposited into the Utah Reclamation
Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, to remain available until expended, for expenses necessary in carrying out the reclamation and restoration activities related to wildfires in 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

For an additional amount for “Water and Related Resources”, $17,000,000, to remain available until expended, for fire remediation and suppression emergency assistance related to wildfires in 2017 and 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ENERGY PROGRAMS
ELECTRICITY DELIVERY

For an additional amount for “Electricity Delivery”, $15,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Yutu, including technical assistance related to electric grids: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of Electricity Delivery shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE V
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS
COAST GUARD
OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Operations and Support” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Mangkhut, $48,977,000; of which $46,977,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2023, and of which $2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, for environmental compliance and restoration: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Typhoon Mangkhut, $16,560,000; of which $14,600,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2023, and of which $2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2035, for environmental compliance and restoration: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 501. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of assistance provided for DR–4339–PR, DR–4340–USVI and DR–4355–USVI under sections 403, 406 and 407 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b and 5173) shall be 100 percent of the eligible costs under such sections.

(b) INCREASE.—The Federal share provided by subsection (a) shall apply to disaster assistance applied for before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 502. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency shall provide assistance, pursuant to section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), for critical services as defined in section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for the duration of the recovery for incidents DR–4404, DR–4396, and DR–4398 to—

1. replace or restore the function of a facility or system damaged by the disaster without regard to the pre-disaster condition of the facility or system; and
2. replace or restore components of the facility or system not damaged by the disaster where necessary to fully effectuate the replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged components to restore the function of the facility or system.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The Federal share pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

For an additional amount for “Surveys, Investigations, and Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquake damage associated with earthquake declaration EM–3410, and in those areas impacted by a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) with respect to calendar year 2018 wildfires and volcanic eruptions, $50,650,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Lane, and Michael, and flooding associated with major declared disaster DR–8953, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, $2,450,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as being an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as being an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For an additional amount for the “Historic Preservation Fund” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and Typhoon Yutu, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

For an additional amount for “Technical Assistance” for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Yutu, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES
INSULAR AFFAIRS

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For an additional amount for “Science and Technology” for necessary expenses related to improving preparedness of the water sector, $200,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, $78,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

For an additional amount for “Surveys, Investigations, and Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquake damage associated with earthquake declaration EM–3410, and in those areas impacted by a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) with respect to calendar year 2018 wildfires and volcanic eruptions, $96,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES
INSULAR AFFAIRS

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund

For an additional amount for “Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and calendar year 2018 earthquakes for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program, to be provided: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and calendar year 2018 wildfires for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program, to be provided: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

For grants for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, $500,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Related Agencies

Department of Agriculture: Forest Service

For an additional amount for “Forest and Rangeland Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended for the forest inventory and analysis program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

State and Private Forestry

For an additional amount for “State and Private Forestry” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, $84,960,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of this amount $2,000,000 shall be used for hazardous fuels management activities:

Wildland Fire Management

For an additional amount for “Wildland Fire Management”, $720,271,000, to remain available through September 30, 2022, for urgent wildland fire suppression operations: Provided, That such amount shall be solely available to be transferred to and merged with other appropriations accounts from which funds were previously transferred for wildland fire suppression in fiscal year 2018 to fully repay those amounts: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Wildfire Fire Management

(Including Transfer of Funds)

For an additional amount for “Wildland Fire Management”, $720,271,000, to remain available through September 30, 2022, for urgent wildland fire suppression operations: Provided, That such funds shall be solely available to be transferred to and merged with other appropriations accounts from which funds were previously transferred for wildland fire suppression in fiscal year 2018 to fully repay those amounts.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For an additional amount for “National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, for necessary expenses in carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in calendar year 2019, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191); Provided, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated hereunder as follows: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

Sec. 601. Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the agencies receiving funds appropriated by this title shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources, the anticipated uses of funds made available in this title by State and Territory, and by program, project, and activity, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources.

TITLE VII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Training and Employment Services”, $50,000,000, for the dislocated workers assistance national reserve for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in calendar year 2019, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019, to remain available through September 30, 2020; Provided, That these sums may be used to replace anticipated uses of funds made available in this title by State and Territory, and by program, project, and activity, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources.

For an additional amount for "Training and Employment Services”, $50,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in calendar year 2019, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191); Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the “base grant” in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 641A(h)(1)(B), or 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be limited to States directly affected by these events: Provided further, That the time limits in section 2002(c) of the Social Security Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this paragraph that are used for renovation, repair or construction: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are in addition to the entitlement grants authorized by section 2002(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and shall not be available for such entitlement grants: Provided further, That in addition to other uses permitted by title XX of the Social Security Act, funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used for health services (including mental health services), and for costs of renovating, repairing, and constructing of health care facilities (including mental health facilities), child care centers, and other social service facilities: Provided further, That the amount provided, up to $1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to “Office of the Inspector General” for oversight of activities responding to such hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, tornadoes, and floods: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by any other source: Provided further, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That up to $5,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts available for the necessary expenses of administering subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Health Surveillance and Program Support”, $30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, for grants, contracts and cooperative agreements for behavioral health treatment, crisis counseling, and other related helplines, and for other similar programs to provide support to individuals impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191); Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the “base grant” in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 641A(h)(1)(B), or 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be limited to States directly affected by these events: Provided further, That the time limits in section 2002(c) of the Social Security Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this paragraph that are used for renovation, repair or construction: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are in addition to the entitlement grants authorized by section 2002(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and shall not be available for such entitlement grants: Provided further, That in addition to other uses permitted by title XX of the Social Security Act, funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used for health services (including mental health services), and for costs of renovating, repairing, and construction of health care facilities (including mental health facilities), child care centers, and other social service facilities: Provided further, That the amount provided, up to $1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to “Office of the Inspector General” for oversight of activities responding to such hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, tornadoes, and floods: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by any other source: Provided further, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That up to $5,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts available for the necessary expenses of administering subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Children and Families Services Programs”, $60,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, in addition to the amounts provided for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Act, for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191); Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the “base grant” in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 641A(h)(1)(B), or 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be limited to States directly affected by these events: Provided further, That the time limits in section 2002(c) of the Social Security Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this paragraph that are used for renovation, repair or construction: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are in addition to the entitlement grants authorized by section 2002(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and shall not be available for such entitlement grants: Provided further, That in addition to other uses permitted by title XX of the Social Security Act, funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used for health services (including mental health services), and for costs of renovating, repairing, and construction of health care facilities (including mental health facilities), child care centers, and other social service facilities: Provided further, That the amount provided, up to $1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to “Office of the Inspector General” for oversight of activities responding to such hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, tornadoes, and floods: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by any other source: Provided further, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That up to $5,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts available for the necessary expenses of administering subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.
PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

Sgc. 701. (a) Section 1108(g)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1398(g)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and (E)” and inserting “(E), and (F)”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), in the matter preceding clause (1), by striking “and (E)” and inserting “and (F)”;

(3) redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F);

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (D), the following

“(2) Subject to subparagraph (F), for the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending September 30, 2019, the amount of the increase otherwise provided under subparagraph (A) for the Northern Marianas Islands shall be further increased by $36,000,000; and

(5) in subparagraph (F) as redesignated by paragraph (3) of this section

(A) by striking “title XIX,” during and inserting “title XIX—”

“(1) by striking “and (D)” and inserting “(D), and (E)”;

(B) by striking the semicolon after the dollar amounts or other rate that would otherwise apply to such payments to 100 percent.”;

(b) The amounts provided by the amendment made by subsection (a) are designated as Emergency Requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 702. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a spend plan—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) by striking and inserting “as being an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.”;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following—

“(10) amounts available under paragraph (4) that exceed the amount required to meet the needs determined by the Secretary as of December 31, 2018, shall be available to carry out paragraph (3); and:

Provided, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this heading shall be used by the Secretary as being an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations related to Hurricanes Florence, Lane, and Michael, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, the calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic quakes, and other disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.). Provided, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a spend plan specifying funding estimates for audits and investigations of any such declared disasters occurring in 2018 and identifying funding estimates for any such declared disasters occurring in 2019 and 2020; that any funds made available under this heading may be used for audits and investigations of any other such declared disasters: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITe IX

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, $115,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for planning and design related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael; and

Provided, That none of the funds to any discretionary account of the Department of the Navy, or his designee, shall be used for purposes other than the purposes described in the heading for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for purposes specifically described under this heading.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL FACILITIES

INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS

For an additional amount for “Medical Facilities”, $3,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu: Provided, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon determination that such action is necessary to address the needs as a result of the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu, may transfer such funds to any discretionary account of the Department of the Navy: Provided further, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit notice thereof to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be available for obligation or expenditure under any account of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE X
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the “Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program” as authorized under section 3324 of title 49, United States Code, $10,542,000 to remain available until expended for transit assistance affected by major declared disasters occurring in calendar year 2018: Provided, That not more than three-quarters of 1 percent of the funds for public transportation emergency relief shall be available for administrative expenses and ongoing program management oversight as authorized under sections 3324 and 5338(f)(2) of such title and shall be in addition to any other appropriations for such purpose: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL AID TO HIGHWAYS, MASS TRANSIT, AND other surface transportation (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

Of the amounts made available for “Federal Aviation Administration—Operations” in division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123, up to $18,000,000 shall be available for the purpose of making payments related to the consequences of major declared disasters occurring in calendar year 2018: Provided, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the Emergency Relief Program as authorized under section 125 of title 23, United States Code, $1,650,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Community Development Fund”. $2,210,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster recovery, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster that occurred in 2018 or 2019: Provided, That the Secretary shall not prohibit the use of funds made available under this heading to supplement Federal assistance provided under section 402, 403, 410(b), and 515 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive websites and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds: Provided further, That with respect to any such duplication of benefits, the Secretary shall adopt and implement, in accordance with section 1210 of Public Law 115–254 (132 Stat. 3442) and section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), the procedures to maintain comprehensive websites and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds: Provided further, That the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common recordkeeping information, a website that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes, as authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), that the Secretary shall not prohibit the use of funds made available under this heading to supplement Federal assistance provided under section 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 408 (c)(4), or 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155) to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive websites, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds: Provided further, That the funds shall be awarded directly to the State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974) at the discretion of the Secretary: Provided further, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be allocated to grantees receiving awards for disasters that occurred in 2018 or 2019, for mitigation and long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure for grantees that received allocations for disasters that occurred in 2018 or 2019, and that received allocations related to disasters specified in section 501(a) of title V of this Act under this heading of division B of Public Law 115–254 (division B of Public Law 115–123) and shall be in addition to any other appropriations for such purpose: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.
the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); Provided further, That the Secretary shall publish via notice in the Federal Register any waiver, or alternative, to any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers pursuant to title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 no later than 5 days before the date of the appropriation or alternative requirement: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to $5,000,000 shall be made available for long-term recovery and technical assistance, including assistance on contracting and procurement processes, to support States, units of general local government, or Indian tribes for subrecipient recovery plans to receive disaster recovery allocations under the same heading in Public Law 115–254, or may receive similar allocations for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That the amount of amounts made available under this heading and under the same heading in Public Law 115–254, up to $2,500,000 shall be transferred, in aggregate, to “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Program Office Salaries and Expenses” for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of this heading: Provided further, That the amount specified in the preceding proviso shall be combined with funds appropriated under the same heading and for the same purpose in Public Law 115–254 and the aggregate of such amounts shall be available for any of the same purposes specified under or the same heading in Public Law 115–254 without limitation: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts previously made available under this heading: Provided further, That the Secretary shall publish via notice in the Federal Register any waiver, or alternative, to any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts previously provided under section 420 of division L of Public Law 114–113, section 145 of division C of Public Law 114–223, section 400 of division C of Public Law 114–223 (as added by section 101(c) of division A of Public Law 114–223), section 421 of division K of Public Law 115–51, and any other heading “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund” of Public Law 115–123, that were allocated in response to Hurricane Matthew, may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Upon HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing such a plan pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the amounts previously made available under this heading may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the
Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, all of the Department of State.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION, AND THE INTERNET

The Subcommittee on Communication, Technology, Innovation, and The Internet of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 11, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on illegal robocalls.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2019 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Thursday, April 25, 2019. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did not mail during this period, please submit a form that states “none.”


The Senate Office of Public Records is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. when the Senate is not in session. For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224–0322.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appoints the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 116th Congress: The Honorable ROGER WICKER of Mississippi (Co-Chair), The Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN of Arkansas, The Honorable ROBERT C. CRUZ of Hawaii, The Honorable ROY BLUNT of Missouri (Co-Chair), D EB FISCHER of Nebraska (Co-Chair), R OY BLUNT of Missouri, C ORY GARDNER of Colorado, The Honorable STEVE DAINES of Montana, The Honorable JAMES INHOFE of Oklahoma, JAMES RISCH of Idaho, and MITT ROMNEY of Utah.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the standing adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to appoint members to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two houses, or by order of the Senate and that they be printed in the Record.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, and 168.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the resolutions?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions (S. Res. 163, S. Res. 164, S. Res. 165, S. Res. 166, S. Res. 167, S. Res. 168) were agreed to en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The preambles were agreed to en bloc.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF EASTERSEALS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consider the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 85) recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of Easterseals, a leading advocate and service provider for children with disabilities, including veterans and older adults, and their caregivers and families.

There being no objection, the Committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 85) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(National 9–1–1 Education Month)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 131 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 131) designating April 2019 as “National 9–1–1 Education Month.”

There being no objection, the Committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(National 9–1–1 Education Month)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 130 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 130) supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month.

There being no objection, the Committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 130) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(National 9–1–1 Education Month)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.
agreed to, and the motions to recon-
sider be considered made and laid upon
the table with no intervening action or
debate. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without
objection, it is so ordered.
The resolution (S. Res. 136) was
agreed to by voice vote.

The preamble was agreed to.
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 2, 2019, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF
EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I
ask unanimous consent that the Senate pro-

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
clerk will report the concurrent resolu-
tion by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk
read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14) pro-
ceeding to the immediate consideration of

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14) was
agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF
EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I
ask unanimous consent that the Senate pro-
ceed to the Immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 31, which was re-
cieved from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
clerk will report the concurrent resolu-
tion by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk
read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) pro-
ceeding to the immediate consideration of

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) was
agreed to.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF COUNTERING INTER-
nATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD AB-
DUCTION MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I
ask unanimous consent that the Senate pro-
ceed to the consideration of Cal-
endar No. 56, S. Res. 23.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
clerk will report the resolution by title.

There being no objection, the Senate
proceeded to consider the concurrent resolu-
tion.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I
ask unanimous consent that the con-
current resolution be agreed to and the
motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no
intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without
objection, it is so ordered.
The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) was agreed to.

WHEREAS thousands of children in the
United States have been abducted from the
United States by parents, separating those
children from their parents who remain in the
United States;

WHEREAS it is illegal under section 1294
of title 18, United States Code, to remove, or
attempt to remove, a child from the United
States or retain a child (who has been in the
United States) outside of the United States with
the intent to obstruct the lawful exercise
of parental rights;

WHEREAS more than 9,127 children experi-
enced international parental child abduction between 2008 and 2015;

WHEREAS, during 2017, one or more cases of
international parental child abduction in-
volving children who are citizens of the
United States were identified in 105 coun-
dies around the world;

WHEREAS the United States is a party to the
Convention on the Civil Aspects of Inter-
national Child Abduction (done at the Hague,
October 25, 1980 (TIAS 11670) (referred to in
this preamble as the “Hague Convention on
Abduction”)), which—

(1) supports the prompt return of wrongly
removed or retained children; and

(2) calls for all participating parties to re-
spect parental custody rights:

Whereas the majority of children who
were abducted from the United States have
yet to be reunited with their custodial par-
ents;

WHEREAS, during 2017, Argentina, the Ba-
hamas, Brazil, China, the Dominican Repub-
llic, Ecuador, India, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Peru, and the United Arab Emirates were
identified under the Sean and David Gold-
man International Child Abduction Preven-
tion and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.) as engaging in a pattern of noncom-
pliance;

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of the United
States has recognized that family abduc-
tion—

(1) is a form of child abuse with poten-
tially “devastating consequences for a child”, which may include negative impacts on the
physical and mental well-being of the child;

(2) can cause a child to “experience a loss of
community and stability, leading to lone-
liness, anger, and trauma”;

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Report on
Compliance with the Hague Convention on
the Civil Aspects of International Child Ab-
duction by the Department of State, re-
search shows that an abducted child is at
risk of significant short- and long-term prob-
lems, including “anxiety, eating problems, nightmares, mood swings, sleep distur-
bances, [and] aggressive behavior”;

WHEREAS international parental child ab-
duction has devastating emotional con-
sequences for the child and for the parent
from whom the child is separated;

WHEREAS the United States has a history of
promoting child welfare through institu-
tions including—

(1) in the Department of Health and
Human Services, the Children’s Bureau of
the Administration for Children and Fami-
lies; and

(2) in the Department of State, the Office of
Children’s Issues of the Bureau of Consul-
ar Affairs;

WHEREAS Congress has signaled a commit-
tment to ending international parental child
abduction by enacting the International
Child Abduction Remedies Act (22 U.S.C. 9001 et seq.), the International Parental Kidnap-
ning Crime Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-173),
which enacted section 1294 of title 18, United
States Code, and the Sean and David Gold-
man International Child Abduction Preven-
tion and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.);

WHEREAS the Senate adopted Senate Reso-
lution 543, 112th Congress, on December 4, 2012, which—

(1) condemns international parental child abduction;

(2) urges countries identified by the De-
partment of State as noncompliant with the
Hague Convention on Abduction to fulfill the
commitment those countries made to imple-
ment such treaty; and

(3) expresses the sense of the Senate that the
United States should—

(A) pursue the return, by all appropriate
means, of each child abducted by a parent to
another country;

(B) if a child is abducted by a parent and
not returned to the United States, facilitate
access to the abducted child (in the parent
remaining in the United States); and

(C) “where appropriate, seek the extra-
dition of the parent that abducted the
child”;

WHEREAS the Senate adopted Senate Reso-
lution 431, 115th Congress, on April 19, 2018, which—

(1) raises awareness and promotes edu-
cation about international parental child ab-
duction;

(2) recognizes the impacts on children who
are victims of international parental abduc-
tions; and

(3) expresses the sense of the Senate that the
United States should—

(A) continue to raise awareness and oppo-
sition on international parental child abduc-
tion;

(B) facilitate access to the abducted child
for the parent remaining in the United
States; and

(C) urge countries to comply with the re-
quest to bring children home to the United
States;

WHEREAS all 50 States and the District of
Columbia have enacted laws criminalizing parent
kidnapping;

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Prevention Branch of
the Office of Children’s Issues of the De-
partment of State—

(1) fielded more than 3,500 inquiries from
the general public relating to preventing a
child from being removed from the United
States; and

(2) enrolled more than 4,404 children in
the Children’s Passport Issuance Alert Pro-
gram—

(A) is one of the most important tools of
the Department of State for preventing

(continued on next page)
international parental child abductions; and (B) allows the Office of Children’s Issues to contact the enrolling parent or legal guardian to verify whether the parental consent requirement has been met when a passport application has been submitted for an enrolled child; 

Whereas, the Department of State cannot track the ultimate destination of a child through the use of the passport of the child issued by the Department of State if the child is transported to a third country after departing the United States; 

Whereas a child who is a citizen of the United States may have another nationality and may travel using a passport issued by another country, which—

(1) increases the difficulty in determining the whereabouts of the child; and 

(2) makes efforts to prevent abductions more critical; and 

Whereas, in 2017, the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children’s Issues of the Department of State, enrolled 210 children in a program aimed at preventing international parental child abduction; 

Now, therefore, be it

Whereas thousands of children in the United States have been abducted from the United States and may travel using a passport issued by the Department of State if the child is a citizen of another country, including—

(A) is one of the most important tools of the Department of State for preventing international parental child abduction; and 

(B) allows the Office of Children’s Issues to contact the enrolling parent or legal guardian to verify whether the parental consent requirement has been met when a passport application has been submitted for an enrolled child; 

Whereas, the Department of State cannot track the ultimate destination of a child through the use of the passport of the child issued by the Department of State if the child is transported to a third country after departing from the United States; 

Whereas a citizen of the United States may have another nationality and may travel using a passport issued by another country, which—

(1) increases the difficulty in determining the whereabouts of the child; and 

(2) makes efforts to prevent abductions more critical; and 

Whereas, in 2017, the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children’s Issues of the Department of State, enrolled 210 children in a program aimed at preventing international parental child abduction:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. Res. 23

Whereas thousands of children in the United States have been abducted from the United States by parents, separating those children from their parents who remain in the United States; 

Whereas it is illegal under section 1204 of title 18, United States Code, to remove, or attempt to remove, a child from the United States or retain a child (who has been in the United States) outside of the United States with the intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights; 

Whereas more than 9,000 children experienced international parental child abduction between 2008 and 2015; 

Whereas, during 2017, one or more cases of international parental child abduction involving children who are citizens of the United States were identified in 105 countries around the world; 

Whereas the United States is a party to the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, done at the Hague, October 25, 1980 (TIAS 11670) (referred to in this preamble as the “Hague Convention on Abduction”), which—

(1) recognizes and observes “Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month” during the period beginning on April 1, 2019, and ending on April 30, 2019, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, international parental child abduction; and 

(2) urges the United States to continue playing a leadership role in raising awareness about the negative impact of international parental child abduction by educating the public about the negative emotional, psychological, and physical consequences of children and parents victimized by international parental child abduction.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolution.
Whereas international parental child abduction has devastating emotional consequences for the child and for the parent from whom the child is separated; and

Whereas the United States has a history of promoting child welfare through institutions including—

(1) in the Department of Health and Human Services, the Children's Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families; and

(2) in the Department of State, the Office of Children's Issues of the Bureau of Consular Affairs;


Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 543, 112th Congress, on December 4, 2012, condemning the international abduction of children;

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 431, 115th Congress, on April 19, 2018, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, international parental child abduction;

Whereas all 50 States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws criminalizing parental kidnapping;

Whereas, in 2017, the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children's Issues of the Department of State—

(1) fielded more than 3,500 inquiries from the general public relating to preventing a child from being removed from the United States; and

(2) enrolled more than 4,400 children in the Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program, which—

(A) is one of the most important tools of the Department of State for preventing international parental child abductions; and

(B) allows the Office of Children's Issues to contact the enrolling parent or legal guardian to verify whether the parental consent requirement has been met when a passport application has been submitted for an enrolled child;

Whereas, the Department of State cannot track the ultimate destination of a child through the use of the passport of the child issued by the Department of State or the child is transported to a third country after departing from the United States;

Whereas a child who is a citizen of the United States may have another nationality and may travel using a passport issued by another country, which—

(1) increases the difficulty in determining the whereabouts of the child; and

(2) makes efforts to prevent abductions more critical; and

Whereas, in 2018, the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children's Issues of the Department of State, enrolled 218 children in a program aimed at preventing international parental child abduction: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and observes “Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month” during the period beginning on April 1, 2019, and ending on April 30, 2019, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, international parental child abduction; and

(2) urges the United States to continue playing a leadership role in raising awareness and decreasing the impacts of international parental child abduction by educating the public about the negative emotional, psychological, and physical consequences to children and parents victimized by international parental child abduction.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1644 AND H.R. 1957

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows as a bill (H.R. 1644) to restore the open internet order of the Federal Communications Commission; a bill (H.R. 1957) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize and improve the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 1222

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that upon receipt of H.R. 1222, if the text is the same as S. 94, H.R. 1222 be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; further, that with respect to S. 94, passage be vitiatted and the bill be indefinitely postponed.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I object to my own objection.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rosenblum, Tom, and Scott nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, April 15 at 3 p.m.; Thursday, April 18, at 11:45 a.m.; Monday, April 22, at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 25 at 4:30 p.m.

I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, April 25, it next convene at 3 p.m., Monday, April 29, and 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, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the William Cooper nomination: finally, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripe at 5:30 on Monday, April 29.
NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

THOMAS PETER FEEDO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY, TEMPORARY POSITION.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NAZAK NIKARIISH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE FOR INDUSTRY AND SECURITY, VICE RITA B. DAVIDOFF, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STEPHEN M. DICKSON, OF GEORGIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE MICHAEL T. HURLEY, TERM EXPIRED.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MICHELLAH A. BERRIES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE ERIC C. POSTHUMUS.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

CATHERINE BIRD, OF TEXAS, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE JULIA AKINS CLARK, TERM EXPIRING.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JONATHAN N. COHEN, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNCILOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.

OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT

The following officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the regular United States Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 321:

To be major

ERIKA O. BERNEARDO
THOMAS A. HAFNER
CAROLE M. Y. VALMARIA

To be major colonel

DEBORAH J. ANGELES
ALEXANDRA A. SANGUERA
AMER J. BAKER
DAVID F. BRADLEY, JR.
STEPHANIE B. BJELLAND
LORI D. CAVIER
TANYA S. DILL
CLEMENTINE DUCKER
JERUB M. RASH
ERIN L. EULENSTEIN
CUBBY L. GARDNER
BOBBIL D. GENTRY
WENDY H. HEEBE
DAWN M. HIGGINS
YVONNE E. HILL
CARL O. INGLIS
SHANTI P. JONES
TROY T. KINSON
RACHEL J. A. LEDESMA
MERCEANCE S. LEE
CHRISTY L. LIVELY
NICOLI F. MOLLERT
KEVIN D. MONAGHAN
CHRISTOPHER R. WILLIAMS

To be major

STEPHANIE A. AYAN
MELISSA D. BAILEY
NORMA D. BAILEY
DAVID R. BAND
SUZANNE B. BATTI
BRYCE D. BOLAND
DAVID B. BOLAND
RICHARD B. BURRELL
JANETTE L. CAMERON

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the regular United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 321:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. PETER P. ANDREWS, JR.
BRIG. GEN. JONATHAN F. BEAGA
BRIG. GEN. JOHN B. BRADY, JR.
BRIG. GEN. MIGUEL A. CORDERO
BRIG. GEN. CLEMENSIA R. DOBSON
BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. DONABOR
BRIG. GEN. CHRISTOPHER T. DOMAR
BRIG. GEN. SCOTT L. EPPS
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL H. FENZLER
BRIG. GEN. DAVID J. FRANK
BRIG. GEN. BRADLEY T. GERCER
BRIG. GEN. DAVID M. HAMILTON
BRIG. GEN. GEORGE N. HART\nBRIG. GEN. ROBERT J. HAYES
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS A. PIGE
BRIG. GEN. KEN R. HESSE
BRIG. GEN. LONNIE G. HERRARD
BRIG. GEN. DIANA M. HOLLAND
BRIG. GEN. OMAR J. JONES IV
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN J. MACAHAN
BRIG. GEN. MATTHEW W. MCFARLANE
BRIG. GEN. GREGORY D. MCMANUS
BRIG. GEN. LAURA A. POTTER
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT B. PROCTOR
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT A. RASCH, JR.
BRIG. GEN. CONRAD M. RODRIGUEZ IV
BRIG. GEN. KENNETH T. ROYAS
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN A. SMITH
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS H. TAZO III
BRIG. GEN. KEVIN VERRILL
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT R. WHITTLE, JR.
BRIG. GEN. DAVID WILSON

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the regular United States Air Force under title 10, U.S.C., section 321:

To be major

BRIAN J. BERNARD
THOMAS A. HAFNER
JONATHAN A. KRAMER

To be major colonel

JASON J. BOWERS
MARC G. BRAMMELL
JENNA L. BRUSS
KEVIN R. BURG
SHELDON V. CARLSON
CRAIG A. CARR
JASON J. CHAMBERLIN
ADAM D. CHAMBERS
RODNEY A. CLARK
ALICE A. COLE
JOSHUA T. COLE
BRAD W. CONWAY
JONATHAN A. CUMMINGS
TAMMY A. DEVLINS
NATHAN R. DOUCETTE
ANDREA K. DURANT
SANDRA L. DURRAN
DANIEL R. ELLIS
JAMIE D. ESBERT
JOHN T. FAulk
BRIAN J. FITZGIBBON
JASON R. FORRESTER
MARK A. FREEMAN
JERRY R. FREEMAN
CRAIG L. FREDERICK
JACOB L. FRISBIE
JASON L. FREDRIKSEN
STEVEN L. FREDRIKSEN
JASON D. FREDRICK
DOMINIC M. FRIEDEL
STEVEN C. FROMM
TYLER A. FRUSSELL
DANIEL J. GALLOWAY
JOSEPH M. GARRISON
JOHN H. GATES
KEVIN A. GIBBS
BRIAN H. GIORDANO
JAYME A. GLASS
BRADLEY D. GLENN
MIKE J. GLENN
STEVEN D. GOLL
KEVIN B. GOETZ
WENDY B. HAMLIN
RICK A. HAMPTON
JAMIE M. HART
DAVE J. HARVEY
JASON S. HATCH
PARKER H. HAYES
AUDREY A. HAYES
KIMBERLY C. HENDERSON
ALAN R. HENRY
DAVID S. HENDERSON
ROBERT M. HENRY
REBECCA D. HENRY
BRADLEY J. HERZOG
KOHAN H. HICKERSON
JENNIFER A. HILL
JASON J. HILL
LINDA M. HILL
JEREMY M. HILL
ANDREW R. HINDLE
LUCAS D. HINSHELWOOD
S. R. HINTON
RAVIN H. HOBBS
DANIEL R. HOLST
JASON A. HOLLAND
TIMOTHY A. HOLLOWAY
KELLY A. HOLLON
BRIAN H. HOLLON
AARON W. HOLT
MATT R. HOLT
BRIAN A. HOLLSTEDT
GREGORY W. HOOK
KENNETH W. HOOD
ANDREW R. HORN
DEBRA L. HORN
ANDREW M. HOUSEMAN
JASON R. HOWE
BRAD J. HOWE
NATHAN J. HUBER
MIKE J. HUBER
JASON A. HULL
STEVEN D. HULL
MARC L. HUMPHREY
JONATHAN K. HURLEY
JASON D. HURST
ROBERT D. HUSKIN
ERIC D. HUSKIN
MATTHEW H. HUSTON
THOMAS J. HURLEY
JOSEPH J. HUSTON
KEN R. HUSTON

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Marine Corps under title 10, U.S.C., section 321:

To be colonel

LESLEY S. ALBRIGHT
KRIS B. BERGQUIST
BRANDON M. BOLLING
DAVID M. CASEY
ARTUR M. CZAPKA
VINCENT C. DAWSON
SHANNON L. GORBILL
KEVIN B. GRAVES
DRENNAN H. HASKINS
KIMBERLY A. HAYWARD
DOUGLAS P. HEDDIN
ALLAN G. JANSON
JOHN W. KLOGE
JAMES B. KOTH
KARA L. LECKER
CHARLES R. KELVIN
MARK J. MCCONNELL
DAVID S. MCELHINNEY
BRIAN T. MCGONAGIL
JENNY K. MENGELKOV
JEFFREY M. O'CONNELL
MILTON K. PARRISH, JR.
BHAVI C. PATIL
GUILLERMO ROSALES, JR.
TRAVIS C. RUSSELL
MICHAEL E. BREDLRIEND
ERIC J. STOFFOLANO
MATTCHEN C. SWINDE
SEAN E. ZUROWSKI

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 11, 2019:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DREW R. WREKLY, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

THOMAS V. REED, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DANIEL N. ROSENKHILL, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN.

JEFFREY A. SULLIVAN, OF IOWA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF IOWA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JULIET B. AL-AASSR, OF PALESTINE, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DANIEL S. WALLACE, OF WASHINGTON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

LAWRENCE D. WINK, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DAVID BERNHARDT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NICK EDWARD PROFFITT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on April 11, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

ROBERT WILLIAMS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS, VICE NISHA DESEAL BISWAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 3, 2019.
HIGHLIGHTS

See Final Résumé of Congressional Activity (including the History of Bills) for the Second Session of the 115th Congress.

Senate confirmed the nomination of David Bernhardt, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Interior.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2399–S2460

Measures Introduced: Eighty-one bills and fourteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1140–1220, S. Res. 159–171, and S. Con. Res. 14. Pages S2432–36

Measures Passed:

Lady Bears of Baylor University Division I Women's Basketball Championship: Senate agreed to S. Res. 163, commending and congratulating the Lady Bears of Baylor University on winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I women's basketball championship. Page S2441

University of Virginia Division I Men's Basketball Championship: Senate agreed to S. Res. 164, commending the University of Virginia men's basketball team for winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Basketball Championship. Pages S2441-42

Importance of Vaccinations and Immunizations: Senate agreed to S. Res. 165, recognizing the importance of vaccinations and immunizations in the United States. Pages S2442-43

Silver Star Service Banner Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 166, expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2019, as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”. Page S2443

National Park Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 167, designating the week of April 20, 2019, through April 28, 2019, as “National Park Week”. Page S2443

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 168, designating April 2019 as “Financial Literacy Month”. Pages S2443-44

100th Anniversary of the Founding of Easterseals: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 85, recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of Easterseals, a leading advocate and service provider for children and adults with disabilities, including veterans and older adults, and their caregivers and families, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S2455

National 9–1–1 Education Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 131, designating April 2019 as “National 9–1–1 Education Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S2455

National Safe Digging Month: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 136, supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month, and the resolution was then agreed to. Pages S2455–56

Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 14, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I. Page S2456

Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 31, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. Page S2456

Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 23, 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.

**Appointments:**

**Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:** The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appointed the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 116th Congress: Senators Wicker (Co-Chair), Boozman, Gardner, Rubio, and Tillis.

**Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:** The Chair, on behalf of the Commission, appointed the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China: Senators Rubio (Co-Chair), Cotton, Daines, Lankford, and Young.

**Senate National Security Working Group:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appointed the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 116th Congress: Senators Rubio (Administrative Co-Chair), Fischer (Co-Chair), Gardner (Co-Chair), Sasse (Co-Chair), Blunt, Graham, Inhofe, Risch, and Romney.

**Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

**Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that upon receipt of H.R. 1222, to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States, if the text is the same as S. 94, to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States, H.R. 1222 be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and that with respect to S. 94, passage be vitiating and the bill be indefinitely postponed.

**Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, April 15, 2019, at 3 p.m.; Thursday, April 18, 2019, at 11:45 a.m.; Monday, April 22, 2019, at 9 a.m.; Thursday, April 25, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, April 25, 2019, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, April 29, 2019.

**Cooper Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of William Cooper, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 11, 2019, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 29, 2019.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

- Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.
- Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, April 29, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today’s session ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 29, 2019.

**Cooper Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of William Cooper, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

- Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.
- Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.
Hartogensis Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Barker Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of J. Campbell Barker, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Brasher Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of J. Campbell Barker, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Ruiz II Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.


A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Wolson Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Joshua Wolson, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 56 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 77), David Bernhardt, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Interior.
Daniel N. Rosenblum, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Kip Tom, of Indiana, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture.

Robert K. Scott, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malawi.

Drew H. Wrigley, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years.

Wing Chau, of Rhode Island, to be United States Marshal for the District of Rhode Island for the term of four years.

Ramona L. Dohman, of Minnesota, to be United States Marshal for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years.

Nick Edward Proffitt, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

- Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.
- Nazak Nikakhtar, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security.
- Stephen M. Dickson, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of five years.
- Michelle A. Bekkering, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.
- Catherine Bird, of Texas, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years.
- Jonathan R. Cohen, of California, to be Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice.
- Richard Giacolone, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director.

29 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

- Robert Williams, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs, which was sent to the Senate on January 3, 2019.

Messages from the House:

- Page S2460

Messages from the House:

- Page S2432

Measures Read the First Time:

- Pages S2432, S2458

Executive Communications:

- Page S2432

Petitions and Memorials:

- Page S2432

Additional Cosponsors:

- Pages S2436–37

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

- Pages S2437–39

Additional Statements:

- Pages S2431–32

Amendments Submitted:

- Pages S2446–54

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

- Pages S2454–55

Record Votes:

One record vote was taken today. (Total—77)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:04 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on pages S2458–59.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Sonny Perdue, Secretary, and Robert Johansson, Chief Economist, and Erica Navarro, Budget Officer, all of the Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the National Institutes of Health, after receiving testimony from Francis S. Collins, Director, Douglas Lowy, Acting Director, National Cancer Institute, Griffin P. Rodgers, Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Jon Lorsch, Director, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Richard J. Hodes, Director, National Institute on Aging, Nora Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, all of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

SPACE FORCE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the proposal to establish a United States Space Force, after receiving testimony from Patrick M. Shanahan, Acting Secretary, Heather
A. Wilson, Secretary of the Air Force, General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General John E. Hyten, USAF, Commander, United States Strategic Command, all of the Department of Defense.

ILLEGAL ROBOCALLS
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet concluded a hearing to examine illegal robocalls, after receiving testimony from Doug Peterson, Nebraska Attorney General, Lincoln; and Kevin Rupy, USTelecom—The Broadband Association, and Margot Freeman Saunders, National Consumer Law Center, Washington, D.C.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine energy innovation and other potential solutions to help address global climate change, after receiving testimony from Robert Bryce, Manhattan Institute, and David B. Sandalow, Columbia Center on Global Energy Policy, both of New York, New York; Sarah Ladislaw, Center for Strategic and International Studies Energy and National Security Program, Washington, D.C.; Arun Majumdar, Stanford University Precourt Institute for Energy, Stanford, California; and Abraham Silverman, NRG Energy, Inc., Princeton, New Jersey.

NOMINATIONS
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Kate Marie Byrnes, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of North Macedonia, Edward F. Crawford, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Ireland, who was introduced by Senators Brown and Portman, and David Michael Satterfield, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives
The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 2019.

Committee Meetings
No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

committee Meetings for Friday, April 12, 2019
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House
No hearings are scheduled.
Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 3, 2018 through January 3, 2019</th>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Days in session</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in session</td>
<td>1,015 hrs., 29'</td>
<td>657 hrs., 46'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Record:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pages of proceedings</td>
<td>8,065</td>
<td>10,612</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensions of Remarks</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>1,731</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public bills enacted into law</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>221</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private bills enacted into law</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills in conference</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures passed, total</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>1,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate bills</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House bills</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House joint resolutions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures reported, total</td>
<td>*385</td>
<td>*610</td>
<td>995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate bills</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House bills</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>House joint resolutions</td>
<td>.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special reports</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference reports</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures pending on calendar</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures introduced, total</td>
<td>1,967</td>
<td>3,257</td>
<td>5,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>2,670</td>
<td>4,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint resolutions</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quorum calls</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yea-and-nay votes</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded votes</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills vetoed</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetoes overridden</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 256 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 648 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 3, 2018 through January 3, 2019</th>
<th>Civilian nominations, totaling 710 (including 146 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confirmed .................................................................................. 392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Withdrawn .............................................................................. 22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Civilian nominations, totaling 2,025 (including 2 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:

| Confirmed .................................................................................. 2,015 |
| Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 9 |
| Withdrawn .............................................................................. 1 |

Air Force nominations, totaling 6,274 (including 76 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:

| Confirmed .................................................................................. 6,264 |
| Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 9 |
| Withdrawn .............................................................................. 1 |

Army nominations, totaling 7,283 (including 12 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:

| Confirmed .................................................................................. 7,273 |
| Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 10 |

Navy nominations, totaling 4,463 (including 11 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:

| Confirmed .................................................................................. 4,462 |
| Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 1 |

Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,347, disposed of as follows:

| Confirmed .................................................................................. 1,345 |
| Unconfirmed .............................................................................. 2 |

Summary

| Total nominations carried over from the First Session | 247 |
| Total nominations received this Session | 21,855 |
| Total confirmed | 21,751 |
| Total unconfirmed | 225 |
| Total withdrawn | 24 |
| Total returned to the White House | 0 |
HISTORY OF BILLS ENACTED INTO PUBLIC LAW

(115th Cong., 2D Sess.)
<p>| S. 7  | 115–403 | 115–252 | S. 7 | 115–253 | 115–549 | S. 7 | 115–532 | 115–325 |
| S. 35 | 115–175 | S. 35 | 115–343 | 115–430 | S. 35 | 115–250 | 115–375 | 115–293 |
| S. 139 | 115–418 | S. 139 | 115–312 | 115–150 | S. 139 | 115–151 | 115–151 | 115–151 |
| S. 140 | 115–282 | S. 140 | 115–182 | 115–177 | S. 140 | 115–177 | 115–177 | 115–177 |
| S. 188 | 115–158 | S. 188 | 115–427 | 115–325 | S. 188 | 115–325 | 115–325 | 115–325 |
| S. 204 | 115–176 | S. 204 | 115–225 | 115–325 | S. 204 | 115–325 | 115–325 | 115–325 |
| S. 245 | 115–325 | S. 245 | 115–182 | 115–325 | S. 245 | 115–325 | 115–325 | 115–325 |
| S. 324 | 115–159 | S. 324 | 115–159 | 115–325 | S. 324 | 115–325 | 115–325 | 115–325 |
| S. 772 | 115–166 | S. 772 | 115–166 | 115–325 | S. 772 | 115–166 | 115–166 | 115–166 |
| H.R. 951 | 115–204 | H.R. 951 | 115–204 | 115–325 | H.R. 951 | 115–204 | 115–204 | 115–204 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to improve foreign intelligence collection and the safeguards, accountability, and oversight of acquisitions of foreign intelligence, to extend title VII of such Act, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 139</td>
<td>Jan. 12, 2017</td>
<td>Jud May 11, 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2018</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3759</td>
<td>Sept. 13, 2017</td>
<td>E&amp;W HEL&amp;P Dec. 18, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 8, 2018</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 195</td>
<td>Jan. 3, 2017</td>
<td>OGR HA May 17, 2017</td>
<td>128 184</td>
<td>May 17, 2017</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe.</td>
<td>H.R. 984</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 2017</td>
<td>NR IA May 17, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2018</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate a mountain peak in the State of Montana as “Alex Diekmann Peak”.</td>
<td>S. 117</td>
<td>Jan. 12, 2017</td>
<td>NR ENR Jan. 16, 2018</td>
<td>516 94</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2018</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.</td>
<td>H.R. 1892</td>
<td>Apr. 4, 2017</td>
<td>Jud May 15, 2017</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>May 18, 2017</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 534</td>
<td>Mar. 6, 2017</td>
<td>Jud June 8, 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan. 29, 2018</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 582</td>
<td>Jan. 17, 2017</td>
<td>EC CST Jan. 23, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2018</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure the integrity of voice communications and to prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of such communications.</td>
<td>S. 96</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2017</td>
<td>CST Mar. 1, 2017</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb. 9, 2018</td>
<td>129</td>
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<tr>
<td>To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit certain reports relating to medical evidence submitted in support of claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary.</td>
<td>H.R. 1725</td>
<td>Mar. 24, 2017</td>
<td>VA VA May 19, 2017</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>May 23, 2018</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Date Reported</td>
<td>Report No.</td>
<td>Date of passage</td>
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<tr>
<td>To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a warning regarding dishonest, predatory, or otherwise unlawful practices targeting individuals who are eligible for increased pension on the basis of need for regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3122</td>
<td>June 29, 2017</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017, Feb. 15, 2018, Mar. 9, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lexington, Kentucky, as the “Lexington VA Health Care System” and to make certain other designations.</td>
<td>H.R. 4533</td>
<td>Dec. 4, 2017</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>Feb. 13, 2018, Feb. 15, 2018, Mar. 9, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan at all levels, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 535</td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2017</td>
<td>FA FR</td>
<td>Feb. 12, 2018</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2018, Feb. 28, 2018, Mar. 16, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of Department of Veterans Affairs memorial headstones and markers for eligible spouses and dependent children of veterans whose remains are unavailable.</td>
<td>H.R. 3656</td>
<td>Aug. 18, 2017</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017, Mar. 1, 2018, Mar. 16, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 West Pike Street in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, as the “Police Officer Scott Bashoum Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>S. 831</td>
<td>Apr. 5, 2017</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>May 17, 2017</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>Mar. 5, June 13, 2018, Mar. 16, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the “Converse Veterans Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 1208</td>
<td>Feb. 21, 2017</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Feb. 15, 2018</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2017, Mar. 7, 2018, Mar. 20, 2018</td>
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<td>To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 1625</td>
<td>Mar. 20, 2017</td>
<td>FA FR</td>
<td>Feb. 12, 2018</td>
<td>…………</td>
<td>May 22, 2017, Feb. 28, 2018, Mar. 23, 2018</td>
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</table>
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building".

H.R. 2302 May 2, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the "Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 2464 May 16, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

H.R. 2672 May 25, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Carter Street in Fairview, Illinois, as the "Sgt. Douglas J. Riney Post Office".

H.R. 2815 June 7, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30 East Somerset Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the "Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Post Office".

H.R. 2873 June 12, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building".

H.R. 3109 June 29, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building".

H.R. 3369 July 24, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the "Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 3638 Aug. 1, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the "Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building".

H.R. 3655 Aug. 15, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the "Zack T. Addington Post Office".

H.R. 3821 Sept. 25, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the "Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 3893 Sept. 28, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the "Borinqueneers Post Office Building".

H.R. 4042 Oct. 12, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the "James C. 'Billy' Johnson Post Office Building".

H.R. 4285 Nov. 7, 2017
OGR HS&GA Feb. 15, 2018

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the "James C. 'Billy' Johnson Post Office Building".

H.R. 1177 Feb. 16, 2018
ANF May 16, 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the costs of painting portraits of officers and employees of the Federal Government, and for other purposes</td>
<td>S. 188</td>
<td>Jan. 23, 2017</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Apr. 24, 2017</td>
<td>28 Mar. 6, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 18, 2017</td>
<td>Mar. 27, 2018</td>
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<td>To provide overtime pay for employees of the United States Secret Service, and for other purposes</td>
<td>S. 2030</td>
<td>Oct. 30, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Feb. 15, 2018</td>
<td>0 Mar. 20, 2018</td>
<td>Mar. 7, 2018</td>
<td>Apr. 3, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To establish the Kennedy-King National Commemorative Site in the State of Indiana, and for other purposes</td>
<td>H.R. 4851</td>
<td>Jan. 19, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>Feb. 20, 2018</td>
<td>572 .........</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 2018</td>
<td>Mar. 21, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of such Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sexual exploitation of children or sex trafficking, and for other purposes</td>
<td>S. 772</td>
<td>Mar. 29, 2017</td>
<td>Jud IA</td>
<td>Mar. 19, 2018</td>
<td>147 Feb. 3, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2017</td>
<td>Apr. 13, 2018</td>
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<td>To enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes</td>
<td>H.R. 4547</td>
<td>Dec. 5, 2017</td>
<td>WM Fin</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2018</td>
<td>527 .........</td>
<td>Mar. 23, 2018</td>
<td>Apr. 13, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate a National Memorial to Fallen Educators at the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas</td>
<td>S. 167</td>
<td>Nov. 8, 2017</td>
<td>NR ENR</td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2017</td>
<td>450 216 Mar. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 7, 2017</td>
<td>Apr. 23, 2018</td>
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<td>Number</td>
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<td>Committee</td>
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<td>S. 447</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 2017</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td>S. 447</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 2017</td>
<td>Dec. 5, 2017</td>
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<td>S. J. Res. 57</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>S. J. Res. 57</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>May 8, 2018</td>
<td>June 5, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 2155</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2017</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>S. 2155</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2017</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2017</td>
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<td>May 22, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 3562</td>
<td>July 28, 2017</td>
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<td>H.R. 3562</td>
<td>July 28, 2017</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>May 16, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 4009</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2017</td>
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<td>H.R. 4009</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2017</td>
<td>Apr. 25, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 1282</td>
<td>May 25, 2017</td>
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<td>S. 1282</td>
<td>May 25, 2017</td>
<td>May 16, 2018</td>
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<td>June 5, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 2372</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2018</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>S. 2372</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2018</td>
<td>May 16, 2018</td>
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<td>June 5, 2018</td>
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<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 3663</td>
<td>To designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Huntington, West Virginia, as the Hershel &quot;Woody&quot; Williams VA Medical Center.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Aug. 22, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 28, 2018</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 4910</td>
<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide outer burial receptacles for remains buried in National Parks, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Jan. 30, 2018</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>July 6, 2018</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 3249</td>
<td>To authorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>July 14, 2017</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>May 24, 2018</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 1900</td>
<td>To designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Apr. 4, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>June 15, 2018</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 2333</td>
<td>To amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the amount of leverage made available to small business investment companies.</td>
<td>SB</td>
<td>May 3, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 23, 2018</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 2772</td>
<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for requirements relating to the re-assignment of Department of Veterans Affairs senior executive employees.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>June 6, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>June 11, 2018</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 4743</td>
<td>To reauthorize and rename the position of Whistleblower Ombudsman to be the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2018</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>June 11, 2018</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. 1719</td>
<td>To designate the health care center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Tallahassee, Florida, as the Sergeant Ernest I. &quot;Boots&quot; Thomas VA Clinic, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Mar. 7, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>July 11, 2018</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. 1869</td>
<td>To reauthorize and rename the position of Whistleblower Ombudsman to be the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator.</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Mar. 15, 2018</td>
<td>249</td>
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<td>H.R. 770</td>
<td>Jan. 31, 2017</td>
<td>FS</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes.</td>
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<td>H.R. 2061</td>
<td>Apr. 6, 2017</td>
<td>EA</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>To authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>S.J. Res. 60</td>
<td>Apr. 24, 2018</td>
<td>HA</td>
<td>RAdm</td>
<td>Providing for the reappointment of Barbara M. Barrett as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.</td>
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<td>H.R. 219</td>
<td>Jan. 3, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td></td>
<td>To correct the Swan Lake hydroelectric project survey boundary and to provide for the conveyance of the remaining tract of land within the corrected survey boundary to the State of Alaska.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 220</td>
<td>Jan. 3, 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td></td>
<td>To authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, and for other purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 446</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 447</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 951</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 2122</td>
<td>Apr. 25, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>To reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 2292</td>
<td>May 2, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>To extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Canonsville Dam.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 1496</td>
<td>Mar. 10, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the &quot;Marvin Gaye Post Office&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 2673</td>
<td>May 25, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the &quot;Lance Corporal Jordan S. Bastean Post Office&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 3183</td>
<td>July 11, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the &quot;U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 4301</td>
<td>Nov. 8, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the &quot;J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 4406</td>
<td>Nov. 15, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the &quot;Tuskegee Airmen Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 4463</td>
<td>Nov. 28, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6 Doyers Street in New York, New York, as the &quot;Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Post Office&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Date Reported</td>
<td>Report No.</td>
<td>Date of passage</td>
<td>Public Law</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomingdale, Illinois, as the “Bloomingdale Veterans Memorial Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 4574</td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
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<td>May 7, 2018</td>
<td>213</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in Birmingham, Alabama, as the “Lance Corporal Thomas E. Riven, Jr. Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 4646</td>
<td>Dec. 14, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Mar. 5, 2018</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the “First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office”.</td>
<td>H.R. 4685</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Mar. 5, 2018</td>
<td>215</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the “Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 4722</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>May 7, 2018</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the “Sergeant First Class Alwyn Pendall Cashe Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 4840</td>
<td>Jan. 18, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>May 7, 2018</td>
<td>217</td>
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<tr>
<td>To incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5956</td>
<td>May 24, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>June 5, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam.</td>
<td>S. 490</td>
<td>Mar. 2, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>June 8, 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>July 16, 2018</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the “George Sakato Post Office”.</td>
<td>S. 931</td>
<td>Apr. 25, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Feb 15, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>July 16, 2018</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the “George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.</td>
<td>S. 2734</td>
<td>Apr. 24, 2018</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>May 23, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>June 7, 2018</td>
<td>221</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to delay the reduction in Federal medical assistance percentage for Medicaid personal care services furnished without an electronic visit verification system, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6042</td>
<td>June 7, 2018</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>June 19, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>July 17, 2018</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4558 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Stanley Michel Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>S. 2692</td>
<td>Apr. 18, 2018</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>July 16, 2018</td>
<td>223</td>
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<tr>
<td>To extend the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1182</td>
<td>May 18, 2017</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>July 25, 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Aug. 3, 2017</td>
<td>225</td>
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<td>S. 2850</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
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<td>July 23, 2018</td>
<td>July 18, 2018</td>
<td>Aug. 1, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 4645</td>
<td>Dec. 14, 2018 NR</td>
<td>May 9, 2018</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>July 17, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 5729</td>
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<td>S. 2779</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2018 FR</td>
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<td>H.R. 5515</td>
<td>Apr. 13, 2018 AS</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>May 24, 2018</td>
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<td>Aug. 13, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 5554</td>
<td>Apr. 18, 2018 EC</td>
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<td>July 16, 2018</td>
<td>July 31, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 899</td>
<td>Apr. 7, 2018 VA OGR VA</td>
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<td>July 16, 2018</td>
<td>Mar. 20, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 7, 2018</td>
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<td>Date Reported</td>
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<td>To amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty.</td>
<td>H.R. 4318</td>
<td>Nov. 9, 2017</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>Fin</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire additional Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists to provide treatment court services to justice-involved veterans, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2147</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 18, 2018</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>June 13, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program of payments to children’s hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5385</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>July 23, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 4, 2018</td>
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<td>To amend title II of the Social Security Act to authorize voluntary agreements for coverage of Indian tribal council members, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6124</td>
<td>June 15, 2018</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>June 29, 2018</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>July 24, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 6, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making consolidated appropriations for Energy and Water Development, the Legislative Branch, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5895</td>
<td>May 21, 2018</td>
<td>App</td>
<td>May 21, 2018</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>June 8, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6157</td>
<td>June 20, 2018</td>
<td>App</td>
<td>June 20, 2018</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To establish Department of Energy policy for science and energy research and development programs, and reform National Laboratory management and technology transfer programs, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 589</td>
<td>Jan. 20, 2017</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>ENR</td>
<td>May 9, 2018</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>Jan. 24, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To enable civilian research and development of advanced nuclear energy technologies by private and public institutions, to expand theoretical and practical knowledge of nuclear physics, chemistry, and materials science, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 97</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2017</td>
<td>ENR</td>
<td>June 21, 2017</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>Sept. 13, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 994</td>
<td>May 1, 2017</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2018</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>Sept. 7, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 4, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To extend the authorizations of Federal aviation programs, to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6897</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To require a land conveyance involving the Elkhorn Ranch and the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>May 24, 2018</td>
<td>2946</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>July 12, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 13, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of the terms &quot;act of war&quot; and &quot;blocked asset&quot;, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Jan. 5, 2017</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2017</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sept. 6, 2018</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in the State of New York.</td>
<td>May 1, 2017</td>
<td>2259</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td>July 10, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 24, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Peace Corps Act to expand services and benefits for volunteers, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Jan. 19, 2018</td>
<td>4854</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide additional resources to State and local prosecutors, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 2018</td>
<td>4958</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 18, 2018</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>May 21, 2018</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase, effective as of December 1, 2018, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Mar. 30, 2017</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>SBE</td>
<td>Mar. 19, 2018</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Small Business Act to expand intellectual property education and training for small businesses, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>July 27, 2017</td>
<td>1668</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>Apr. 9, 2018</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To rename a waterway in the State of New York as the 'Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel'.</td>
<td>Mar. 15, 2018</td>
<td>2559</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to prohibit Medicare part D plans from restricting pharmacies from informing individuals regarding the prices for certain drugs and biologicals.</td>
<td>Mar. 14, 2018</td>
<td>2553</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 4, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To ensure that health insurance issuers and group health plans do not prohibit pharmacy providers from providing certain information to enrollees.</td>
<td>Mar. 14, 2018</td>
<td>2554</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>July 31, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>To modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Mar. 15, 2017</td>
<td>1551</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>June 20, 2017</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>June 20, 2017</td>
<td>183</td>
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<tr>
<td>To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>3508</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>May 22, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reauthorize the Global Food Security Act of 2016 for 5 additional years.</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2017</td>
<td>2269</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>May 22, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Aug. 16, 2018</td>
<td>3354</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Sept. 18, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>To reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>3509</td>
<td>HE&amp;P</td>
<td>July 31, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
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<td>Date of passage</td>
<td>Public Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>To require the Surface Transportation Board to implement certain recommendations of the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation.</td>
<td>H.R. 4921</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2018</td>
<td>TI CST</td>
<td>Apr. 5, 2018</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>Apr. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to provide for water pollution control activities, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3021</td>
<td>June 7, 2018</td>
<td>TI EPW</td>
<td>Aug. 1, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 13, 2018</td>
<td>Oct. 23, 270</td>
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<tr>
<td>To provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6</td>
<td>June 13, 2018</td>
<td>EC WM Jud</td>
<td>June 22, 2018</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>Sept. 17, 2018</td>
<td>Oct. 24, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To direct the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in consultation with the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to study and provide recommendations to promote the participation of women, minorities, and veterans in entrepreneurship activities and the patent system, to extend by 8 years the Patent and Trademark Office’s authority to set the amounts for the fees it charges, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6758</td>
<td>Sept. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>Sept. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Oct. 31, 273</td>
</tr>
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<td>To provide for the continued support of the functions of the United States Parole Commission, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6896</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Oct. 31, 274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 1037</td>
<td>Feb. 14, 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>May 11, 2018</td>
<td>969</td>
<td>July 18, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide that members of public safety agencies who died of 9/11-related health conditions are eligible for the Presidential 9/11 Heroes Medal of Valor, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3834</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2017</td>
<td>FS BHUA</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2018</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 276</td>
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<tr>
<td>To rename the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012 in honor of Representative Louise McIntosh Slaughter.</td>
<td>H.R. 6870</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>OGR FS</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>969</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 277</td>
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<tr>
<td>To authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2615</td>
<td>May 23, 2017</td>
<td>NR ENR</td>
<td>Sept. 11, 2017</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>Nov. 28, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 20, 279</td>
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<td>S.</td>
<td>3554</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>SBE</td>
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<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Nov. 16</td>
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<td>H.R. 7187</td>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>FS</td>
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<td>Dec. 6</td>
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<td>May 8</td>
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<td>Jan. 12</td>
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<td>Mar. 21</td>
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<td>Nov. 29</td>
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<td>H.R. 606</td>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>Nov. 15</td>
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<td>H.R. 1209</td>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>H.R. 2979</td>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>H.R. 3230</td>
<td>July 13</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>July 16</td>
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<td>H.R. 4890</td>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
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<td>H.R. 4913</td>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
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<td>H.R. 4946</td>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>July 16</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
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<td>H.R. 4960</td>
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<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>Nov. 15</td>
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<td>H.R. 5349</td>
<td>Mar. 20</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>H.R. 5504</td>
<td>Apr. 13</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>H.R. 5737</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
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<td>Sept. 13</td>
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<td>H.R. 5784</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.R. 5868</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>OGR HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Date Reported</td>
<td>Report No.</td>
<td>Date of passage</td>
<td>Public Law</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1353 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois, as the &quot;Logan S. Palmer Post Office&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 5935</td>
<td>May 23, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 13, 2018</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 362 North Ross Street in Beaverton, Michigan, as the &quot;Colonel Alfred Asch Post Office&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6116</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 15, 2018</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.J. Res. 143</td>
<td>Dec. 3, 2018</td>
<td>App</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2018</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide relief for victims of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes who are members of religious and ethnic minority groups in Iraq and Syria, for accountability for perpetrators of these crimes, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2152</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2017</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To repeal the Act entitled &quot;An Act to confer jurisdiction on the State of Iowa over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Sac and Fox Indian Reservation&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 1074</td>
<td>Feb. 15, 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>Aug. 29, 2017</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>Nov. 27, 2018</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for low-income and other underserved individuals by breaking down barriers to care, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2422</td>
<td>May 15, 2017</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2017</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to strengthen the aerospace workforce pipeline by the promotion of Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program and National Aeronautics and Space Administration internship and fellowship opportunities to women, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4254</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>Aug. 16, 2017</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To repeal section 2141 of the Revised Statutes to remove the prohibition on certain alcohol manufacturing on Indian lands.</td>
<td>H.R. 5317</td>
<td>Mar. 15, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>May 24, 2018</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>Nov. 27, 2018</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To extend certain authorities relating to United States efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria globally, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6651</td>
<td>Aug. 3, 2018</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td>Nov. 9, 2018</td>
<td>1014</td>
<td>Nov. 28, 2018</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1768</td>
<td>Sept. 6, 2017</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>Sept. 6, 2018</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>Sept. 27, 2018</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2074</td>
<td>Nov. 2, 2017</td>
<td>ENR</td>
<td>July 30, 2018</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>Oct. 4, 2018</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To redesignate a facility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.</td>
<td>S. 3389</td>
<td>Aug. 27, 2018</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>Nov. 27, 2018</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>309</td>
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<td>Bill No.</td>
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<td>H.R. 754</td>
<td>Jan 31, 2017</td>
<td>FS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept 26, 2018</td>
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<td>Dec 4, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 1207</td>
<td>Feb 21, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Feb 15, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 2377</td>
<td>Feb 6, 2018</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>EPW</td>
<td>May 23, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 3414</td>
<td>Sept 6, 2018</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept 28, 2018</td>
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<td>S. 3442</td>
<td>Sept 17, 2018</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept 28, 2018</td>
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<td>H.R. 1207</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>S. 3414</td>
<td>Sept 6, 2018</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>Sept 17, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept 28, 2018</td>
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<td>Feb 21, 2017</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>Sept 17, 2018</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
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<td>Sept 6, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept 28, 2018</td>
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<td>Sept 17, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept 28, 2018</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Introduced Date</td>
<td>Introduced By</td>
<td>Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend the Small Business Act to modify the method for prescribing size standards for business concerns.</td>
<td>H.R. 6330</td>
<td>July 11, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td>Sept. 12, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 245</td>
<td>Jan. 30, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td>May 24, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 825</td>
<td>Apr. 4, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td>Oct. 17, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a sickle cell disease prevention and treatment demonstration program and to provide for sickle cell disease research, surveillance, prevention, and treatment.</td>
<td>S. 2465</td>
<td>Feb. 28, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td>Aug. 15, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To revise and extend the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act (PREEMIE Act).</td>
<td>S. 3029</td>
<td>June 7, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td>Oct. 11, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species.</td>
<td>S. 3119</td>
<td>June 21, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To promote access for United States diplomats and other officials, journalists, and other citizens to Tibetan areas of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 1872</td>
<td>Apr. 4, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a data framework to provide access for appropriate personnel to law enforcement and other information of the Department, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2454</td>
<td>May 16, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 28, United States Code, to permit other courts to transfer certain cases to United States Tax Court.</td>
<td>H.R. 3996</td>
<td>Oct. 10, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the number of small business investment companies in underlicensed States, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4111</td>
<td>Oct. 24, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2</td>
<td>Apr. 12, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td>June 21, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To oppose loans at international financial institutions for the Government of Nicaragua unless the Government of Nicaragua is taking effective steps to hold free, fair, and transparent elections, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 1918</td>
<td>Apr. 5, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To improve executive agency digital services, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5759</td>
<td>May 10, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>House Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.</td>
<td>S. 1050</td>
<td>May 4, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Committee</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the crew of the USS Indianapolis, in recognition of their perseverance, bravery, and service to the United States.

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.

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 W. Goodwin Street, Pleasanton, Texas, as the "Pleasanton Veterans Post Office".

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 N. Main Street, Encinal, Texas, as the "Encinal Veterans Post Office".

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, and for other purposes.

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

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, and for other purposes.

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.

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".

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".

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that are responsible for using civilians as human shields, and for other purposes.

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".

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, and for other purposes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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”</td>
<td>H.R. 4326</td>
<td>Nov. 9, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4431</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2017</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HA</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 12, 2018</td>
<td>946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>H.R. 4819</td>
<td>Jan. 18, 2018</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>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”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5395</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5412</td>
<td>Mar. 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Macom Street in Bevier, Missouri, as the “SO2 Navy SEAL Adam Olin Smith Post Office”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5475</td>
<td>Apr. 11, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5787</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>EPW</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 30, 2018</td>
<td>997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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 Stumplock Parrish, III, Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5791</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5792</td>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain public lands in Osage National Forest, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5923</td>
<td>May 22, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>ANF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 7, 2018</td>
<td>922</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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".

H.R. 6020  
June 6, 2018  
OGR HS&GA  
Sept. 13, 2018  
Dec. 13, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6059  
June 8, 2018  
OGR  
Dec. 11, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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.

H.R. 6160  
June 20, 2018  
HA OGR HS&GA  
June 28, 2018  
Dec. 13, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6167  
June 20, 2018  
OGR  
Dec. 11, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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 Building".

H.R. 6216  
June 25, 2018  
OGR  
Nov. 29, 2018  
Dec. 12, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6217  
June 25, 2018  
OGR  
Nov. 29, 2018  
Dec. 12, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

To provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States.

H.R. 6227  
June 26, 2018  
SST CST  
Sept. 13, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6335  
July 11, 2018  
OGR  
Dec. 11, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6347  
July 12, 2018  
SB SBE  
Sept. 12, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6348  
July 12, 2018  
SB SBE  
Sept. 12, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a threat and operational analysis of ports of entry, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6400  
July 17, 2018  
WM HB  
Sept. 13, 2018  
Dec. 19, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6405  
July 17, 2018  
OGR  
Nov. 29, 2018  
Dec. 12, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6428  
July 18, 2018  
OGR  
Nov. 29, 2018  
Dec. 12, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018

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".

H.R. 6513  
July 25, 2018  
OGR  
Nov. 29, 2018  
Dec. 12, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018  
Dec. 21, 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 South Kirkman Road in Orlando, Florida, as the &quot;Napoleon 'Nap' Ford Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6591</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>House</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program.</td>
<td>H.R. 6615</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 East Main Street in Johnson City, Tennessee, as the &quot;Major Homer L. Pease Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6621</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the &quot;James Marshall 'Jim' Hendrix Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6628</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the &quot;James Marshall 'Jim' Hendrix Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6621</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 West Main Street in Frisco, Colorado, as the &quot;Patrick E. Mahany, Jr., Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6653</td>
<td>Aug. 3, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Miller Street in Plattsburgh, New York, as the &quot;Ross Bouyea Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6691</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the &quot;Postmaster Frazier B. Baker Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6700</td>
<td>Sept. 27, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7521 Paula Drive in Tampa, Florida, as the &quot;Major Andreas O'Keeffe Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6708</td>
<td>Sept. 12, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Sept. 28, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4160 State Highway 299 East Suite 1 in McArthur, California, as the &quot;Janet Lucille Oilar Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6853</td>
<td>Sept. 17, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the &quot;Postmaster Frazier B. Baker Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6723</td>
<td>Dec. 3, 2018</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 West Main Street in Frisco, Colorado, as the &quot;Patrick E. Mahany, Jr., Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6831</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the &quot;James Marshall 'Jim' Hendrix Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 6628</td>
<td>July 26, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>389</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>OGR</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 7243</td>
<td>December 11, 2018</td>
<td>December 19, 2018</td>
<td>December 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>390</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 7327</td>
<td>December 19, 2018</td>
<td>December 20, 2018</td>
<td>December 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>391</td>
<td>Mar. 29, 2017</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 756</td>
<td>July 24, 2017</td>
<td>July 25, 2018</td>
<td>Aug. 3, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>394</td>
<td>Mar. 7, 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2511</td>
<td>July 9, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2018</td>
<td>Aug. 23, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>395</td>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3170</td>
<td>Sept. 18, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 27, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>396</td>
<td>Nov. 15, 2018</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>To reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.</td>
<td>S. 3628</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>397</td>
<td>Dec. 13, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>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 officers of the legislative branch have violated the rights and protections provided to their employees under such Act, including protections against sexual harassment, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3749</td>
<td>Dec. 13, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 13, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>399</td>
<td>May 23, 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 2606</td>
<td>Aug. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>Sept. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Nov. 2, 2017</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4227</td>
<td>Mar. 19, 2018</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Date Reported</td>
<td>Report No.</td>
<td>Date of passage</td>
<td>Public Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>To direct the National Science Foundation to provide grants for research about STEM education approaches and the STEM-related workforce, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5509</td>
<td>Apr. 13, 2018</td>
<td>SST CST</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2018</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>Dec. 20, 2018</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>S. 7</td>
<td>Nov. 27, 2018</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Dec. 6, 2018</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 943</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2017</td>
<td>E&amp;W IA</td>
<td>Jan. 24, 2018</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Dec. 22, 2018</td>
<td>404</td>
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<tr>
<td>To expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1520</td>
<td>July 10, 2017</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>June 5, 2018</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>Dec. 17, 2018</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2076</td>
<td>Nov. 6, 2017</td>
<td>HEL&amp;P</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2248</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2017</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 1, 2018</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas.</td>
<td>S. 2278</td>
<td>Jan. 4, 2018</td>
<td>EC HEL&amp;P</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>July 31, 2018</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2736</td>
<td>Apr. 24, 2018</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Oct. 3, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Dec. 4, 2018</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>H.R. 1660</td>
<td>Mar. 21, 2017</td>
<td>FA FR</td>
<td>Mar. 22, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan. 3, 2019</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.</td>
<td>H.R. 6287</td>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
<td>NR EPW</td>
<td>Sept. 10, 2018</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.</td>
<td>S. 2276</td>
<td>Jan. 4, 2018</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 4, 2018</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>Jan. 3, 2019</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

To provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.

To amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to exempt investment advisers who solely advise certain rural business investment companies, and for other purposes.

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.

To amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

To amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes.

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.

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.

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, and for other purposes.


To reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

To provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.

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, and for other purposes.

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, and for other purposes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To redesignate Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. ...</td>
<td>S. 3456 Sept. 18, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide for a program of the Department of Defense to commemorate the...</td>
<td>S. 3661 Nov. 27, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Nov. 27, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integra...</td>
<td>H.R. 7279 Dec. 12, 2018</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 22, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and...</td>
<td>S. 1158 May 17, 2017</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 27, 2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2018</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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, and for other purposes.

TABLE OF COMMITTEE ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agr</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANF</td>
<td>Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>App</td>
<td>Appropriations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>Armed Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bud</td>
<td>Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CST</td>
<td>Commerce, Science and Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;W</td>
<td>Education and the Workforce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Energy and Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENR</td>
<td>Energy and Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPW</td>
<td>Environment and Public Works</td>
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<td>Eth</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
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<td>Fin</td>
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<td>FS</td>
<td>Financial Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>FA</td>
<td>Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Foreign Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEL&amp;P</td>
<td>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Homeland Security</td>
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<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>HA</td>
<td>House Administration</td>
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<td>IA</td>
<td>Indian Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Int</td>
<td>Intelligence</td>
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<td>Jud</td>
<td>Judiciary</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Natural Resources</td>
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<td>OGR</td>
<td>Oversight and Government Reform</td>
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<td>Rules</td>
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<td>RAdm</td>
<td>Rules and Administration</td>
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<td>SST</td>
<td>Science, Space, and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Small Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBE</td>
<td>Small Business and Entrepreneurship</td>
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<tr>
<td>TI</td>
<td>Transportation and Infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Veterans’ Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>WM</td>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Monday, April 15

Senate Chamber
Program for Monday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2:30 p.m., Friday, April 12

House Chamber
Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 2:30 p.m.