The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:
Let us pray.
Ruler and Redeemer, Creator and Sustainer, we pause to acknowledge Your majesty and might.
Because of You, we live and move and breathe and prosper. Lord, You continue to shower us with undeserved blessings; great is Your faithfulness. As our Senators and staffs do liberty’s work, sustain them with Your might. Provide them with prudence and discretion for each task. Remind them that if You are for them, neither demons nor deviants can prevail. Help us all to focus on today’s challenges and trust You to take care of our past and future. Transform discord into harmony as You hasten the day when peace will reign.
We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAWLEY). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.
Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute as in morning business.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH
Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, May has been recognized as National Foster Care Month for over 20 years to bring awareness to the challenges that foster youth face.
Through my work on the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth, I have had the opportunity to hear firsthand what children in foster care need. They need love, support, safety, and permanency. They need a family. I salute all those who dedicate their time and resources to help these kids.
In moving forward, I will continue to work to find better solutions and to secure better outcomes for youth in foster care.
Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for an additional 1 minute as in morning business.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ECONOMIC GROWTH
Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, last week, the Department of Labor released its monthly scorecard for the U.S. workforce.
The unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent, which is the lowest rate since December 1969—a new 50-year low. Moreover, an additional 263,000 jobs were created. Job gains have averaged a robust 218,000 over the past 12 months. Additionally, for the ninth straight month, year-over-year nominal wage gains have equaled or exceeded 3 percent.
It is good to see this administration’s tax reform and pro-growth policies continuing to improve the daily lives of all Americans.
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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
threats that face our friends and allies in Israel.

While American families enjoyed a spring weekend, those who make their home in the border regions of the Jewish State were subjected to a barrage of hundreds of rockets and other projectiles launched from within Gaza.

The attacks were carried out by Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. They targeted civilian populations. They killed a worker at a cement factory, it has not been permitted to its owner, a man in the yard of his own home, and a rabbi as he left his car to run for cover.

They caused countless Israeli citizens to scurry to bunkers for safety, unsure whether rockets would rain upon their farms, apartment buildings, schools, or hospitals. These attacks, we should remember, are targeted at Israel’s innocent civilians. They are intended to kill, to maim, and to terrorize.

In the brazen acts of terror, it is of course Israel’s right to take swift and decisive action to defend its people. Frankly, it is an existential necessity.

And it is the responsibility of every peaceful nation—ourselves included—to continue to expose those governments and private entities that provide illicit support for their actions. Foremost among them is Iran, which has become a critical linchpin for the terror organizations behind them and to continue to open up these governments and private entities that provide illicit support for their actions. For example, among them is Iran, which has become a critical linchpin for the terror organizations behind them and to continue.

I know my colleagues will join me in expressing sympathy for the families of the victims and for the communities left to rebuild the wreckage of these latest attacks. Furthermore, I hope this weekend’s attacks could at least spur some action here in Congress, where Senate-passed legislation to renew and strengthen our partnership with Israel is still sitting over in the House, where it has not been permitted a vote. That thoroughly bipartisan legislation contains several provisions to strengthen our security ties to Israel and also to confront the scourge of anti-Semitism.

Behind these attacks lurks the same hatred that motivated the violence at Chabad of Poway last month and the Tree of Life synagogue last year—the same ugly bigotry that takes refuge within the BDS movement while masquerading as a legitimate political stance. It is the same tide of discrimination that an overwhelming majority of European Jews report is on the rise in their own communities, even as the Holocaust remains a vivid living memory. This disturbing trend has already taken its toll on communities of faith and on peaceful Jews in Israel and around the world, but when America does any less than our level best to confront it, we further undermine the cause of our friends and allies in this free Jewish State.

I hope this terrible violence can again spur my colleagues in the House to act on the bipartisan legislation that has been languishing over there for weeks. It was the first item we took up this year.

Clearly, the need to reaffirm our commitment to the safety, security, and sovereignty of Israel is just as important as it was.

I TRIBUTE TO MIKE ENZI

Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, I was saddened to hear over the weekend that our friend and colleague Senator MIKE ENZI will not run for reelection. At the end of next year, he will have 24 years of service to the people of Wyoming, and the rest of us will have to step up to make up for the loss in expertise and in principled leadership his departure will create.

When MIKE first arrived in the Senate, he brought with him experience in business and government that made him an immediate asset on a host of different issues. With an MBA under his belt, he had returned home to lead a successful sales business through a successful expansion. As the two-term mayor of Gillette, WY, he had presided over an economic and population boom, and over the course of 10 years in the State legislature, he had lent his accountant’s eye to help other small businesses succeed through better policy.

So it is no surprise that MIKE got right to work as a leading voice on the Federal budget, tax policy, and healthcare. Over four terms, he has taken every opportunity to make an outsized impact on policy for the people of Wyoming and for our entire country.

In 2006, as chairman of the HELP Committee, MIKE provided the guiding hand that delivered the first major pension reform legislation in a generation and provided more security to the retirement income of millions of Americans through bipartisan policy.

In 2017, as chairman of the Budget Committee, he helped lay the foundation for the generational reform of our Nation’s Tax Code and championed important elements for small businesses and retirees.

In these cases and in many more, getting MIKE involved in an issue meant deploying a powerful force for fiscal responsibility, restraint, and policy practicality. You always felt more sure something would turn out well when MIKE was on the case or part of the team.

But seeing as our friend has built nearly a quarter-century legacy in the Senate, none of us can blame MIKE for choosing to spend more time with his even greater legacy: the wonderful family he and his lovely wife Diana have built together.

MIKE and Diana are now the proud grandparents of four, and among everything their bright future holds, I know MIKE will be excited for more chances to pass along his fly fishing wisdom and his love of good books.

Before he hangs up the “gone fishing” sign for good, I know my colleagues share my relief that we still have a year and a half to continue drawing on Senator Enz’s leadership and focused expertise. So today I will offer just the first of many sincere thanks for his years of distinguished service.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it is no secret that our economy has broken some pretty amazing records lately. Last week’s job report surpassed all estimates and expectations, with a whopping 263,000 jobs created in April alone. The unemployment rate hit a 50-year low, and we saw 3.2 percent growth, which is the best in 4 years.

I still recall, back during the previous administration, when we were told that 2 percent growth was the new normal and that we could never grow the economy the way we had in recent months. Obviously, 2 percent growth is not the new normal for the American economy. We all ought to be relieved and comforted by that fact.

The unemployment rate has dropped to 3.6 percent—the lowest level in nearly half a century. Everybody who is able-bodied and willing to work and willing to be trained for jobs that pay well I believe has an opportunity to do so these days. There is no doubt that this is an incredible time for our economy, and I am confident that the pro-growth policies that we have brought to the table during this administration and during a Republican majority in the House and the Senate will continue to bring real benefits to families across the country. But we have also broken another record, one that has a much more negative impact, and that is especially in my State of Texas.

In March, Customs and Border Protection encountered more than 103,000 migrants along the southwestern border—the highest number since 2007. Unlike previous times when we saw numbers on that scale, these are people who simply show up at the border and turn themselves in to the Border Patrol and claim asylum—mostly families and unaccompanied children, if you could believe that. To put this figure into perspective, it is more than double that of the same period last year and more than six times that in 2017. So something is clearly amiss.

Our country is simply not equipped to manage this sort of massive influx, and folks in my State are bearing the brunt of the humanitarian crisis.

Again, I would remind those listening that this first described this a humanitarian crisis, in 2014, was President Barack Obama. He called it a humanitarian and security crisis. It has
gotten worse since then, not better. Many of our cities along the border and nongovernmental organizations—faith-based organizations that take it as part of their mission to deal with the needs of migrants along the border—are struggling to manage the growing need for humanitarian aid. Businesses and manufacturers that feel the tight squeeze of backed-up border crossings.

Most folks here inside the beltway probably didn’t comprehend the cross-border traffic and how interdependent our economy really is. There are 14,000 to 16,000 truck trips a day across the U.S.-Mexico border at Laredo. As the already understaffed Customs and Border Protection has tried to manage the flow of family units and unaccompanied children entering our country, Customs agents had been pulled off of that duty—their ordinary duties—causing lanes to be closed and wait times to skyrocket. I was told by some local trucking companies and truckers that they simply have had to hire charter aircraft to fly from the Mexican side of the border to the U.S. side of the border in order to meet their just-in-time inventory needs because, otherwise, trucks bringing these small parts across the border that ordinarily would have taken an hour to get across now are taking 14 hours or more, simply disrupting their supply chain and threatening to put many people in the interior of the United States out of work. This situation continues or gets worse.

The aerial footage of the border looks more like a parking lot than a port of entry. Cargo trucks and personal vehicles sit at a complete standstill, backed up for miles. People are supplying drivers with water. Can you imagine being stuck in your car for hours on end with no preparation for food or water—or fuel, for that matter—based on the amount of time sitting in line?

With nearly $1.7 billion in products crossing our border every day, as I have said, these delays have had a serious impact on manufacturers and retailers in industries ranging from automobiles to medical devices to just simply the produce that we take for granted. This massive humanity from across our border and how interdependent our economy really is.

A report released last week by the Texas-based Perryman Group estimated that these slowdowns could cost the U.S. economy $69 billion—$69 billion—over a 3-month period. Nearly half of that—an estimated $32 billion—would be a direct hit on the Texas economy.

Last week, I heard from the Chamber of Commerce in San Antonio and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce about these wait times. Their members are facing delayed orders and increased shipping costs because of these wait times, and they want us to do something about it. That is not an unreason-able desire or request.

Unlike a lot of folks inside the beltway here in Washington, they have to manage this crisis. They have to deal with it. They can’t ignore it or turn their eyes in another direction. They don’t care about talking points or winning a messaging war. They want a solution to their problem. So, now, in addition to the humanitarian and security crisis that we have talked about in 2014, we have the beginning of a full-blown economic crisis as well.

It is an understatement to say that there is a lot of disagreement on what happens next. Many people might look for answers, but anyone who has taken an elementary school class can tell you that, for it to pass a Republican-led Senate and a Democratic-controlled House, this must be bipartisan. I should say that anybody who has happened to see “Schoolhouse Rock!” should know that it is going to have to be bipartisan and bicameral and that the President has to sign it in order for it to pass.

Over the years, I have worked closely with my friend and fellow Texan HENRY Cuellar on legislation to strengthen our border security and customs operations. Our bipartisan effort resulted in the first border adjustments since our nation’s border with Mexico. HENRY is a Democrat from Laredo, TX. I, obviously, am not, but that doesn’t mean we can’t find common ground. And I believe our constituents sent us here to do—not to sacrifice principles but, when there is a problem to be solved, to work together in a bipartisan way to try to solve it. So last week, I introduced legislation that could bring those record-breaking border numbers back down and finally provide some relief for law enforcement, for our cities, for our NGOs, and for our businesses struggling to manage. I have spent a lot of time with the officers and agents who defend our borders every day, and I always ask them: What can I do to help you? What do you need from Congress in order to succeed at the job we have asked you to do?

There are two common answers I hear. One is to close the loopholes that serve as a magnet or a pull factor on this massive wave of humanity from places like Central America into the United States, with people claiming asylum because they know they can exploit the loopholes that exist in the law and be successfully placed in the United States, never to be heard from again as they blend into this great society. In other words, they know they can successfully make it from here into the United States unless these loopholes are filled. That is what the Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection have implored us to do, along with the Department of Homeland Security—to close these loopholes.

The main people benefitting from these loopholes in our asylum laws are the human traffickers, the drug traffickers, and the people who get rich by selling a ticket to Central America into the United States. They charge, $5,000, $6,000, $7,000, or $8,000 a person. Of course, these are also the same criminal organizations that move drugs into the United States, trafficking women and children for sex.

Last year alone, we know that 70,000-plus Americans died of drug overdoses in America. About half of them was from opioids, including heroin—90 percent of which comes from Mexico—along with the synthetic opioid known as fentanyl, which those of us working here in Washington know is much faster and much more dangerous than heroin, which is dangerous in and of itself. The same people who are trafficking in these migrants are trafficking in the drugs that are killing Americans on a daily basis and taking advantage of the desire of women and children to make their way here to the United States and turning them into virtual sex slaves.

The people who have patiently and politely tried to enter our country legally are frustrated by illegal border-crossers who try to game the system and use well-intentioned laws as a literal get-out-of-jail-free card.

One of the most commonly exploited loopholes is known as the Flores Settlement Agreement, which was created to ensure that unaccompanied children aren’t spending long periods of time in the custody of the Border Patrol. It remained an important protective for the most vulnerable individuals who come across our border and ensures that these unaccompanied children may be processed and released either to relatives or to the Department of Health and Human Services.

A later, misguided ruling by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in 2016 effectively expanded the time cap for unaccompanied children to families—that is, adults bringing one or more children across the border with them. These smugglers and human traffickers aren’t fools. They see this as an opportunity to be exploited, and they know that by posing as a family, these individuals will be released after 20 days or virtually де с с the interior of the country. The child traveling with them could have been kidnapped, smuggled, or trafficked—all of which has happened before.

Sadly, this is a common occurrence. The Department of Human Resources announced last week that they have identified more than 1,000 cases of fraudulent families trying to cross the border since October of last year. These criminals are exploiting our laws and hurting innocent children, and by doing nothing, we ourselves are complicit in their bad behavior.

That is why we need to act. That is the one thing we can do. We need to clarify that Flores only applies to unaccompanied children and not to these family units who are gaming the system. First and foremost, this would protect children from being used as an entry ticket by criminals and smugglers, and it would also eliminate a pull factor for those tempted to try to use this method to gain entry.
Of course, we know there are legitimate families who cross our border, and we must take additional steps to confirm these biological relationships and enable them to remain together in custody. No one is advocating for separating families from their children. The HUMANE Act that Congressman Cuellar and I have introduced requires all children to undergo biometric and DNA screening—something the Department of Homeland Security has recently been testing. This was in order to defeat the fraudulent claim of biological or familial relationship with a minor child in order to gain entry into the United States. I believe we have a responsibility to ensure that children are actual family members and not being used as a pawn by the smugglers.

Our legislation also provides safeguards to prevent children from being placed in the custody of dangerous individuals, such as sex offenders or human traffickers. The last thing we should want to do is welcome these unaccompanied children here to America, only to place them, by action of the Federal Government, in the hands of sex offenders or human traffickers because we took all necessary caution to prevent it.

Consistent with the recommendations from the bipartisan Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Advisory Council, the HUMANE Act would require DHS to establish at least four regional processing centers along the southern border to house and process these families. It is important that we provide them humane and compassionate housing while they await their asylum hearing in front of an immigration judge.

By not doing so, by engaging in what has come to be known as catch-and-release, we essentially help facilitate the entry of these individuals into the United States. I encourage the actual factor that would only encourage not only 76,000 migrants, like we saw come across the border in February, not 103,000, like we saw come across the border in March, but we are going to see those numbers continue to go up and up and up and up, because, if you think about it, there is simply no reason for them not to come. The smugglers are getting rich, and people who want to come into the United States by false pretenses are getting rich, and people who want to come into the United States by false pretenses are getting rich, and people who want to come into the United States by false pretenses are getting rich.

To prevent this humanitarian crisis from having a deeper impact on legitimate trade and travel, this bill mandates the building of additional Homeland Security personnel and upgrades our ports of entry to expedite the legal movement of people and goods.

Just the binational trade with Mexico supports about 5 million jobs in America; with Canada, another 8 million. That is why the North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, is so important, and now that it has been supplanted by the U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement that we will be taking up soon, it is very important for us to keep legitimate commerce and trade flowing between Mexico, Canada, and the United States because 13 million jobs or more in America depend on that binational trade. That is another collateral piece of damage as a result of this humanitarian crisis.

This is an opportunity for us to consider a bipartisan and bicameral piece of legislation to solve a real and growing problem, and I hope both of our Chambers will take seriously our responsibility and to act soon. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. Ernst). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE ENZI

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, over the weekend, our friend the distinguished Senator from Wyoming, Mr. Enzi, announced that he wouldn’t seek reelection. It is no secret that Senator Enzi and I approach legislation from two very different standpoints, but I have to say that Senator Enzi has always been thoughtful and decent—qualities that have made him a good Senator and a respected voice for the people of Wyoming.

When Senator Enzi was elected, he was this Chamber’s only accountant by trade. Perhaps it is destiny, then, that he will end his tenure at the top of the Budget Committee. Despite his prominent perch and decades in Washington’s corridors of power, Senator Enzi still retains the accountant’s distaste for taxes. He prefers the limelight and the television cameras—something the two of us have in common. If Senator Enzi will forgive me that joke, I would like to wish him and his family the best in all his future endeavors—that is, of course, after he concludes his final year and a half in Washington as one of Wyoming’s longest-serving Senators.

MUELLER REPORT

Madam President, on another matter, in the aftermath of Attorney General Barr’s testimony before the Judiciary Committee, it is now clearer than ever that the Senate must hear from Special Counsel Mueller. We need Special Counsel Mueller to testify because, as we have seen, the Attorney General has shown he cannot be trusted on the matter of the Russia investigation.

After the special counsel delivered his findings, the Attorney General took a 480-page document and turned it into 4 pages, producing a document so inadequate that it even prompted the special counsel to raise concerns in writing—the normally very reticent special counsel, I might add. Meanwhile, the Attorney General has speculated, without evidence, about the special counsel’s motivations, and he has done so, we have now learned, without having reviewed any of the underlying evidence. To make matters worse, Mr. Barr also refused to appear before the House Judiciary Committee, demonstrating his contempt for the oversight responsibilities of Congress.

The bottom line is this: The Attorney General’s word cannot be the end of the matter. Special Counsel Mueller must testify. Unfortunately, however, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee has thus far been far less than welcoming, and now the President has made it clear that he believes Mueller should not testify.

I want to remind this Chamber that President Trump repeatedly tried to fire the special counsel called the special counsel conflicted and corrupted and refused to be interviewed by him, and now he is trying to silence the special counsel completely. For a man who constantly proclaims his innocence and the ‘Russia narrative’ of the Mueller report, President Trump suspiciously objects to Special Counsel Mueller’s public testimony.

Thankfully, Congress isn’t subject to the will of the President. My friend, Senator GRAHAM has an obligation to ask the special counsel to testify without constraints. I will continue to press him to call for a hearing.

PUERTO RICO

Finally, Mr. President, we have been trying for weeks now to come up with a package of disaster assistance for the thousands impacted by fires and floods and typhoons and hurricanes that would be acceptable to my friends on the other side of the aisle. Meanwhile, the President continues to wage a bizarre and fact-impaired campaign against millions of American citizens living in Puerto Rico.

This morning, the President claimed incredibly that Puerto Rico has received $91 billion in recovery funds...
while other States have been left behind. That defies the facts. He also suggested that Puerto Rico should be thankful for the funding they have already received and accused Democrats of selling out other parts of the country. There is a lot to unpack there, so here goes.

For one, Puerto Rico has not received $91 billion—not even close. At most, Puerto Rico has received $11 billion while billions more, already allocated by the Congress—Democrats and Republicans—are being withheld by the Trump administration itself. Just last week, the administration missed a self-imposed deadline to advance the release of $8 billion in funding to help the island rebuild and prepare for future disasters.

Second, it is galling even by the President’s standards to say that Puerto Rico should be thankful for disaster aid. The President hasn’t said that Alabama should be thankful for disaster aid. He hasn’t said that Texas should be thankful for disaster aid. The President implies that aid to Puerto Rico is some kind of favor he is doing. I remind the President that helping parts of our country recover from natural disasters is not a favor; it is what we do as Americans and what we have always done until the President’s heavy hand disrupted the legislation that Democrats and Republicans had crafted and were prepared to pass.

When a natural disaster strikes on the corner of the country, Americans put politics aside and come together to help each other out. The President, however, is failing our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico and all those rebuilding their lives and communities after disaster.

For those here who say “Well, let’s just pass this bill now,” the House won’t pass this bill. The House will not pass a bill without full aid to Puerto Rico, and neither will this Chamber.

So what are we talking about here? We are talking about a President who came in and, for some reason didn’t want to give aid to Puerto Rico while giving to everywhere else even though Puerto Rico’s disaster probably, per capita, affected them worse than any other State. They are American citizens. I would remind the President. Now he is bollocking the whole thing up.

Both sides here in Congress—Democrats and Republicans who believe in aid—ought to disavow the President’s decision and pass relief for all Americans affected by natural disasters—all Americans. Democrats are ready to support disaster relief for every corner in this country—the west coast, the Midwest, the South, and Puerto Rico. As our negotiators continue to make progress on a disaster package, I fervently hope we come to a resolution very soon.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, the taxpayers spent $30 million on the special counsel’s investigation. Now we know without a single doubt that there was no collusion by the Trump campaign in Russia. For more than 2 years, the Democrats scammed collusion and did so not based on fact but based on rumor, hearsay, and probably wishful thinking. They have done a huge disservice to the American people by taking that approach.

As I have said before, the real collusion was actually with the Democrats. Here is how it has evolved. It was the Clinton campaign and Democratic National Committee that hired Fusion GPS to do opposition research against Candidate Trump. Then Fusion GPS hired Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence officer, to compile what we now hear always referred to as the Steele dossier. That document was very central to the fake collusion narrative, and it used Russian Government sources for information. So the Democrats paid for a document created by a foreign national that relied on Russian Government sources—not Trump, the Democrats. That is the definition of collusion.

But Democratic collusion didn’t stop there. Last week, The Hill newspaper reported that a Democratic National Committee contractor contacted the Ukrainian Government to get dirt on the Trump campaign during the Presidential election. Specifically, the Democratic National Committee contractor reportedly “wanted to collect evidence that Trump, his organization and Manafort were Russian assets working to hurt the U.S. and working with Putin against U.S. interests.”

The Democrats were up in arms about the Trump Tower meeting when the Trump campaign was approached about dirt on Hillary Clinton. Here, the DNC practically approached the odor of a foreign government for dirt. Where is the outrage at that? The special counsel ignored all of that in his report; thus, he didn’t fulfill all of his responsibilities.

The Deputy Attorney General appointed Mueller in May of 2017 to investigate alleged collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia during the 2016 election. The Deputy Attorney General further ordered that if the special counsel found anything necessary and appropriate, he was authorized to “prosecute federal crimes arising from the investigation of these matters.” But that is not what the special counsel did on the obstruction question. Instead, the special counsel declined to make a traditional prosecutorial decision. The report said that “[t]he evidence that we obtained about the President’s actions and intent presents difficult issues that prevent us from conclusively determining that no criminal conduct occurred.”

As the Attorney General said when he released the report and then again in his testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee last week, the role of a prosecutor “is to make a charging decision.” It isn’t a prosecutor’s job to exonerate a subject; it is to charge a crime or, in the alternative, not to charge a crime. But in his report, the special counsel did his decision not to even make a decision. He says, among other things, that stating the President had committed a chargeable offense without actually charging him, under the Justice Department’s guidelines, would be unfair to the President because, according to the special counsel, then the President couldn’t defend himself properly before a neutral factfinder. Instead, the special counsel laid out 200 or so pages of facts and the special counsel team could have taken action and then dumped all of this material on the Attorney General’s desk.

It reminds me of former FBI Director Comey’s declaration in the summer of 2016 that Secretary Clinton was extremely careless in handling classified information but that no reasonable prosecutor would bring a case against Secretary Clinton. FBI Director Comey made a prosecutorial decision that he believed to make was up to the Attorney General to make. That was Attorney General Lynch. Comey also released derogatory information about Secretary Clinton and then refused to show all of his work.

The special counsel’s report is at least equally problematic. The report lays out 200 pages of investigative product but leaves the charging decision hanging in Never Never Land. Nevertheless, the report asserts that if the special counsel team could have found the President did not commit obstruction, they would have said so. But, again, that is not what prosecutors do. That is a reversal of the innocent until proven guilty standard that is so American. Ideally, a thorough investigation, it seems the inverse would be true as well. The inverse is that, after a thorough investigation, the special counsel did not have enough evidence to conclusively state obstruction actually occurred.

During the Attorney General’s May 1 testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, he noted that if the special counsel found facts sufficient to constitute obstruction, he would have stated that finding.

Curiously, the special counsel spilled a lot of ink in his report to explain why he believed the President could be charged as a matter of legal theory. So why didn’t he just make that decision or at least make a very clear recommendation to the Attorney General and stand behind his own theories?

The Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General asked Mueller whether he would have charged obstruction but for the Department’s guidance on charging sitting Presidents. The special counsel said no, which means, if warranted, that there was no barrier for him to make that charge.

In the absence of a decision from the special counsel, it was then up to the
Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General, who appointed Mueller and supervised his work. The Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General reviewed all of the facts and evidence that the special counsel collected. The Attorney General arguably appointed the Deputy Attorney General to evaluate it under Mueller's own legal theories, even though they disagreed with some of those theories. After all of that, the Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General determined that the evidence against Page supported an FISA warrant.

Oddly, the special counsel’s report is probably the most notable for what it doesn’t address at all. The special counsel’s report does not address the genesis of the Russia investigation. It doesn’t address whether the FBI used improper surveillance techniques on the Trump campaign or individuals associated with the Trump campaign. It doesn’t address the credibility of the FBI’s sources.

If at all, whether the Steele dossier was a Russian disinformation campaign. Even one of the reporters at the publication that initially dumped the dossier into the public domain wants to know where it came from and what it means. The special counsel’s report doesn’t address whether Department of Justice officials turned a blind eye to potential misconduct. It also doesn’t address whether the Department of Justice misled the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court when it applied for that court’s decision against the Trump campaign.

So now we know what reasonable people have long suspected—there was no collusion and no obstruction of the collusion investigation. Yet we still don’t know how this so-called collusion investigation got started in the first place.

In March 2017, then-FBI Director James Comey testified that he briefed President-elect Trump about these allegations in January 2017 even though, according to his public testimony, Director Comey considered them to be, in his words, “salacious and unverified.” If, in fact, they were salacious and unverified in early 2017, then what were they months before that when Comey started the investigation? We know the allegations against Page were unverified when they were used by the FBI and the Justice Department to support an application to spy—yes, spy—on an American citizen, an American citizen who, by the way, has never been charged with anything.

In January of 2018, Senator Lindsey Graham and this Senator wrote to the Deputy Attorney General and FBI Director Christopher Wray about the allegations in the Steele dossier, about its author, and, more importantly, about its bankrollers. In that memo, we described inconsistencies between what Steele testified to a British court about his contacts with the media and what the Page FISA application represented to the FISA Court about those same contacts. The FISA application represented that Steele did not communicate with the media about his intelligence reports but that he told the British court he did.

We noted in our memo that if Mr. Steele had lied to the FBI about his contacts with the media, it would mean that there are serious questions about his credibility. That would be a huge problem because the FISA application and its renewals depended on taking Steele at his word. Remember, at that time, the Steele dossier was still “salacious and unverified” and were Comey’s words. So it mattered a whole lot whether the FBI and the Department of Justice could trust Steele and his dossier.

In our referral, Senator Graham and I also noted that Mr. Steele’s contacts with the media likely affected, in our words, the “reliability of his information-gathering efforts” in compiling the dossier. By the time the Department of Justice and the FBI filed the FISA application and even before the FBI informed the investment, the Steele dossier was probably the worst kept secret in Washington, DC.

The same can be said for the government’s efforts to look for ties between the Trump campaign and Russia. All of these theories—foreign lobbyists, campaign organizations, private research firms, FBI officials, the Department of Justice and Department of State officials, and even foreign intelligence agencies—reportedly had access to the dossier information or the dossier itself. An attorney for Clinton and the Democratic National Committee even passed on some aspects of this information directly to the FBI’s general counsel before the FISA was issued.

Basically, this piece of paper was, in some form or another, all over this town, and the more the dossier was shopped around, the more vulnerable it became to its manipulation.

We also know that at least as early as the summer of 2016, foreign intelligence agencies were reportedly feeding information to the CIA about Trump campaign associates and that the FBI was using a source to seek information from individuals who were “foreign,” according to the media, lawyers, lobbyists, campaign organizations, private research firms, FBI officials, the Department of Justice and Department of State officials, and even foreign intelligence agencies—reportedly had access to the dossier information or the dossier itself. An attorney for Clinton and the Democratic National Committee even passed on some aspects of this information directly to the FBI’s general counsel before the FISA was issued.

We need to know if leadership in the intelligence community and the FBI were already gathering intelligence on Trump associates when Fusion hired Steele. We need to know whether the Obama administration was looking so hard for connections that it figured the Steele dossier would justify efforts to continue its surveillance activities. Further, we need to know if the Russians knew our government was that hungry for information to the point they packed the dossier with disinformation just so they could. If so, it looks like the Obama administration fell for it hook, line, and sinker, and it certainly seems like some in leadership may have ignored clear warning signs.

Department of Justice official Bruce Ohr spoke with top FBI leadership about Steele’s work the day the investigation opened, and after the FBI terminated Steele as a source, Ohr continued to feed Steele’s work to the Bureau. At various times, Mr. Ohr made it clear to the FBI that the information from Steele could not be taken at face value because it was based on hearsay. Ohr noted that Steele had an anti-Trump agenda and that the whole operation was bankrolled by Clinton and the Democratic National Committee. Of course, the Clinton campaign wasn’t keen on the world’s knowing it was footing the bill for the dossier. Its lawyers even lied to the media about this fact for more than a year. That is not my saying it. A New York Times reporter said that.

So, by the time the FISA application was filed and every time it was renewed, FBI and Department of Justice leaders were very much aware of the political bias and the purpose of the unverified information that supposedly supported it, so much so that according to reported text messages between former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe and his staff, the FBI worked to create—these are their words—a “robust explanation” for “any possible bias” of the source “in the package” supporting the FISA application. It also seems from these text messages that the FBI was getting pushback from at least one individual at the Justice Department about seeking the FISA.

In the end, the FISA application was presented to the court with there being no mention whatsoever of Clinton, the Democratic National Committee, or any mention of the source’s political bias and with only mere speculation by the FBI that the Steele dossier was not peddling his information far and wide. The FISA application was then granted by the court and was renewed three times. Let me say that again. The FISA application was granted and renewed three times.

The FBI surveilled an American citizen for many months based on salacious and unverified information that had been gathered by a former foreign intelligence officer who was desperate to keep the President out of office. He was British Agent Steele. That former intelligence officer used Russian sources, including Russian Government sources, at the behest and with the funding of a rival political party and campaign.

The Democrats and the mainstream media have been screaming at the top of their lungs about salacious, unverified allegations that this President stole an election by working with the Russians, but it is a sobering and verified fact that the Democrats actually paid for dirt from the Russians to damage their political opponents.

So now, after the taxpayers have spent $30 million to work through this swirling cesspool of allegations, when
the Attorney General says he has concerns about certain aspects of this investigation, I agree with him. I don’t know whether laws were broken or protocols were breached or rules were violated, but for decades, I have been doing oversight of the Federal Government, including the Department of Justice and the FBI, and I think there is certainly enough there to be asking questions.

For example, did the Obama administration improperly use the U.S. intelligence community to attempt to neutralize and denigrate a political opponent? Did the Obama administration fail to properly assert oversight of the Department of Justice and the FBI FISA process?

These questions must be answered. It is fundamentally American to care not just about what laws the government enforces but also how the government enforces those laws.

If the greatest enemy we see is the periphery of the political spectrum, then the foreign powers who seek to divide and weaken our Republic are going to succeed.

Now, I have been trying to get to the bottom of all sides of this issue for years, and I have urged my Democratic colleagues to join me. I am encouraged that the Attorney General is taking a look, and I am encouraged that the independent Department of Justice inspector general has been looking at these issues as well. I have no idea what they are going to find.

I know Mueller turned a blind eye to what they are investigating, however. The American people need answers—all the answers.

It is not just this administration that has been drugged through the mud with wild collusion and obstruction theories. The American people have had to listen to those falsehoods now for years, and many in the media have been breathlessly flooding the airwaves with speculation and what-ifs about the bogus Trump collusion narrative.

Now that the report is out, some media figures are still struggling to come to terms with Mueller’s findings and decisions. It is as if they are unhappy with the results or perhaps they are embarrassed that the world is learning that we have been sold a bunch of snake oil for the past 2 years and now they are finding out that the lie is.

I hope the mainstream media will pursue the origins of the Russian collusion investigation and do it with the same vigor as they have been pushing the collusion narrative for the last 2 years, and there ought to be some apologies from some of them. This would all go a long way to restoring their damaged credibility.

So I am going to do whatever I can to make sure the people get these answers.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote scheduled for 5:30 p.m. today commence.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.


The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senators from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Alabama (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted “yea”.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOHER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 95 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Alexander
Barrasso
Blackburn
Blunt
Burr
Cassidy
Collins
Capito
Cotton

Cramer
Cruz
Daines
Daines
Gardiner
Graham
Fischer
Hawley
Hyde-Smith

Inhofe
Johnson
Jones
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Manchester
McConnell
McSally
Paul
Perdue
Portman
Risch

Roberts
Romney
Round
Sasse
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sherer
Sinema
Sullivan
Tillis
Wicker
Young

NAYS—40

Bailey
Bennett
Blumenthal
Browns
Canwell
Carper
Casey
Coons
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Duane
Feinstein
Hassan
Sanders

Heinrich
Hirono
Kaine
King
Leahy
Markley
Menendez
Merkley
Murphy
Murray
Nelson

Schatz
Schumer
Shaheen
Smith
Stabenow
Tester
Ulrich
Van Hollen
Warren
Warren
Whitehouse
Wydyn

NOT VOTING—9

Booker
Hilbert
Harr

Isakson
Klobuchar
Moran

Markowski
Rubin
Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 40.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session 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 GENIE ZAVALET

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in 1958, recently married Genie Zavaleta went on assignment with the Migrant Ministry with her husband Hector. They traveled the country to support Mexican migrant workers. Genie was a child of the Great Depression, and she knew when people needed help. What was supposed to be a 1-year stint became a lifetime of helping people in need.

Last month, Genie passed away at the age of 92. She was known as the founder of the Arizona Dreamers. She was a longtime champion and mentor to undocumented youth in Arizona and a long time ally in defending the rights of undocumented youth in Arizona and across the county. She taught classes at Phoenix College and Arizona State University too. She worked with the
Maricopa County Health Department for 15 years until her retirement in 1989.

Genie’s retirement was not close to the end of her story. She moved into full-time advocacy for immigrants. For more than a decade, my staff and I worked with her on behalf of Dreamers. She saved countless Dreamers from being deported. Genie had my office on speed dial. She frequently alerted us to Dreamers at the risk of deportation. She shared stories of Dreamers that I told on the Senate floor.

In 2011, I organized the Dream Sabbath, a gathering of faith communities around the country to put a human face on the plight of undocumented students. An event about the Dream Act would never be complete without Genie’s participation, so of course, she helped organize Arizona’s Dream Sabbath.

Genie did not seek fanfare. She quietly became one of Arizona’s most influential immigration activists. She did not want fame. I was about the Dreamers.

On the lawn of her home in Arizona, there once were signs covering the whole area for the causes she supported. Today, the house is quiet, and the lawn is empty except one sign, a stars-and-stripes one with “In our America, all people are equal” at the top. We will keep fighting on Genie’s behalf until the Dream Act is the law of the land.

Genie Zavaleta is survived by her husband Hector, her sons Dan and David, and their wives Nori and Linda. On behalf of the hundreds of people she helped, Loretta and I send our sincere condolences.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President: today, after delays associated with mechanical issues on the airplane I was set to travel on, severe weather in the Miami area further delayed my arrival into Washington, DC. As such, I will unfortunately miss today’s vote.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to discuss S. 1309, the Combating Global Corruption Act of 2019. There is heightened awareness in the United States, the Western Hemisphere region, and around the world that corruption is a serious threat to democracy, stability, and security.

Corruption erodes trust and confidence in democratic institutions, the rule of law, and human rights protections. It damages America’s global competitiveness and creates barriers to economic growth in international markets. Today, the house floor, our national and international security by fostering the conditions for violent extremism and weakening institutions associated with governance and accountability. As Transparency International noted in its 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index published this January, failure to curb corruption is contributing to a worldwide crisis of democracy. According to Freedom House, in 2017, democracy faced its most difficult year in decades and marked the 12th consecutive year of decline in global freedom.

We have all seen the headlines, from scandals in Liberia, Hungary, and Guatemala, to the urging by Russian athletes to throw the track and field events from the 2016 Summer Olympics, to the Panaman Papers. It is clear that where there are high levels of corruption we find fragile states, authoritarian states, or states suffering from internal or external conflict, in places such as Afghanistan and Pakistan, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Nigeria, and Sudan.

The problem of corruption and the dysfunction that follows it can be difficult to address because it is like a cancer some in government that can include government officials, businessmen, law enforcement, military personnel, and organized criminal groups. Corruption is a system that operates via extensive, entrenched networks in both the public and private sectors. It is ubiquitous and pervasive.

We must address it. We can’t throw up our hands and accept corruption as the status quo because the costs of not addressing and rooting it out are too high. Corruption fuels violent extremism, pushing young people toward violence, because they lose faith in the institutions that are supposed to protect and serve them. Corruption feeds the destructive fire of criminal networks and transnational crime. Citizens lose faith in the social compact between governments and the people. Terrorist groups use corruption to recruit followers to their hateful cause. It is a vicious cycle.

The human cost of corruption is substantial. Across the globe, millions of men, women, and children are victims of modern day slavery. Corruption enables their trafficking within and among countries. Corruption is a constant companion to modern day slavery and the suffering that it brings. We also have seen this play out in the refugee and migrant crisis, with thousands drowning in the Mediterranean, victims of trafficking networks and corruption fuels violent extremism. Make no mistake, corruption is big business. UNICEF estimates that human traffickers generate $32 billion in profits by smuggling 21 million men, women, and children through corrupt networks every year.

Let’s be clear-eyed: Any fight against corruption will be long-term and difficult. It is a fight against powerful people, powerful companies, and powerful interests. It is about changing a mindset and a culture as much as it is about establishing and enforcing laws. As my colleagues and constituents know, my attention has long been focused on fighting corruption. I was proud to sponsor the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act with our late colleague Senator John McCain, an unwavering enemy of corruption throughout the globe. That bipartisan bill was enacted into law in late 2016, and I applaud the Trump administration for aggressively using the act to target human rights abusers and corrupt individuals around the globe who threaten the rule of law and deny fundamental freedoms, but the problem persists.

I want to briefly discuss something that is hard to capture in legislation. It is something that I grappled with when drafting this bill. It is something that perhaps, more than anything, will dictate if we win this struggle against corruption. That is bipartisan political will, which as so critical in advancing the Global Magnitsky Act. Global Magnitsky took several years to enact on an unprecedented scale as it was cumbersome for some in Congress. In fact, as some Obama administration officials, were concerned about the political and practical ramifications of the bill.

Another example of the impact of a lack of political will on fighting corruption is the story of this week, as we mourn the passing of our dear colleague, former Senator Richard Lugar. In 2010, Senator Lugar and I were able to get one of the most powerful anti-corruption and antipoverty laws enacted.

Senator Lugar and I worked on the bill that would become section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act, known as the “Cardin-Lugar provision,” for several years. Over the course of our tenures on Foreign Relations Committee, we had seen clear evidence that secrecy breeds corruption and that corruption can breed instability and perpetuate poverty in resource-rich countries. The Cardin-Lugar provision requires that foreign and domestic companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges and involved in oil, gas, and mineral resource extraction must publish the project-level payments they make to the foreign countries in which they operate. The enactment of this provision was a watershed moment in which the United States reclaimed its position as a leader in the effort to increase global accountability and transparency. It took 6 years for the Securities and Exchange Commission to finalize rule implementing the law—6 years. That is the length of a term of a U.S. Senator. It is college and a master’s degree. It took 6 years for the United States to act on this bill. It took that long because some people believed that less transparency is a good thing. Some groups believed that accountability should take a back seat to profitability. Unfortunately, the rule was repealed by Congress in February 2017.

Congress has a responsibility to reaffirm our bipartisan commitment to combatting corruption not only to honor the legacies of our late colleagues Senator Lugar and Senator
McCain. We also must act to show solidarity with the millions of brave human rights defenders, anti-poverty advocates, journalists, and investigators who put their lives at risk every day—and sometimes pay the ultimate price—to fight the scourge of corruption and impunity.

I am proud that last week Senator YOUNG and I, along with Senators LEAHY, RUBIO, BLUMENTHAL, and MERKLEY, reaffirm bipartisan political will to combat global corruption by reintroducing the Combating Global Corruption Act, S. 1309. Our bill makes clear that the United States must meet the scale of the problem of corruption with greater resolve and commitment.

To do that, our bill focuses on four things.

First, we must institutionalize the fight against corruption as a national priority. Our bill requires the State Department to produce an annual report to the Trafficking in Persons Report, which takes a close look at each country’s efforts to combat corruption. That model, which has effectively advanced the effort to combat modern day slavery, will similarly embed the issue of corruption in our collective efforts that we hold governments to account. This bill establishes minimum standards for combating corruption, standards that should be part and parcel of every government’s commitment to its citizens. These minimum standards include laws that recognize corrupt acts for the crimes they are—violations of the people’s trust—along with appropriate penalties for breaking that trust, whether a country has an independent judiciary for deciding corruption cases, free from influence and abuse, whether there is support for civil society organizations that are the watchdogs of integrity against would-be thieves of the state. This bill, hopefully, will build antidotes into the foundations of government action.

Second, in the United States, our whole-of-government effort must be better coordinated. Right now, we work across multiple agencies and in multiple offices to combat corruption. There is much information and many best practices that can be shared; we have got to do better at that and take advantage of those areas where we have been successful. The State Department, United States Agency for International Development have done great work, but the vast nature of the problem requires that we improve our ability to tackle it. In this bill, agencies and bureaus and our missions overseas will have to prioritize corruption into their strategic planning and an essential part of our foreign policy work, a step that I believe will foster greater cooperation.

Third, we must improve oversight of our own foreign assistance to promote transparency. The U.S. taxpayer has a right to know how our foreign assistance is being spent and also should feel confident that we are doing the kind of risk assessments, analysis, and oversight that ensure our assistance to other countries is having the effect we want it to have. Our bill consolidates information and puts it online, where citizens can see the numbers and the programs. That kind of transparency is key to an effective effort; experience has the effect of making us better at self-policing our work. We can use the data to capture redundancies and analyze trends, which I believe will make our decision-making better. The bill will encourage our foreign assistance programs overseas, maintaining the flexibility we need to meet our goals rapidly while also holding government to account.

In fact, it is a natural complement to the Foreign Assistance Transparency and Accountability Act, a bipartisan law Senator RUSINO and I cosponsored that looks at our foreign aid and seeks to ensure that our foreign assistance programs are tracked and evaluated adequately and appropriately. I am a believer in the power of example. This “one-two” punch of the Combating Global Corruption Act and the Foreign Assistance Transparency Act strengthens our foreign assistance policy, demonstrates that we hold ourselves to the highest standards, and shows other countries that we are committed to this fight.

Finally, we have to find ways to re-source anti-corruption work. Corruption has a cost to it, but unfortunately, we should look for ways to use seized assets and ill-gotten proceeds to build civil society capacity to fight corruption and make it easier to transfer these assets to the appropriate effort. We have also witnessed the damaging impact of corruption on our foreign assistance efforts. The Combating Global Corruption Act understands that corruption risk assessment before, during, and after the provision of foreign aid is integral to reducing and eliminating corruption. It holds U.S. foreign assistance and security assistance packages accountable to U.S. taxpayers by specifying transparency and accountability measures for the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the U.S. Agency for International Development to advance anti-corruption efforts in those countries where the U.S. administers foreign and security assistance.

As this bill moves forward, I urge my colleagues to find the political will to combat global corruption, ensure accountability, and keep our commitment to the best of American values.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon
such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19–06 concerning the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Bahrain for defense articles and services estimated to cost $2.478 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,
GREGORY M. KAUSNER,
(For Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant General, USA, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–06
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Bahrain.
(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment: $2.478 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Nine (9) M903 Launching Stations (LS).
Five (5) Antenna Mast Groups (AMG).
Three (3) Electrical Power Plants (EPP) III.
Two (2) AN/MPQ-65 Radar Sets (RS).
Two (2) AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control Stations (ECS).

Non-MDE:
- Also included is communications equipment, tools and test equipment, range and test programs, support equipment, prime movers, generators, publications and technical documentation, training equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training, Technical Assistance Field Team (TAFT), U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services, Systems Integration and Checkout (SICO), field office support and related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (BA–UKY).
(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: Secret.

*As defined in Section 47(b) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION
Bahrain—Patriot Missile System and Related Support and Equipment

The Government of Bahrain has requested to buy sixty (60) Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) missiles, thirty-six (36) Patriot MIM-104E Guidance Enhanced Missiles (GEM-T) missiles with canisters, nine (9) Other (M903) Launching Stations (LS), five (5) Antenna Mast Groups (AMG), three (3) Electrical Power Plants (EPP) III, two (2) AN/MPQ-65 Radar Sets (RS), and two (2) AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control Stations (ECS). Also included is communications equipment, tools and test equipment, range and test programs, support equipment, prime movers, generators, publications and technical documentation, training equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training, Technical Assistance Field Team (TAFT), U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services, Systems Integration and Checkout (SICO), field office support and related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is $2.478 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security interests of the United States by improving the security of a Major Non-NATO ally which is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East. This sale will support key U.S. initiatives to provide key allies in the region with modern systems that will enhance interoperability with U.S. forces and increase security.

The proposed sale will enhance Bahrain’s interoperability with the United States. Bahrain will use Patriot to improve its missile defense capability, defend its territory, integrity, and deter regional threats. Bahrain will have no difficulty absorbing this system into its armed forces.

The proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor for the PAC-3 Missile is Lockheed-Martin in Dallas, Texas. The prime contractor for the GEM-T missile is Raytheon Company in Andover, Massachusetts. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately 25 U.S. Government and 90 contractor representatives to travel to Bahrain for an extended period for equipment de-processing/fielding, system checkout, training, and technical and logistics support.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–06
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
- The Patriot Air Defense System contains classified CONFIDENTIAL hardware components, SECRET tactical software and critical/sensitive technology. Patriot ground support equipment and equipment sustaining missile hardware contain CONFIDENTIAL components and the associated launcher hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. The items requested represent significant technological advances for Bahrain. The Patriot Air Defense System continues to hold a significant technology lead over other surface-to-air missile systems in the world.

The Patriot sensitive/critical technology is primarily in the area of design and production know-how and primarily inherent in the design, development and/or manufacturing data related to certain components. The list of components is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

Information on system performance capabilities, effectiveness, survivability, missile seeker capabilities, select software/sofware documentation and test data are classified up to and including equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

5. A determination has been made that the Government of Bahrain can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Bahrain.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18–20, concerning the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Bahrain for defense articles and services estimated to cost $750 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,
CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.
Bahrain—Weapons to Support F-16 Block 70/F-16V Aircraft Fleet

The Government of Bahrain has requested to buy thirty-two (32) AIM-120C-7 AMRAAM missiles; twenty (20) AIM-9X Block II Harpoon missiles; two (2) AT-801-1 Block II Harpoon guidance sets; one (1) AIM-120C-7 Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) All-Up-Rounds; and forty (40) AIM-9J-150 Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) All-Up-Rounds.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of at least two (2) additional U.S. Government representatives to Bahrain.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

**POLICY JUSTIFICATION**

The AGM-88 is launched from the aircraft using a LAU–129 guided missile launcher. The AIM–9X is launched from the aircraft using a LAU–118A guided missile launcher and was recently designated as MDE. The AGM–88B is an air-to-air missile employing a hypersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept, guided missile featuring an advanced digital technology and miniature solid-state electronics. The missile employs an active radar seeker technology that is highly effective against low, medium, and high altitude targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying maneuvering targets. The AGM–88B all-up-round is classified CONFIDENTIAL, and technical data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

The AIM–120C–7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept, guided missile featuring advanced digital technology and passive microwave-solid state electronics. The missile employs an active radar seeker technology that is highly effective against low, medium, and high altitude targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying maneuvering targets. The AIM–120C–7 is classified CONFIDENTIAL, and technical data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRETS.

The AGM–88B High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARM) is an air-to-ground missile designed to destroy or suppress enemy radars used for air defense. HARM has wide frequency coverage, is target reprogrammable in flight, and has a reprogrammable threat library. Hardware and software for the system is classified SECRET and ballistics data is CONFIDENTIAL. The overall system classification is SECRETS.

The AIM–9X Sidewinder missile is an air-to-air guided missile that employs a passive infrared (IR) target acquisition system that features digital technology and miniature solid-state electronics. The AIM–9X is launched from the aircraft using a LAU–129 guided missile launcher. The AGM–88B is an air-to-air missile employing a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept, guided missile featuring advanced digital technology and miniature solid-state electronics. The missile employs an active radar seeker technology that is highly effective against low, medium, and high altitude targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying maneuvering targets. The AGM–88B all-up-round is classified CONFIDENTIAL, and technical data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.
The PW–II is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides on laser energy reflected off of the target. The PW–II is delivered like a normal general purpose warhead and the laser guidance and control hardware turns a normal free-fall weapon into the target. Laser designation for the weapon can be provided by a variety of laser target designators. The PW–II consists of a laser guidance computer control group and a warhead specific air foil group, that attach to the nose and tail of Mk 84, Mk 82 bomb or BLU-109. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and vulnerabilities-countermeasures are classified up to SECRET.

1. The GBU-12 is a 500 lb (BLU-111/B or Mk-82) guided bomb fitted with the MXU-650 airfoil and the MAU-109 or MAU-209 computer control group to guide to its laser-designated target.
2. The GBU-49 and GBU-50 are 500 lb/2000 lb Enhanced Paveway II (EP-2) dual mode laser and GPS guided munitions respectively. The GBU-49/50 uses airfoil groups similar to those used on the GBU-12 and GBU-10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

3. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon provides a day, night, and adverse weather standoff air-to-surface capability. Harpoon Block II is a follow on to the Harpoon missile, which is no longer in production. Harpoon Block II is an effective Anti-Surface Warfare missile. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon incorporates components, software, and technical design information that are considered sensitive. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon can be considered being proposed for sale that are considered sensitive and are classified CONFIDENTIAL and those used on the GBU–12 and GBU–10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

4. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon provides a day, night, and adverse weather standoff air-to-surface capability. Harpoon Block II is a follow on to the Harpoon missile, which is no longer in production. Harpoon Block II is an effective Anti-Surface Warfare missile. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon incorporates components, software, and technical design information that are considered sensitive. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon can be considered being proposed for sale that are considered sensitive and are classified CONFIDENTIAL and those used on the GBU–12 and GBU–10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

5. The AGM-154 Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) is a family of low-cost standoff weapons that are modular in design and incorporate either a sub-munition or a unitary warhead. The AGM-154A JSOW range from soft targets, such as troop concentrations, to hardened point targets like bunkers. The AGM-154C is a penetrator weapon that can be used by U.S and NATO forces.

6. GBU–49 and GBU–50 are 500 lb/2000 lb Enhanced Paveway II (EP-2) dual mode laser and GPS guided munitions respectively. The GBU-49/50 uses airfoil groups similar to those used on the GBU-12 and GBU-10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

7. GBU–31 and GBU–38 2000 lb/500 lb Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) is a guidance/aiming kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into precision-guided munitions. By adding a new tail section containing Inertial Navigation System (INS) guidance/GPS Positioning System (GPS) guidance to existing inventories of BLU-109, BLU-111 and BLU-117 or Mk-84 and Mk-82 bombs, the cost effective JDAM provides highly accurate weapon delivery in any “flyable” weather. The INS, using updates from the GPS, helps guide the bomb to the target via the use of movable tail fins. The JDAM guidance/aiming kit components are UNCLASSIFIED; technical data for JDAM is classified up to SECRET.

8. GBU–31 and GBU–38 2000 lb/500 lb Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) is a guidance/aiming kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into precision-guided munitions. By adding a new tail section containing Inertial Navigation System (INS) guidance/GPS Positioning System (GPS) guidance to existing inventories of BLU-109, BLU-111 and BLU-117 or Mk-84 and Mk-82 bombs, the cost effective JDAM provides highly accurate weapon delivery in any “flyable” weather. The INS, using updates from the GPS, helps guide the bomb to the target via the use of movable tail fins. The JDAM guidance/aiming kit components are UNCLASSIFIED; technical data for JDAM is classified up to SECRET.


10. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon provides a day, night, and adverse weather standoff air-to-surface capability. Harpoon Block II is a follow on to the Harpoon missile, which is no longer in production. Harpoon Block II is an effective Anti-Surface Warfare missile. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon incorporates components, software, and technical design information that are considered sensitive. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon can be considered being proposed for sale that are considered sensitive and are classified CONFIDENTIAL and those used on the GBU–12 and GBU–10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

11. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon provides a day, night, and adverse weather standoff air-to-surface capability. Harpoon Block II is a follow on to the Harpoon missile, which is no longer in production. Harpoon Block II is an effective Anti-Surface Warfare missile. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon incorporates components, software, and technical design information that are considered sensitive. The AGM-84L-1 Harpoon can be considered being proposed for sale that are considered sensitive and are classified CONFIDENTIAL and those used on the GBU–12 and GBU–10 for inflight maneuverability, and uses a MAU-219 Enhanced Computer Control Group. The “enhanced” component is the addition of GPS guidance to the laser seeker. This dual-mode guidance allows it to operate in all weather conditions. Weapons components are UNCLASSIFIED. Technical data and countermeasures/vulnerabilities are SECRET. The overall system classification is SECRET.

12. Software, hardware, and other data/information which is classified or sensitive, is reviewed prior to release to protect system vulnerabilities, design data, and performance parameters. Software, hardware, and other data identified above are classified at the CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET level. Potential compromise of these systems would result in management of the basic software programs of highly sensitive systems and software-controlled weapon systems on a case-by-case basis.

13. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures against the weapon system or to reduce its effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

14. A determination has been made that Bahrain can provide substantially the same benefits to be derived from this sale, as the placing of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

15. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Bahrain.

Mr. Risch. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales. Upon receipt of such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–223. There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

(iv) Military Department: Army (EZ-B-UEK).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None. 

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to Be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.


Czech Republic—UH-60M Black Hawk Helicopters


The proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO partner that is an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe. The proposed sale will support the Czech Republic's need for its own self-defense and support NATO defense goals.

The Czech Republic is considering either the UH-60M or the UH-1Y/AH-1Z to replace its aging Mi-24 helicopters. The Czech Republic intends to use these helicopters to modernize its armed forces and strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. This will contribute to the Czech Republic's military goal of updating its capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and NATO allies. The Czech Republic will have no difficulty absorbing these helicopters into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Sikorsky Aircraft Company, Stratford, Connecticut; and General Electric Aircraft Company (GEAC), Lynn, Massachusetts. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale may require the assignment of an additional three U.S. Government and five contractor representatives in country full-time to support the delivery and training for approximately two-five years.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–17

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The UH-60M aircraft is a medium lift four bladed aircraft which includes two (2) T-701D Engines. The aircraft has four (4) Multi-function Displays (MFD), which provides aircraft system, flight, mission, and communication management systems. The instrumentation panel includes four (4) Multi-function Displays (MFDs), two (2) Pilot and Co-Pilot Flight Director Panels, and two (2) Data Concentrator Units (DCUs). The Navigation System will have Embedded GPS/INS (EGIs), and two (2) Advanced Flight Control Computer Systems (AFFCS), which provide 4 axis aircraft control.
2. The H764-G EGI provides GPS and INS capabilities to the aircraft. The EGI will include Selective Availability anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) security modules to be used in conjunction with GPS (if required). The Embedded GPS/INS within the SAASM contains sensitive technology.

3. The Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System (APKWS), a low cost semi-active laser guidance kit developed by BAE Systems which is added to current unguided 70 mm rocket motors and warheads similar to and including the Hydra 70 rocket. It is a low collateral damage weapon that can effectively strike both soft and lightly armored targets. APKWS turns a standard unguided 2.75 in. rocket into a precision guided munition using laser-guided rocket, classification up to SECRET.

4. The AAR-57A Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) detects energy emitted by threat missile in-flight, evaluates potential false alarm emitters in the environment, declares validity of threat and selects appropriate counter-measures. The CMWS consists of an Electronic Control Unit (ECU), Electro-Optic Missile Sensors (EOMSs), and a Tactical Airline Radio System (SINCGARS), is classified SECRET. As the data rate adapter (DRA) combines a tactical airborne radio subsystem that provides communications between ground-based and/or surface interrogators and an Automatic Direction Finder (ADF) Receiver, it is a low frequency radio that provides automatic compass bearing on any radio signal within the frequency range of 100 to 2199.5 kHz as well as navigation where a commercial AM broadcast signal is the only available navigation aid.

5. The AN/ARC-231, Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF), Line-of-Sight (LOS) multi-channel, multimode, multi-processor, multi-function radio that provides automatic compass bearing and transmits and receives data over 2.006 MHz of the VHF band. The AN/ARC-231 also offers advanced communications features such as embedded Automatic Link Establishment (ALE), static tone data modem and anti jam (ECCM) functions that can be used for tactical rotary wing and fixed-wing applications. The AN/ARC-191, Automatic Direction Finder (ADF) Receiver, is a low frequency radio that provides automatic compass bearing on any radio signal within the frequency range of 100 to 2199.5 kHz as well as navigation where a commercial AM broadcast signal is the only available navigation aid.

6. The AN/AVR-2B Laser Detecting Set is a passive laser warning system that receives, processes, and displays threat information resulting from aircraft illumination by lasers on multifunctional display. The hardware is classified CONFIDENTIAL; releasable technical manuals for operation and maintenance are classified SECRET.

7. The AN/APR-39A Radar Signal Detecting Set is a system that provides warning of radar and its threat by analyzing the appropriate countermeasures. This is the 1553 databus compatible configuration. The software, once developed and encrypted, unless loaded on a User Data Module (UDM) for operation and maintenance are classified CONFIDENTIAL; releasable technical manuals for operation and maintenance are classified SECRET.

8. The AN/APX-123A, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponder, is a space diversity transponder and is installed on various military aircraft. When installed in conjunction with platform antennas and the Remote Control Unit (or other appropriate control unit), the transponder provides identification and surveillance by responding in response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based and/or surface interrogators. This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL; releasable technical data (technical performance) is classified SECRET.

9. The AVS-36/62 Night Vision Goggle is a lightweight binocular that can be mounted to a variety of aviator helmets. The binocular offers high reliability and performance and enables rotary-wing aviators to conduct and complete night operations during the darkest nights of the year. This item contains sensitive technology.

10. The AN/ARC-201D, Single Channel Ground to Air Radio System (SINCgars), is a tactical airborne radio subsystem that provides communications between ground and airborne radios. The integration of COMSEC and the Data Rate Adapter (DRA) combines three Line Replaceable Units into one and reduces overall weight of the aircraft. Performance capabilities, ECM/ECCM specification and Engineering Change Orders (ECOs) are classified CONFIDENTIAL; releasable technical manuals for operation and maintenance are classified SECRET. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Policy Justification. A determination has been made that the Czech Republic can receive the same degree of protection for the sensitive hardwar and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

22. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Policy Justification. A determination has been made that the Czech Republic can receive the same degree of protection for the sensitive hardwar and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon notification of proposed sales, the Senate shall have 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intent to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, Va.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 184-22 containing Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant General, USA, Director.
May 6, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S2639

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–34

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Czech Republic
(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
   Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
   Four (4) AH–1Z Attack Helicopters.
   Eight (8) T700–GE–701D Engines (installed).
   Eight (8) Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning Systems with Navigation (EGI) and Precise Positioning Service (PPS) (installed).
   Fourteen (14) AGM–114 Hellfire Missiles. Also included is communication equipment, electronic warfare systems, M197 20mm machine guns, Target Sight System, support equipment, spare engine containers, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.
   Military Department: Navy (EZ–P–S5F).
(iv) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.
(v) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annexed Annex.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annexed Annex.
(ix) Special Measures or Elements of program and technical reviews plus training and contractor representatives to participate in program and technical reviews plus training and maintenance support in country, on a temporary basis, for a period of twenty-four (24) months. It will also require three (3) years of maintenance support in country for a period of two (2) years to support this program.
(x) There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–34

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
   1. The AH–1Z Helicopter is a twin-engine attack helicopter developed for the United States Marine Corps. The AH–1Z incorporates new rotor technology with upgraded military avionics, weapons systems, and electro-optical sensors in an integrated weapons platform. It has improved survivability and can find targets at longer ranges and attack them with precision weapons. The four blades are made of composites, which have a spiral curve that increases survivability, and there is a semi-automatic folding system for stowage aboard amphibious assault ships.
   2. The Z-model has an integrated avionics system (IAS) which includes two (2) mission computers and an automatic flight control system. Each crew station has two (2) 8x8-inch multifunction crystal displays (LCD) and one (1) 4.2x4.2-inch dual function LCD display. The communications suite will have NON-COMSEC ARC 219 UHF/NPR radios with associated communications equipment. The navigation suite includes a Precise Positioning System (SPS) Honeywell embedded GPS inertial navigation system (EIGN), a digital map system, and a low-airspeed air data subsystem, which allows weapons delivery when hovering.
   3. The crew is equipped with the Optimized Top Owl (OTO) helmet-mounted sight and display system. The OTO has a Day Display Module (DDM) and a Night Display Module (NDM). The AH–1Z has survivability equipment including AN/AAR–47 Missile Warning and Laser Detection System, AN/ALE–47 Counter Measure Dispersing System (CMOS) and the AN/AAR–99 Radar Warning Receiver to cover countermeasure dispensers, radar warning, incoming/on-way missile warning and on-fuselage laser-spot warning systems.

   4. The following performance data and technical characteristics are classified as annexed:

   - AH–1Z Airframe:
     - Countermeasures capability .................................................... SECRET
     - Counter-countermeasures capability ........................................... SECRET
     - Vulnerability to electromagnetic pulse from nuclear environmental effects ........................................... SECRET
     - Radar signature ............................................................................. SECRET
     - Infrared signature ........................................................................... SECRET
     - Acoustic signature ........................................................................... CONTENS
     - Ultrasound signature ..................................................................... SECRET
     - Missile effectiveness against threats ............................................... CONFIDENTIAL
     - Target Sight System (TSS) ............................................................... CONFIDENTIAL
     - Target Air Moving Map Capability (TAMMAC).
     - Honeywell Embedded GPS & INS (EGI).
     - AN/MC–210 LT 195159A .................................................................Up to SECRET
     - APK–1224A IFF Transponder ...........................................................Up to SECRET

   - Other Systems:
     - Tactical Air Moving Map Capability (TAMMAC).
     - Other $25 million.

   5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might render weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

   6. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Policy Justification. A determination has been made that Czech Republic can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government.

   7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Czech Republic.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress be notified of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I am forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19–37 concerning the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19–37 concerning the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Arab Emirates for defense articles and services estimated to cost $2.728 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER, Lieutenant General, USA, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–37

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the United Arab Emirates
(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* $2.700 billion. Other $028 billion.

Total $2.728 billion.
1. The PATRIOT Air Defense System contains classified CONFIDENTIAL hardware components, SECRET tactical software and critical/sensitive technology. The Patriot Advanced Capability (PAC-3) Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) hardware is classified CONFIDENTIAL and the associated launcher hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. The PAC-3 MSE is an area, point, or time, high-priority, surface-to-air missile that provides critical air and missile defense by intercepting and destroying Tactical Ballistic Missiles (TBM), Air-Breathing Threats (ABT), cruise missiles, and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS).

2. The PAC-3 MSE sensitive/critical technology is primarily in the area of design and development of critical software, and the infrastructure to develop and manufacture the hardware that is used in the system. The list of components is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

3. Information on system performance capabilities, effectiveness, survivability, missile seeker capabilities, select software/software documentation and test data are classified up to and including SECRET.

4. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software information, it could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

5. A determination has been made that the Government of the UAE can provide substantial, significant degree of protection for the critical/sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the United Arab Emirates.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE USS “BILLINGS” COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the men and women of the USS Billings Commissioning Committee and their notable contributions to our State and Nation. The USS Billings Commissioning Committee is a group of volunteers from Montana’s largest city, who have dedicated themselves to promoting awareness and fostering support for the future commissioning of the USS Billings and all those who will sail aboard her in defense of our Nation.

Upon commissioning, the USS Billings will be the first U.S. Navy warship to bear the city’s namesake, a historic moment for our State. Montana has a proud heritage of military service. Some 134 Navy sailors of this pride will be honored during the commissioning of the USS Billings.

REMEMBERING DAMON J. KEITH

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the Honorable Damon J. Keith, a civil rights icon and one of the greatest jurists in our Nation’s history.

Judge Keith was born on July 4, 1922, in Detroit, to parents who had relocated from Atlanta so his father could work for $5 a day in a Ford Motor Company plant to create a better future for their family.

Judge Keith’s father encouraged him to attend college, and he went on to graduate from Western Michigan College, a historically Black college and university, in 1943. Upon graduation, he served his country in a segregated Army unit during World War II.

After his military service, he returned to Howard University Law School in 1949, passed the Michigan bar in 1950, married Dr. Rachel Boone in 1953, and received his master of laws degree from Wayne State University School of Law in 1966.

It was during his time at Howard when Judge Keith found a mentor in future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.
Justice Marshall told Judge Keith to “use the law as a means for social change.” That is precisely what Judge Keith did throughout the Civil Rights movement, standing up for justice and equal rights for all citizens.

He spent more than 20 years in private practice in Detroit. He served as a cochair of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission with John Feklens in 1964 and helped heal the community during and after the Detroit Uprising of 1967.

The nomination hearings of Lyndon B. Johnson nominated him to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Judge Keith, a grandson of slaves, would go on to serve more than 50 years on the Federal bench, becoming the longest serving Black judge in the nation.

Judge Keith gained national prominence for his ruling against President Nixon’s Attorney General John N. Mitchell in the United States v. Sinclair case. Judge Keith’s decision was later overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. It is now seen as a landmark decision upholding our Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches and seizures.

In 1968, Judge Keith ordered that Pontiac, MI, develop a new school bus policy. Shortly before the order took effect, five Ku Klux Klansmen firebombed 10 Pontiac school buses and threatened Judge Keith’s life.

But Judge Keith persisted, ruling in 1975 that the town of Hamtramck must provide new, affordable housing for 500 African Americans after they were displaced by federally supported urban renewal projects. He served as chief judge from 1975 through 1977.

While serving on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Judge Keith ruled against another President, this time President George W. Bush’s secret immigration hearings after 9/11.

Writing for a unanimous panel of judges, he coined the memorable phrase “democracies die behind closed doors,” which inspired the Washington Post’s motto: “Democracy Dies in Darkness.”

He remained active into his 90s. He issued a blistering dissent in a Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals voting rights case in 2016, in which the majority upheld extremely strict voting requirements in Ohio.

Above all, he was a patriot who deeply loved this country. One of his proudest roles was serving as the national chairman of the Commission on the Bi-centennial of the U.S. Constitution, when he led efforts to promote the documents our nation was built upon.

Over the years, he mentored countless lawyers, including Michigan’s Secretary of State Jocelyn P. Benson, circuit court Judge Eric L. Clay, and Lani Guinier, the first African-American woman to gain tenure at Harvard Law School.

Guinier, who served as Judge Keith’s law clerk, once said this: “Judge Keith has been my second father, someone who presided at my wedding, stood by me during some of the most difficult professional challenges of my life, and guided me with his wisdom,” she said. “And I am far from alone.”

“My deepest condolences go to his three daughters, Debbie Keith, Gilda Keith, and Cecile Keith Brown, his two granddaughters, and his many friends.”

**RECOGNIZING BUBBLES ICE CREAM PARLOR**

- **Mr. YOUNG.** Mr. President, as a member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my privilege to recognize an outstanding family-run small business who is providing Hoosiers with great jobs and good food, all while supporting their local community. In honor of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Small Business Week, it is my privilege to name Bubbles Ice Cream Parlor of Michigan City, IN, as the Senate Small Business of the Day.

Tim and Kim Martin founded Bubbles nearly 16 years ago and have been serving premium ice cream to Hoosiers ever since. Known for always serving delicious ice cream with a smile, Bubbles has become a community staple and a gathering place for the families of northwest Indiana.

Today, Tim and Kim’s son, Zach manages the ice cream parlor, where they employ many local high school students as ice cream scoopers. They serve 32 varieties of ice cream, milkshakes, sundaes, and pies. Recently, they have even started offering handmade donuts on weekend mornings. At Bubbles, you can always expect a delicious treat and a family-friendly atmosphere.

Bubbles is dedicated to more than just their delicious desserts. They are committed to giving back to their community. They are a sponsor of Michigan City High School, provide ice cream rewards to elementary students who reach various academic goals, and donate ice cream to local philanthropies.

These fantastic treats, friendly service, and community commitment have not gone unnoticed. Bubbles has been awarded the News-Dispatch’s Readers’ Choice Award for 9 consecutive years. They are a prime example of a small business’s ability to provide a great product, a welcoming smile, and a helping hand—all in a day’s work.

Small businesses are the backbone of local communities throughout Indiana. They provide dignified jobs to rural communities and support schools, charities, and nonprofits. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the Martin family and all of the employees at Bubbles Ice Cream Parlor for being named the Senate Small Business of the Day. I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.

**MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

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

**EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED**

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

**MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 9. An act to direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes.

**MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME**

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 9. An act to direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, 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–116. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Privacy of Consumer Financial Information—Amendment to Conform Regs to the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act” (H1N3388-AE08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2019, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

- A-1117. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting legislative proposals relating to the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

- EC–1118. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Acquisition
of Transportation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Conforming Amendments and Technical Corrections to Department Rules Implementing the Transportation Industry Technical Corrections to Department Rules Act, 2019" (RIN2105–AD78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1150. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 50 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XF895) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1151. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Bering Sea; Pollock in the West Yukatat District of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG839) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1152. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northern United States: Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Mid-Atlantic Scallop Access Area; 2018–2019 Commercial Trip Limit Reduction and South Atlantic; 2018–2019 Recreational Fishing Season for Black Sea Bass" (RIN0648–XG065) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1153. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Sablefish in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG159) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1154. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 50 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG893) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1155. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Bering Sea; 2018–2019 Confined Scallop Vessels; 2018–2019 Quota Scallop Vessels" (RIN0648–XG690) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1156. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Inseason Adjustment to the 2019 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pollock, Black Sea Bass and Pacific Herring Lowery Amendment 13 and 14 Fishery Target and Allowable Catch Amounts" (RIN0648–XG668) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1157. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Jig or Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648–XG190) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1158. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG973) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1159. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States: Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Mid-Atlantic Scallop Access Area; 2018–2019 Commercial Trip Limit Reduction and South Atlantic; 2018–2019 Recreational Fishing Season for Black Sea Bass" (RIN0648–XG065) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1160. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Re- lated to U.S. Air Force 86 Fighter Weapons System Evaluation Program at the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Kauai, Hawaii" (RIN0648–BG68) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1161. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG893) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1162. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska: Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Bering Sea; 2018–2019 Confined Scallop Vessels; 2018–2019 Quota Scallop Vessels" (RIN0648–XG690) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1163. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648–XG159) received in the Office of the President on May 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1166. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment Class E Airspace: Comanche, CO” (RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2018–09787) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1167. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment to Section 3843, Regulations of Class E Airspace: Richmond, IN” (RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0039) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1168. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment to Section 3845, Revocation of Class E Airspace: Brooksville, FL” (RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2019–00886) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1170. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3845” (RIN2120–AA66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1171. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3844” (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1172. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3845” (RIN2120–AA66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1173. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3844” (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORANDALS

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

POM–51. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review and consider eliminating provisions of federal law which reduce Social Security benefits for those receiving pension benefits from certain federal, state, or local government retirement employment or remuneration, or funds, to the Committee on Finance.

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana urges the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review and consider eliminating provisions of federal law which reduce Social Security benefits for those receiving pension benefits from certain federal, state, or local government retirement employment or remuneration, or funds, in order to make ends meet, but the earnings accumulated during reemployment in the public sector may further reduce the Social Security benefits the individual is entitled to; and

Whereas, the WEP and the GPO are established in federal law, and repeal or reduction of the WEP and the GPO can be enacted only by Congress, therefore, be it Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM–52. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the United States Congress to provide the United States citizens residing in Puerto Rico with equal treatment regarding the retirement age of non–Federal government employees working in lower-wage government jobs, like teachers, school workers, and state employees; and

Whereas, the number of people affected by the WEP and the GPO is growing as nearly ten thousand baby boomers attain retirement age each day; and

Whereas, individual drastically affected by the WEP and the GPO may have no choice but to return to work after retirement in order to make ends meet, the earnings accumulated during reemployment in the public sector may further reduce the Social Security benefits the individual is entitled to; and

Whereas, the WEP and the GPO are established in federal law, and repeal or reduction of the WEP and the GPO can be enacted only by Congress, therefore, be it Resolved, That the legislature of Puerto Rico hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), each of which reduces Social Security benefits and to consider eliminating or reducing them. Be it further Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the United States Senate and to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the legislature of Puerto Rico.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95

It is well known that on Monday, February 4, 2019, the Honorable Gustavo Gelpí, Judge of the Supreme Court of the District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, in the case of United States v. Richard M. U.S. citizen, presented to the Honorable Judge the motion to dismiss the case in which the U.S. citizen, moving to Puerto Rico said citizen lost his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit.
The SSI is a program available to aged, blind, and disabled people with low income, including children.

In United States v. Jose Luis Vaello Madero (Case No. 17-2193 (GAG)), the Federal Government commenced an action against Mr. Vaello to collect $28,000 in overpaid SSI benefits after he moved from New York to Puerto Rico. These monthly disability benefits were deposited directly into his New York bank account. The basis for said complaint was that the SSI program is not available to territories. Hence, the Government argued that Vaello had forfeited his right to receive SSI disability benefits after he moved to Puerto Rico and that he was liable for an overpayment.

Mr. Vaello, represented by a Court-appointed pro bono counsel, challenged the criminal statute used by the plaintiff as a basis for the civil action and attacked the constitutionality of denying SSI benefits to residents of Puerto Rico.

We agree with the Honorable Judge, Gustavo Gelpi, and the Honorable Resident Commissioner, Jenniffer Gonzalez, that excluding Puerto Rico from the SSI program is a violation of the equal protection guarantees of the Due Process Clause. In dismissing the claim filed by the plaintiff, Judge Gelpi cited the per curiam Supreme Court decision in Califano v. Torres, 446 U.S. 1–1976, and subsequently, in Harris v. Rosario, 446 U.S. 651–653, as the basis that allows the Federal Government to discriminate against the residents of Puerto Rico. Gelpi declared, "Congress [. . .] cannot demean and brand said United States citizen while in Puerto Rico with a stigma of inferior citizenship to that of his brethren nationwide," Gelpi stated in his opinion. (https://www.elnuevodia.com/noticias/tribunales/nota/juezdestaalmademandelasigobnfrderelaicountafrdantesenresidentedela-puertorico.html)

On February 4, the Honorable Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon, Resident Commissioner, introduced into Congress H.R. 947—Supplemental Security Income Equality Act, which seeks to extend the SSI program to the U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico. This was introduced also by Congress members of Puerto Rican descent, namely, Jose' Serrano, Darren Soto, and Nydia Velazquez, as well as the delegate of the Virgin Islands, the American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. The Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico supports this bipartisan effort in the U.S. Congress and, therefore, requests Congress to pass said bill, or a similar version that guarantees the same rights to all U.S. citizens during this session.

We deeply believe that the constitutional rights of equal protection and due process of law must apply to U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico. For all of the foregoing reasons, we request the Congress, through this Concurrent Resolution, to pass legislation and recognize the claim for social justice and equal treatment before the law of the over three million Puerto Ricans who are U.S. citizens.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—To request the Congress of the United States of America to pass legislation that provides for equal treatment for the United States citizens residing in Puerto Rico regarding the right to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI); and for other related purposes.

Section 2.—The Congress is hereby ordered that a copy of this Concurrent Resolution translated into English be delivered to the leadership of the Congress of the United States of America.

Section 3.—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect upon its approval.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 375. A bill to improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide improper payments, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–35).

By Mr. BARRASSO, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Report to accompany S. 1061, a bill to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–36).

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 327. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the credit for production of refined coal; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 339. A bill to designate foreign persons who properly intend to vote in United States elections as inadmissible aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. UDALL, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MEEKLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 329. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution in Indian tribes and tribal organizations and to increase amounts reserved for allotment to Indian tribes and tribal organizations under certain circumstances, and to provide for a Government Accountability Office report on child abuse and neglect in American Indian tribal communities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 130. A bill to amend the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to clarify whistleblower rights and protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 131. A bill to provide additional protections for our veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 132. A bill to set forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2029; read the first time.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. POMMerot, Mr. KING, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 133. A bill to amend the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012, including making changes to the Do Not Pay Initiative, for improved detection, prevention, and recovery of improper payments to deceased individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 134. A bill to authorize a program to promote innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate care for individuals presenting at emergency departments with acute mental health illnesses; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. INHOPE, Mr. SASSE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. PAUL):

S. 135. A bill to eliminate the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CRAZER, Ms. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. Res. 190. A resolution promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2019, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GILDERE, Mr. HIRONO, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. ROYSEN, Ms. ROYSEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. REED, Mr. CRAZER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. KING, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. CAPITO, Mr. PETERS, Ms. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRAPAO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. ENZI, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. JOHN-SON, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 191. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of May 5 through May 11, 2019, as "National Small Business Week" and commending the entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners in the United States and the impact that small business owners have on their communities; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 164, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to remove the prohibition of the Civilian Health and Medical Care Open Access Program for TRICARE Reserve selectees of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 59 of title 5, United States Code.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAZER) 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.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 436, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the development of public transportation operations safety risk reduction programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Connecticut (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 506, a bill to support State, Tribal, and local efforts to remove access to firearms from individuals who are a danger to themselves or others pursuant to court orders for this purpose.

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAZER) were added as cosponsors of S. 546, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require the development of medical home programs for individuals with autism spectrum disorder, and to modify the requirements for such programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 756, a bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to require certain agencies to develop scientific integrity policies, and for other purposes.
At the request of Mr. Daines, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. Blackburn) was added as a cosponsor of S. 802, a bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Boozman, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) was added as a cosponsor of S. 833, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to participant votes on the suspension of benefits under multimember plans in critical and declining status.

At the request of Mr. Cornyn, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Scott), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) were added as cosponsors of S. 846, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to limit certain rolling stock procurements, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. Shaheen, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Rounds) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) were added as cosponsors of S. 858, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to provide blood testing for firefighters of the Department of Defense to determine potential exposure to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Markey, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 861, a bill to establish in the Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, an Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. Hassan, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Reed) were added as cosponsors 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.

At the request of Ms. Hirono, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. Harris), the Senator from New York (Ms. Gillibrand), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Merkley) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal) were added as cosponsors of S. 869, a bill to reduce the disparity in impact of climate change on women and support the efforts of women globally to address climate change, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Van Hollen, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. Hirono) was added as a cosponsor of S. 879, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Grassley, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 888, a bill to require a standard financial aid offer form, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Durbin, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 894, a bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

At the request of Mr. Sasse, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer) was added as a cosponsor of S. 909, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, with respect to the judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions.

At the request of Mr. Brown, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. Hyde-Smith) were added as cosponsors of S. 954, a bill to provide grants to State, local, territorial, and Tribal law enforcement agencies to purchase and train personnel to use chemical screening devices in order to enhance law enforcement efficiency and protect law enforcement officers.

At the request of Mrs. Capito, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) 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.

At the request of Ms. Warren, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to recognize and honor the service of individuals who served in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Peters, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1004, a bill to increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

At the request of Mr. Cramer, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) were added as cosponsors of S. 1007, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1102, a bill to promote security and energy partnerships in the Eastern Mediterranean, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. Capito, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Hoeven) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) were added as cosponsors of S. 1126, a bill to provide better care for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their caregivers, while accelerating progress toward prevention strategies, disease modifying treatments, and, ultimately, a cure.

At the request of Mr. Daines, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. Blackburn) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1149, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income.

At the request of Mr. Daines, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. Jones) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

At the request of Mrs. Murray, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. Jones) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Enzi, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs.
FISCHER) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 1139

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1190, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1246

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1247, a bill to extend the protections of the Fair Housing Act to persons suffering discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and for other purposes.

S. 1247

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1247, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes.

S. 1251

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to improve and coordinate interagency Federal actions and provide assistance to States for responding to public health challenges posed by emerging contaminants, and for other purposes.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to review the termination characterization of former members of the Department of State who were fired by reason of the sexual orientation of the official, and for other purposes.

S. 1254

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1254, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to review and report on certain laws, safety measures, and technologies relating to the illegal passing of school buses, and for other purposes.

S. 1255

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1288, a bill to require certifications and reporting in an unclassified form related to the national security implications of the new START Treaty, to provide for arms limitations in the event of the Treaty’s non-renewal, and for other purposes.

S. J. RES. 11

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. J. Res. 11, a joint resolution to prohibit the unauthorized use of United States Armed Forces in hostilities with respect to Venezuela.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPAN) 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. 128

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 135, a resolution expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the acts of heroism and valor by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending the individuals for leadership and bravery in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II.

S. RES. 143

At the request of Mr. Cramer, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 143, a resolution recognizing Israeli-American culture and heritage and the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States.

S. RES. 179

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 179, a resolution recognizing widening threats to freedoms of the press and expression around the world, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2019.

S. RES. 183

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 183, a resolution reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 194

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 184, a resolution condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 188, a resolution encouraging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 199

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 189, a resolution condemning all forms of antisemitism.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1328

A bill to designate foreign persons who improperly interfere in United States elections as inadmissible aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1328

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Defending Elections against Trolls from Enemy Regimes Act” or “DETER Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINED TERM.

Section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(53) The term ‘improper interference in a United States election’ means conduct by an alien that—

“(A)(i) violates Federal criminal, voting rights, or campaign finance law; or

“(ii) is under the direction of a foreign government; and

“(iii) interferes with a general or primary Federal, State, or local election or caucus, including—

“(I) the campaign of a candidate; and

“(ii) a ballot measure, including—

“(I) an amendment;

“(II) a bond issue;

“(III) an initiative;

“(IV) a recall;

“(V) a referral; and

“(VI) a referendum.”.

Mr. glasses (Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. GRASSLEY):
Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native babies are 70 percent more likely to die from accidental deaths before their first birthday than non-Hispanic White babies;
Whereas American Indian and Alaska Natives have a rate of 1.5 times the infant mortality rate as that of non-Hispanic Whites;
 Whereas, for more than half a century, every President has proclaimed a week celebrating the significance of small businesses across the United States; 
 Whereas, are more than 30,200,000 small businesses in the United States; 
 Whereas, small businesses in the United States—
 (1) employ nearly ½ of the workforce of the United States; 
 (2) constitute 99.9 percent of all employers in the United States; 
 (3) produce ½ of all goods exported from the United States; 
 (4) account for nearly ¼ of private-sector output; 
 (5) employ veterans, with veterans constituting 8.3 percent of all small business owners in the United States; and 
 (6) are becoming more diverse, with women-owned and minority-owned firms leading small business startups; 
 Whereas, on July 30, 1953, Congress created the Small Business Administration to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the small business community; 
 Whereas, 2 of every 3 new jobs are created by small businesses; and 
 Whereas, the President designated the week of May 5 through May 11, 2019, as ‘‘National Small Business Week’’; 
 (1) supports increasing consumer awareness of the value and opportunity small businesses bring to their local communities. 

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED
SA 249. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 12, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2024; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS
SA 249. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 12, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2024; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2020 and that this Act sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2024.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2020.

TITLE I—SENSE OF CONGRESS
Sec. 1001. Sense of Congress regarding socialism.

TITLE II—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS
Subtitle A—Budgetary Levels in Both Houses
Sec. 2101. Recommended levels and amounts.

 Sec. 2102. Major functional categories.

Sec. 2201. Social Security in the Senate.
Sec. 2202. Federal police discretionary administrative expenses in the Senate.

TITLE III—RECONCILIATION
Sec. 3001. Reconciliation in the Senate.

TITLE IV—RESERVE FUNDS
Sec. 4001. Deficit reduction fund for efficiency, consolidations, and other savings.
Sec. 4002. Reserve fund relating to health savings accounts.

TITLE V—BUDGET PROCESS
Sec. 5001. Voting threshold for points of order.
Sec. 5002. Emergency legislation.
Sec. 5003. Enforcement of allocations.
Sec. 5004. Enforcement of unallotted funds.
Sec. 5005. Duplication determinations.
Sec. 5006. Breakdown of cost estimates.
Sec. 5007. Sense of the Senate on treatment of reduction of appropriations levels to achieve savings.
Sec. 5008. Prohibition on preemptive waivers.
Sec. 5009. Adjustments for legislation reducing appropriations.
Sec. 5101. Authority.
Sec. 5102. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

(1) FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:
(A) New budget authority, $689,163,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $662,613,000,000.

(2) BUDGET OUTLAYS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:
Fiscal year 2020: $3,478,880,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $3,435,880,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $3,464,740,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $3,498,130,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $3,527,180,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $3,552,140,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $3,573,050,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $3,589,310,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $3,591,990,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $3,593,740,000,000.

(3) PUBLIC DEBT.—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(a)(5)), the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:
Fiscal year 2020: $22,929,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $24,091,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $25,456,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $26,841,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $27,839,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $28,809,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $29,763,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $30,730,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $31,650,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $32,311,000,000,000.

(4) DEFICITS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:
Fiscal year 2020: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $2,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $2,000,000,000.

FISCAL YEAR 2020

(a) NATIONAL DEFENSE (050).—New budget authority, $657,233,000,000.
(b) Outlays, $657,233,000,000.

(a) NATIONAL DEFENSE (050).—New budget authority, $672,853,000,000.
(b) Outlays, $662,616,000,000.

(a) NATIONAL DEFENSE (050).—New budget authority, $688,163,000,000.
(b) Outlays, $678,238,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $78,281,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $78,281,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $76,308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $76,308,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $74,336,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $74,336,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $72,364,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $72,364,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $70,392,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,392,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $68,420,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $68,420,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $66,448,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $66,448,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $64,476,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $64,476,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,572,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $28,587,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,124,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $29,191,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,223,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
(A) New budget authority, $973,965,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $134,111,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $135,010,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $132,574,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $130,314,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
(Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $73,088,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,142,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $66,977,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,505,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $68,811,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $72,425,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $70,786,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,619,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $72,611,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,749,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $74,406,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $74,275,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $76,003,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,343,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(Fiscal year 2029:
(Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2022:
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2023:
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2024:
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2025:
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.
(Fiscal year 2026:
(Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $42,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,275,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $640,420,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $640,420,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $739,300,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $739,300,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $819,500,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $819,500,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $889,540,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $889,540,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $956,160,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $956,160,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $1,023,210,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,023,210,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $1,086,740,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,086,740,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $1,140,110,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,140,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $1,191,330,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,191,330,000,000.
Subtitle B—Levels and Amounts in the Senate
SEC. 2201. SOCIAL SECURITY IN THE SENATE.
(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:
Fiscal year 2020: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $1,341,590,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $1,341,590,000,000.
(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:
Fiscal year 2020: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $912,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $912,190,000,000.
PSCAL year 2025: (a) New budget authority, $39,000,000. (b) Outlays, $389,000,000. Fiscal year 2026: (a) New budget authority, $402,000,000. (b) Outlays, $402,000,000.

PSCAL year 2027: (a) New budget authority, $145,000,000. (b) Outlays, $415,000,000.

PSCAL year 2028: (a) New budget authority, $229,000,000. (b) Outlays, $242,000,000.

PSCAL year 2029: (a) New budget authority, $445,000,000. (b) Outlays, $442,000,000.

TITile III—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 3001. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

(a) D EFINITION.—In this section, the term "covere point of order" means a point of order under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632 et seq.), that provision if it designates any item as an emergency requirement pursuant to this section, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement under this section, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement.

(b) V OTING THRESHOLD.—In the Senate—

(1) a covered point of order may be waived only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn;

(2) an affirmative vote of five-eighths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a covered point of order.

TITile V—BUDGET PROCESS


(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "point of order" means a point of order under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632 et seq.), and amendments made by any Senator pursuant to this section.

(b) EXEMPTION OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS.—Any new budget authority, outlays, and receipts resulting from any provision designated as an emergency requirement, pursuant to this section, in any bill, joint resolution, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report if a point of order is made by a Senator against an emergency designation in that measure, that provision making such a designation shall be stricken from the measure and may be offered as an amendment from the floor.

(c) DESIGNATIONS.—If a provision of legislation is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to this section, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement under this section, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement.

(d) POINT OF ORDER.—(1) In the Senate, a reconciliation bill carrying out all such recommendations, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement.

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—

TITile IV—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 4001. DEFICIT REDUCTION FUND FOR EFFECTIVENESS, CONSOLIDATIONS, AND OTHER APPROPRIATIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the agreement of a bill, joint resolution, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report if a point of order is made by a Senator against an emergency designation in that measure, that provision making such a designation shall be stricken from the measure and may be offered as an amendment from the floor.

(1) In the Senate, a reconciliation bill carrying out all such recommendations, the committee recommending any provision is an emergency requirement.

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—(A) WAIVER.—(B) APPEALS.—
(B) sudden, quickly coming into being, and not building up over time; (C) an urgent, pressing, and compelling need requiring immediate action; (D) unforeseen, unpredictable, and unanticipated; and (E) not permanent, temporary in nature.

2. UNFORESEEN.—An emergency that is part of a level of anticipated emergencies, particularly when normally estimated in advance, is not unforeseen.

3. INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, section 412 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 1981, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, shall no longer apply.

SEC. 5003. ENFORCEMENT OF ALLOCATIONS, AGREEMENTS, AND OVERLAPping CREATION OR OVERLAPPING CREATED BY THE COVERED LEGISLATION.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—During each of fiscal years 2020 through 2029, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would cause the amount of new budget authority, outlays, or deficits to be more than, or would cause the amount of revenues to be less than, the amount set forth under any allocation, aggregate, or other level established under this resolution.

(b) APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of five-eighths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of nine-tenths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

SEC. 5004. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION PROVIDING FUNdING WITHIN MORE THAN 3 SUBALLOCATIONS UNDER SECTION 302(b).

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that appropriates amounts that are within more than 3 of the suballocations under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(b)).

(b) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of five-eighths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of five-eighths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

SEC. 5005. DUPLICATION DETERMINATIONS BY THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered legislation” means a bill or resolution of a public character reported by any committee of the Senate.

(b) DUPLICATION DETERMINATIONS BY THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE.—Any estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office under section 432 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(b)) for covered legislation shall include an analysis that includes—

1. a determination of whether the covered legislation creates any new Federal program, office, or initiative that would duplicate or overlap with any existing Federal entity with similar mission, purpose, goals, or activities; and

2. a listing of all such instances of duplication or overlapping created by the covered legislation.

SEC. 5006. BREAKDOWN OF COST ESTIMATES BY BUDGET FUNCTION.

Any cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office shall specify the percentage of the estimated cost that is within each budget function.

SEC. 5007. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON TREATMENT OF REDUCTION OF APPROPRIATIONS LEVELS TO ACHIEVE SAVINGS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1. The CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653) for covered legislation creates any new Federal program, and the language in the reconciliation instructions to change entitlement law and “to report changes in laws within the jurisdiction of that committee sufficient to reduce appropriations levels so as to achieve savings”.

2. This was understood to mean changes in authorization language of discretionary programs would be permissible under reconciliation procedures provided such changes in law would have the result in affecting a change in later outlays derived from future appropriations. Further it was understood that a change in authorization language that caused a change in later outlays was considered to be a change in outlays for the purpose of reconciliation.

3. On April 2, 1981, the Senate voted 88 to 10 to approve S. Con. Res. 9 with the modified reconciliation language.

(b) SENATE FLOOR PRACTICES.—It is the sense of the Senate that committees reporting changes in laws within the jurisdiction of that committee sufficient to reduce appropriations levels so as to achieve savings shall be considered to be changes in outlays for the purpose of enforcing the prohibition on extraneous matters in reconciliation bills.

SEC. 5008. PROHIBITION ON PREEMPTIVE WAIVERS.

In the Senate, it shall not be in order to move to waive or suspend a point of order under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) or any concurrent resolution on the budget with respect to a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report unless the point of order has been specifically rejected by a Senator.

SEC. 5009. AUTHORITY TO IMPAIR LEGISLATION REDUCING APPROPRIATIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations provided under section 302(b)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) and the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriations in this resolution by bill or joint resolution considered pursuant to section 3001 containing the recommendations of one or more committees, or for one or more aggregate amounts as to, a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to such a bill or joint resolution, by the amounts necessary to accommodate the reduction in the amount of discretionary appropriations for a fiscal year caused by the measure.

SEC. 5010. AUTHORITY.

Congress adopts this title under the authority under section 301(b)(4) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(b)(4)).

SEC. 5011. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

1. as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

2. with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2019 AS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committees be discharged from the further consideration of S. Res. 162 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 162) supporting the designation of April 2019 as “National Donate Life Month”.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

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. 162) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, was printed in the RECORD of April 11, 2019, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 190, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 190) promoting minority health awareness and supporting the
goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2019, which includes bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 191) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that 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 preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 191) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The preamble was agreed to.

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 bills by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 191) to set forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

A bill (H.R. 9) to direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, 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. The objection is heard.

The bills will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 7; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Bianco nomination; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count post cloture on the Bianco nomination.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PHILIP S. GOLDBERG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER AMBASSADOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA.

JESSICA E. LAPENN, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER AMBASSADOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE AFRICAN UNION, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

THE JUDICIARY

### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

**MAY 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Department of Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of Defense.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine new entrants in the national airspace, focusing on policy, technology, and security issues for Congress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-G50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Environment and Public Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Civil Works program.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Foreign Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2020 for the United States Agency for International Development.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SD-418</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**MAY 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy’s atomic defense activities and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Special Committee on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine the Older Americans Act, focusing on protecting and supporting seniors as they age.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>SD-562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAY 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, and Eoin Toro, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-215</td>
</tr>
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**MAY 20**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jeffrey Vincent Brown, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana, Brantley Starr, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Brantley Starr, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, and Jeffrey A. Rosen, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Timothy J. Downing, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma, William Travis Brown, Jr., to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Louisiana, and Michael Blaine East, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina, all of the Department of Justice.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SD-226</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAY 22**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Select Committee on Intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SH-219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAY 21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee/Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the sub-committee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SR-232A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES
- This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
- Matter set in **this typeface** indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
11 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower  
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.  
SR–232A

2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Personnel  
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.  
SD–G50

3:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities  
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.  
SR–232A

MAY 23

12 noon  
Committee on Armed Services  
SR–222

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 8

2:30 p.m.  
Committee on the Budget  
To hold hearings to examine fixing a broken budget process, focusing on lessons from states.  
SD–608
Monday, May 6, 2019

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2625–S2656

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1320–1335, and S. Res. 190–191. Pages S2645–46

Measures Reported:

S. 375, to improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide improper payments. (S. Rept. No. 116–35)

Report to accompany S. 1061, to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. (S. Rept. No. 116–36)

S. 210, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities. (S. Rept. No. 116–37)

Measures Passed:

National Donate Life Month: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 162, supporting the designation of April 2019 as “National Donate Life Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S2645

National Minority Health Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 190, promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2019, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders. Pages S2655–56

National Small Business Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 191, supporting the designation of the week of May 5 through May 11, 2019, as “National Small Business Week” and commending the entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners in the United States and the impact that small business owners have on their communities. Page S2656


During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 95), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Page S2631

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, May 7, 2019; and that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the nomination. Page S2656

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia.

Jessica E. Lapenn, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

Andrea L. Hertzfeld, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years. Page S2656

Messages from the House:

Pages S2641

Executive Communications:

Pages S2641–44

Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S2644–45

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2646–48

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2648–49

Additional Statements:

Pages S2640–41

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2650–55

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—95) Page S2631

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:53 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2656.)
Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)
No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action
The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

Committee Meetings
No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–192.


Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine privacy rights and data collection in a digital economy, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine implementing the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on making electronic health information available to patients and providers, part II, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine agencies early public engagement and retrospective review, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dale Cabaniss, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Michael Eric Wooten, of Virginia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine intellectual property and the price of prescription drugs, focusing on balancing innovation and competition, 10 a.m., SD–226.

House
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of the Interior, 3 p.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2157, the “Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019”; and H.R. 986, the “Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act of 2019”, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD
Week of May 7 through May 10, 2019

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, post-cloture.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: May 7, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–192.


May 8, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD–192.
May 8, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: May 8, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy’s atomic defense activities and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2020, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 7, to hold hearings to examine privacy rights and data collection in a digital economy, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: May 8, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, and Emin Toro, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

May 9, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, and Emin Toro, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: May 8, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Civil Works program, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: May 8, to hold hearings to examine Medicare physician payment reform after two years, focusing on Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act implementation and the road ahead, 10:15 a.m., SD–215.

May 9, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, and Emin Toro, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: May 8, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2020 for the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: May 7, to hold hearings to examine implementing the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on making electronic health information available to patients and providers, part II, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 7, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine agencies early public engagement and retrospective review, 10 a.m., SD–342.

May 7, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dale Cabaniss, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Michael Eric Wooten, of Virginia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: May 8, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2020 for Indian programs, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 7, to hold hearings to examine intellectual property and the price of prescription drugs, focusing on balancing innovation and competition, 10 a.m., SD–226.

May 8, Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration, to hold hearings to examine the humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

May 9, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 998, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to expand support for police officer family services, stress reduction, and suicide prevention, S. 1231, to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, S. 1208, 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, S. 1328, to designate foreign persons who improperly interfere in United States elections as inadmissible aliens, S. 1321, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interference with voting systems under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, and the nominations of Jeffrey Vincent Brown, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Robert J. Colville, and Stephanie L. Haines, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Brantley Starr, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, and Jeffrey A. Rosen, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Timothy J. Downing, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma, William Travis Brown, Jr., to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Louisiana, and Michael Blaine East, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 9, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: May 8, to hold hearings to examine the Older Americans Act, focusing on protecting and supporting seniors as they age, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, May 9, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing entitled “Reviewing the State of the Farm Economy”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, May 8, Full Committee, markup on the Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2020; and the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

May 9, Full Committee, markup on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2020; and the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, May 8, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “FY20 Priorities for Missile Defense and Missile Defeat Programs”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 9, Full Committee, markup on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2020; and the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Appropriations, May 8, Full Committee, markup on the Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2020; and the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 7, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2020 for Indian programs, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 7, to hold hearings to examine intellectual property and the price of prescription drugs, focusing on balancing innovation and competition, 10 a.m., SD–226.

May 8, Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration, to hold hearings to examine the humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: May 7, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request for Military Readiness”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, May 8, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2480, the “Stronger Child
Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.


May 9, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, hearing entitled “The Cost of Non-Completion: Improving Student Outcomes in Higher Education”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.


May 9, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Lowering Prescription Drug Prices: Deconstructing the Drug Supply Chain”, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

May 9, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2020 DOE Budget”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, May 8, Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance, hearing entitled “A Review of the State of and Barriers to Minority Homeownership”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, May 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Smart Competition: Adapting U.S. Strategy Toward China at 40 Years”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 8, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism, hearing entitled “Opportunities and Challenges in U.S. Relations with the Gulf States”, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 8, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Non-proliferation, hearing entitled “China's Growing Influence in Asia and the United States”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

May 9, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade, hearing entitled “Dollar Diplomacy or Debt Trap? Examining China’s Role in the Western Hemisphere”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 9, Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment, hearing entitled “China’s Expanding Influence in Europe and Eurasia”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

May 9, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism, hearing entitled “Chinese and Russian Influence in the Middle East”, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.


May 9, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery; and Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability, joint hearing entitled “FEMA Contracting: Reviewing Lessons Learned from Past Disasters to Improve Preparedness”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.


Committee on House Administration, May 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Election Security”, 2 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 8, Full Committee, markup on Committee Report for Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find William P. Barr, Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.


Committee on Natural Resources, May 8, Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 417, to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish measures to combat invasive lionfish, and for other purposes; H.R. 1023, the “Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act of 2019”; H.R. 1218, the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act”; H.R. 1240, the “Young Fishermen’s Development Act of 2019”; H.R. 1314, the “Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act Amendments of 2019”; H.R. 1978, the “Driftner Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act”; H.R. 2189, the “Digital Coast Act”; H.R. 2405, the “National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2019”; H.R. 2406, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.


May 9, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing entitled “Wildfire Resilient Communities”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, May 8, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 391, the “White House Ethics Transparency Act”; H.R. 2003, the “Ensuring Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) Coverage During Shutdowns Act”; H.R. 2004, the “Ensuring Federal Employees Dental/Vision Program (FEDVIP) and
Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) Coverage During Shutdowns Act”; and a postal naming measure, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 8, Subcommittee on “National Security Hearing on Veteran and Active-Duty Military Suicides”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Trump Administration’s Response to the Drug Crisis, Part II”, 11 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, May 8, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “A Review of the National Science Foundation FY 2020 Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.


May 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Achieving the Promise of a Diverse STEM Workforce”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, May 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Honoring the Nation’s Small Business Heroes”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

May 9, Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “The Digital Ecosystem: New Paths to Entrepreneurship”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, May 8, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2440, the “Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act”; H.R. 1984, the “DISASTER Act”; H.R. 2502, the “Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act of 2019”; and General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

May 8, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “The Cost of Doing Nothing: Maritime Infrastructure Vulnerabilities in an Emerging Arctic”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, May 8, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 299, the “Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019”; H.R. 712, the “VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2019”; H.R. 2191, the “Veterans Cannabis Use for Safe Healing Act”; H.R. 2385, to permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program; H.R. 1988, the “Protect Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act”; H.R. 2372, the “Veterans’ Care Quality Transparency Act”; H.R. 2340, the “FIGHT Veteran Suicides Act”; H.R. 2359, the “Whole Veteran Act”; H.R. 2333, the “Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act”; H.R. 1126, the “Honoring Veterans Families Act”; H.R. 2045, the “VET OPP Act”; H.R. 1200, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act”; H.R. 1199, the “VA Website Accessibility Act”; H.R. 95, the “Homeless Veteran Families Act”; H.R. 2109, the “BRAVE Act”; H.R. 2196, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reduce the credit hour requirement for the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 2326, the “Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William Bill Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2019”; H.R. 2398, the “Veteran HOUSE Act”; H.R. 2399, the “Home for Our Heroes Act of 2019”; H.R. 1812, the “Veter Center Eligibility Expansion Act”; H.R. 1947, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 75 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

May 9, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity; and Subcommittee on Technology and Modernization, joint hearing entitled “Examining Ongoing Forever GI Bill Implementation Efforts”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Ways and Means, May 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Paid Family and Medical Leave: Helping Workers and Employers Succeed”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

May 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Understanding the Tax Gap and Taxpayer Noncompliance”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, May 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2020 National Security Program Budget Request”, HVC–304. This hearing is closed.

May 9, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Warfighter Support, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2020 Defense Intelligence Agency and Military Services Budget Request Hearing”, 9 a.m., HVC–304. This hearing is closed.


Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: May 9, to receive a briefing on the state of institutional resilience and political context for the election of Volodymyr Zelenskiy as Ukraine’s next president, 2 p.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, May 7

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, post-cloture.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Tuesday, May 7

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.