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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 13, 2019, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives
FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DEUTCH).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, May 10, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THEODORE E. DEUTCH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Thomas E. Leuther, Family Worship Center, Columbia, Missouri, offered the following prayer:

Gracious and Heavenly Father, creator of Heaven and Earth, we come to You, the author and the finisher of our faith, knowing that the work You have started in us as individuals and a nation You are well able to complete.

We pray for all appointed and elected officials to receive Your wisdom to lead and guide our Nation. We pray a hedge of protection around every member of the armed services, as well as this land, territories, and allies.

We pray for a special grace for the families and loved ones that are separated from those who are serving abroad. We ask that You lead us to become a nation that is known and demonstrates love and tolerance towards all mankind.

We humbly ask for peace of mind, health for our bodies, and strength to carry out Your plans and will. We pray Your kingdom come, Your will be done, in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on approving the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. BRINDISI 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.

WELCOMING DR. THOMAS E. LEUTHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege and a personal blessing to recognize my friend and today’s guest chaplain, Dr. Tom Leuther, and to welcome him to the United States House of Representatives.

Dr. Leuther is the pastor and founder of the Family Worship Center, alongside his wife, Vicki, in Columbia, Missouri. Together, they minister hope to hundreds of families and provide a Christ-centered education to children from kindergarten through eighth grade at the Family Worship Center Academy, which they established in 1997.

Pastor Leuther has been a leader throughout his life, attaining his Eagle Scout badge in 1973 and his doctorate of pastoral theology in 2010. He is well respected in the community and is a sought-after speaker nationwide.

I have been blessed to get to know Dr. Leuther and Vicki over the past several years. They are truly a special couple. I appreciate their love of the...
Lord, love of the families in their community, and love of our country.

I am thankful that Pastor Leuther could be with us today, and I know that the Lord will bless us as a result of his prayer. May the Lord continue to bless this caring leader and the entire congregation at the Family Worship Center.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING L. FRANK BAUM

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

Mr. BRINDISI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor L. Frank Baum, author and creator of “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,” on the 100th anniversary of his death.

Baum was a native of Chittenango, New York, which is home to the International L. Frank Baum and All Things Oz Historical Foundation and Museum.

Each June, the village celebrates Baum’s classic tale with the longest running Wizard of Oz festival in the country. The community, joined by fans from all over the world, come together for Oz-themed parades, exhibits, fireworks, and contests.

But the magic of Oz isn’t only present this one time of year. The classic yellow brick road runs through the village for visitors to enjoy year-round.

Chittenango is proud to be the birthplace of such an influential author, and his legacy lives on in central New York. After all, “there’s no place like home.”

PRESIDENT TRUMP STANDS WITH ISRAEL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the recent violence taking place in Israel and the Gaza Strip.

It all started when snipers from the Gaza Strip, unprovoked, fired over the border upon Israeli soldiers. This was an unprovoked attack by Hamas, an internationally recognized terrorist organization. Israel has every right to defend itself, so they did, as they should.

Following a responsive Israeli airstrike, hundreds of rockets were launched from Gaza into Israel. People died on both sides of this bloody conflict. Hamas fired the rockets from schools, hospitals, and everywhere else they could use human shields that they thought would keep them safe from retaliation.

While some in the media and even in this Chamber attempt to blame our allies in Israel and downplay the actions of Hamas, most of us have a firmer grip on reality. Israel is not the bad guy here.

This is yet another example of peace being interrupted by Hamas terrorists. If any other country in the world were on the receiving end, no one would dare question the right to respond accordingly.

I can assure you that I join President Trump in standing 100 percent with our friends in Israel. They have every right to defend themselves from terrorist attacks.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible contributions that small business owners across Burlington and Ocean Counties are making to our communities.

This week is National Small Business Week, and I have talked with New Jersey small business owners about the opportunities they see and the challenges that they face. One owner is Kristofor Sabey, who runs Surf Liquors and Market with his wife, Patty, in Seaside Heights.

In 2012, Kristofor and Patty faced the unthinkable when Superstorm Sandy destroyed their store. But as Kristofor told me, small business owners are nothing if not determined, and they have rebuilt, even though they still face challenges.

It is that determination that drives more than 860,000 small businesses in New Jersey, and it is that determination that makes them the backbone of our economy and our communities.

I hope my colleagues take a moment this week to reach out, listen, and thank our small business owners. When we do better for our small business owners, they do better for our communities. We should strive for that this week and every week forward.

TEXAS COWBOY REUNION

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Texas Cowboy Reunion, which was recently inducted into the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Located in the small west Texas town of Stamford, the Texas Cowboy Reunion has been preserving the heritage of the American cowboy and the West for more than 50 years. Madam Speaker, Texans have always been a resilient people, and what started as a way for Stamford to lift the spirit of its citizens from the depths of the Great Depression has developed into what is known as the world’s largest amateur rodeo. To this day, it continues to attract people from all over to honor the pioneers of the past, through barrel racing, calf roping, and other timeless cowboy traditions.

Every year, on the Fourth of July, my family and I look forward to taking in the rodeo festivities and just being back home with friends and my fellow west Texans.

So congratulations to Matt Mueller and everyone at the Texas Cowboy Reunion on this well-deserved recognition. I will see them all in July.

God bless, and go west Texas.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, do you remember when you graduated from high school? Do you remember how big the world felt? Do you remember your dreams, what you wanted to learn, whom you wanted to meet, and how you wanted to change the world?

You had those dreams, right? Kendrick Castillo and Riley Howell had those dreams, too. But for them, they will only be dreams because 19-year-old Kendrick Castillo led a charge to disarm the gunman who stormed into his classroom just days before graduating from the STEM School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Together with Brendan Bialy and Joshua Jones, Kendrick saved the hopes and dreams of his classmates, even as he gave up his own.

Just 1 week earlier, 21-year-old Riley Howell was killed as he, too, charged a gunman inside his classroom at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Riley yelled to his classmates, “Go, go, go,” as he body-slammed his killer to end the shooting that killed one student and wounded four more.

Kendrick and Riley are heroes for giving up their dreams.

But we shouldn’t be demanding such profound sacrifices from American students. Instead, we must demand basic decency from this Congress. This House has passed historic gun safety legislation.

Madam Speaker, how many more of these heroes will we need? How many more lives lost before the Senate finally acts to help save lives?

FREE MARKET SOLUTION TO HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, clinicians need to take the lead on healthcare. Lawyers and bean counters were used to write the Affordable Care Act, and look what it got us.
As a doctor, former owner of a healthcare company, and cancer survivor, I believe it is time we allow clinicians to write and form the healthcare laws that will help our Nation, and to base it on a free market solution. That is why I am introducing a bill to innovate Medicaid, a plan that will put the patient in charge of their care with more choice and less cost.

My plan would allow for free market competition and improve care. But above all, for Medicaid, it would not raise taxes and, potentially, could even lead to lower costs, without raising costs for Medicaid patients.

We need less government involvement, not more, to fix our broken healthcare system.

CONGRESSIONAL PFAS TASK FORCE

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

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, this week, the Congressional PFAS Task Force, including Representatives Kildee, Tonko, and Fitzpatrick, joined me in my district to address clean water and to address PFAS water contamination. I thank them for joining me. We visited Naval Air Station Joint Base Willow Grove.

Like hundreds of other military installations across the country, Willow Grove fighting foam with PFAS chemicals for decades. Today, polluted water continues to flow off this base and into our region’s water table.

PFAS is associated with serious health risks, including cancer and impaired immune system performance. The manufacturers, EPA, and DOD have known about some of the dangers for a long time. By the early 2000s, it was clear that PFAS was contaminating drinking water, yet PFAS remains in use, and EPA still has not established a maximum contaminant level.

This week, I introduced H.R. 2600, the Toxic PFAS Control Act. This bill phases out PFAS by banning the manufacturing and processing of these chemicals and will require EPA to regulate its disposal.

I thank Chair Chairman Tonko for his commitment to this issue to live up to our obligation to provide clean drinking water to our families and communities.

HONORING DAVID BLOM OF OHIOHEALTH

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

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of David Blom, who is retiring from his service as president and CEO of OhioHealth this July.

Under David’s watch, OhioHealth has grown leaps and bounds into central Ohio’s largest healthcare system. In 17 years at the helm, Dave built OhioHealth into a top employer and economic driver in Ohio.

When his tenure began, OhioHealth employed 14,000 associates and caregivers. That number has more than doubled to more than 30,000 OhioHealth associates and caregivers today.

What is most notable was its naming to the Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For in 2019 for the 19th straight year, fostered by Dave’s leadership.

Moreover, when Dave took the reins in 2002, not a single OhioHealth hospital existed in what is now my congressional district. Today, OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital, Grady Memorial Hospital, Dublin Methodist Hospital, and Westerville Medical Campus all lie in the 12th Congressional District.

Throughout this rapid development, Dave has kept an unwavering commitment to keeping care local for patients across Ohio’s communities. Keeping care local is not merely a slogan for Dave. Rather, it represents a cultural focus on serving each community, creating access to care, and establishing standard practices and procedures around medicine and patient care, all so Ohioans can receive the healthcare services they need close to home.

Dave has been gracious in sharing his leadership with the central Ohio region. During his tenure as chairman of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the chamber elevated its mission and made a profound impact on regional growth.

Dave also serves on the Columbus Partnership executive committee, a nonprofit that brings together more than 70 CEOs of Columbus’ leading businesses and institutions.

Dave has positively impacted so many lives by making care accessible for Ohioans—for urban, suburban, and rural areas alike. As result of growing OhioHealth into a robust employer in the region I call home, I thank him very much for his service.

KIDS DESERVE LEADERS WORKING TO END GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, a 12-year-old from Highlands Ranch, Nate Holley, explained that he was in his classroom’s closet with his hand on a baseball bat because he was going to go down fighting if he was going to go down.

In the span of 2 weeks, two students were killed lunging at shooters in their classrooms to defend their classmates. Their names: Kendrick Castillo, 18 years old, just days away from his high school graduation, and Riley Howell, 21 years old, an ROTC cadet at UNC Charlotte.

These young men are heroes, but they shouldn’t have to be.

The Senate majority leader won’t even allow a vote on any gun safety bills. What is it going to take? How many shootings, how many more young lives cut short, until we take action?

The STEM School Highlands Ranch shooting marked the 30th incident of gun violence on K-12 school grounds just this year. Our kids deserve leaders who will do everything in their power to end gun violence in America.

No more heroes. No more victims.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

Mr. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2157.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEAN). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 357 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2157.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Iowa (Ms. FINKENauer) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Last year, we watched hurricanes pummel Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas; wildfires burn large swaths of the West; and typhoons strike territories in the Pacific.

In addition to the tragic loss of life, families lost everything, businesses were upended, and communities were ripped apart.

That is why, in January, the House passed an emergency disaster relief bill, H.R. 268, to help our fellow Americans recover and rebuild. Unfortunately, the bill languished for months

May 10, 2019
in the Senate over assistance for Puer-
to Rico. As it sat there, floods battered the
Midwest and tornadoes swept the South,
resulting in even more destruction.
And it sat there in the Senate.
This legislation attempts to meet the
needs of America’s disaster-stricken
communities, whether in Puerto Rico or the
Midwest, California or the Carolinas, with $17.2 billion in
emergency spending.
In addition to the funding provided in
H.R. 268, the bill makes three critical additions.
It includes $1.5 billion for the U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers for repairs to
Corps projects damaged by flooding and
natural disasters.
It provides $1 billion for Community
Development Block Grant Disaster Re-
covery, with language ensuring it is
spent quickly to help communities re-
build housing, businesses, and public
infrastructure more vulnerable and exposed
distressed areas affected by major
natural disasters.
And it includes $500 million for the
Department of Agriculture’s Emer-
gency Conservation Program, pro-
viding urgently needed funding and tech-
nical assistance to farmers and ranch-
ers to rehabilitate farmland damaged
by natural disasters.
That is an additional $3 billion to ad-
dress the urgent needs following the
Midwest floods and Southern torna-
does, and an additional $3 billion to re-
built damaged infrastructure, to help
communities recover, and to bring
local economies back to life.
American citizens are relying on our
Federal Government to deliver a robust
disaster relief package. They have
waited long enough. Frankly, they
can’t afford to wait any longer.
Further delays will only leave com-
munities more vulnerable and exposed
to future natural disasters. With the
Atlantic hurricane season beginning in
just 4 weeks and looming summer heat
increasing wildfire risk, we must act
now.
Madam Chair, this legislation is a
critical and long-overdue step to meet-
ing our fellow citizens’ urgent needs. I
urge my colleagues to support it, and I
reserve the balance of my time.
Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield
myself such time as I may consume.
I rise today in opposition to H.R.
2157, the Supplemental Appropriations
This bill is similar to the disaster
supplemental that passed the House in
January. We have been waiting for the
Senate to act on their version of the
supplemental for several months.
Unfortunately, taking up a disaster
bill for the second time without ad-
ressing the administration’s concerns
will not increase its chance of becom-
ing law.
While this bill assists many com-
munities struggling to recover from hurri-
canes, wildfires, flooding, and torna-
does, I have to oppose this measure
today.
I am particularly concerned about re-
pairs that are needed for severely dam-
aged military installations. We must
return these facilities to a condition
that can support our men and women
in uniform. Unfortunately, the needs
are actually greater than what is fund-
ed in this bill.
I am also concerned that the bill fails
to address the humanitarian and secu-
rity crisis at the border. The rule for
this bill does not allow us to consider
an amendment to provide humani-
tarian relief and enhanced security at
the border.
On my recent visits to the border, I
have seen firsthand that the crisis is
getting worse every day. The numbers
are staggering. In April alone, Customs
and Border Protection made 136,000
arrests on the southwest border.
More than half of these were family
units.
There have been more apprehensions
in the first 7 months of this fiscal year
than in all of the last fiscal year. Re-
sources are urgently needed to address
the health and safety of our law en-
fforcement personnel, as well as fami-
ilies with children who are seeking ref-
guge. This bill does nothing to address
this crisis.
We have no choice but to work to-
gether on this issue. We do not have
the luxury of waiting for months to get
resources to law enforcement, social
service providers, and public health of-
ficers. The time to act is now.
I want to thank Chairwoman LOWEY
for her tireless work to address the
needs of our Nation. Just as we worked
together to end the shutdown in Feb-
uary, I urge Congress to come together
again to rebuild our communities, protect
our border, and provide humanitarian
assistance where it is urgently needed.
Unfortunately, I have to oppose this
bill as it currently stands. I hope we
are working together to end the border
disaster and come together again to re-
build our communities, protect our
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give some peace to American communities and our citizens living in devastation. I urge swift passage of this act.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Chair, I rise to reflect on the importance of the disaster supplemental bill we are considering today.

In Nebraska, we continue our work to recover from which hit our State at the end of February. The storm brought with it blizzard conditions and large amounts of rain, followed rapidly by destructive flooding. The impact of this storm continues to be felt in our State, particularly by our ag producers. In the west, the extreme blizzard conditions compounded an already hard winter, leading to severe cattle losses. In the east, stored grain was actually washed away or damaged by the floods, and extensive silting of fields has impeded planting as the season is now underway.

I particularly appreciate both this bill and the most recent Senate package because they are aimed to ensure our disaster programs can address losses of stored grain. While crop insurance covers producers from planting, including coverage for prevented planting, up through harvest, it does not provide coverage for harvest grain which is stored and has not yet been sold. Our producers need this relief.

I realize this bill is not perfect, and there are a number of issues I hope we can address moving forward. I would prefer it across the country to ensure our disaster programs can address losses of stored grain.

I have long advocated for disaster packages to be paid for; this package is not, and my amendment to cover the cost was, unfortunately, not made in order.

We have traditionally extended a number of tax relief provisions to families and businesses in disaster areas. I have introduced legislation to do this, and I hope negotiations will get us there soon.

Madam Chair, Nebraskans need relief. Considering this bill moves us closer to providing them relief and, for that reason, I do support it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the chairman of the Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I thank our Appropriations chair for yielding this time, and I rise in support of this disaster supplemental, which will provide $17.2 billion in long overdue assistance for North Carolina and for other States and territories that have suffered from devastating natural disasters.

North Carolina has been hit by two hurricanes in as many years, with thousands of people displaced, homes devastated, and livelihoods lost. Meanwhile, typhoons, tornadoes and wildfires, have wreaked havoc on millions of Americans in the South, the Midwest, California, and several territories, including Puerto Rico.

The bill before us ensures the Federal Government is an active and enthusiastic partner in the recovery effort. It provides comprehensive resources for: flexible community development block grants, highway and bridge repairs, Army Corps construction along our coasts and rivers, Department of Agriculture and livestock relief, repairs to our military installations, and many other critical recovery activities.

We all know that these resources are desperately needed. We all know that they should have been provided months ago. The House passed a similar package back in January that stalled in the Republican-controlled Senate.

The President has complicated our efforts, to put it mildly, and he has complicated them in a particularly unfortunate way. He is obsessed with Puerto Rico. He is determined to punish the island for offenses, real or imagined. This has stymied bipartisan and bicameral efforts to help all Americans recover.

And now the President’s latest move is to insist that this disaster recovery bill should become a vehicle for his border priorities.

The administration is even holding back money already appropriated, including nearly $16 billion in HUD Community Development Block Grants, held up by the White House and OMB for political purposes.

This has slowed the recovery, not just in Puerto Rico, but in my home State, North Carolina, in Florida, in Georgia, Texas, South Carolina, and the Virgin Islands.

It is time for the President to stop playing politics with disaster funding, and it is time for Republicans in this House and Senate to show some backbone, to say to the White House, "enough already;" to join with Democrats to help communities in need.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in support of the underlying legislation.

Madam Chair, H.R. 2157 totals $17.3 billion in emergency disaster appropriations to provide relief and recovery assistance for Americans affected by recent hurricanes. Specifically, the bill includes $115 million for the Marine Corps to begin planning for construction projects related to the devastation from Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Marine Corps facilities in North Carolina (New River, Cherry Point, and Lejeune). The Marine Corps is planning facility consolidation efforts resulting from the hurricanes’ damage, and this funding represents the first step in that rebuilding process.

Madam Chair, the bill also includes $700 million to begin rebuilding Tyndall Air Force Base in my home State of Florida. This funding will support the relocation of the F-22 mission, the beddown of F-35s, and the planning for construction of new facilities. Under this bill, the Air Force will be able to rebuild and repair its damaged facilities.

The bill also includes $823 million for the National Park Service, including $860.4 million for Department of Defense military construction projects and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the chair of the Interior Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this funding package today. I am pleased that, within the Interior Subcommitte's jurisdiction, the bill provides more than $2 billion for recovery from devastating natural disasters.

This includes $800 million to rebuild drinking water and waste treatment systems to a state of resiliency against future storms, and $50 million for coastal resiliency projects to reduce flooding and erosion caused by sea level rise and climate change.

This bill provides funds to repair Federal facilities that were destroyed or damaged, like the Hawaii Volcanoes Observatory, funds for Historic Preservation grants to repair culturally significant sites and properties, and funds to clean up hazardous and solid waste.

A critical provision in this bill provides $270 million to fully repay the US Forest Service for funds it was forced to borrow in the last fiscal year to cover the cost of wildland fire suppression.

An additional $134 million will help the Forest Service to address damage to national forests and to treat hazardous fuel loads.

This emergency funding in this bill will help Americans who are struggling to restore their lives after the hurricanes and Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Marine Corps facilities in North Carolina (New River, Cherry Point, and Lejeune).

Meanwhile, typhoons, tornadoes and wildfires, have wreaked havoc on millions of Americans in the South, the Midwest, California, and several territories, including Puerto Rico.

The bill before us ensures the Federal Government is an active and enthusiastic partner in the recovery effort. It provides comprehensive resources for: flexible community development block grants, highway and bridge repairs, Army Corps construction along our coasts and rivers, Department of Agriculture and livestock relief, repairs to our military installations, and many other critical recovery activities.

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The administration is even holding back money already appropriated, including nearly $16 billion in HUD Community Development Block Grants, held up by the White House and OMB for political purposes.

This has slowed the recovery, not just in Puerto Rico, but in my home State, North Carolina, in Florida, in Georgia, Texas, South Carolina, and the Virgin Islands.

It is time for the President to stop playing politics with disaster funding, and it is time for Republicans in this House and Senate to show some backbone, to say to the White House, "enough already;" to join with Democrats to help communities in need.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

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Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise in support of the underlying legislation.

Madam Chair, H.R. 2157 totals $17.3 billion in emergency disaster appropriations to provide relief and recovery assistance for Americans affected by recent hurricanes. Specifically, the bill includes $115 million for the Marine Corps to begin planning for construction projects related to the devastation from Hurricaneces Florence and Michael on Marine Corps facilities in North Carolina (New River, Cherry Point, and Lejeune). The Marine Corps is planning facility consolidation efforts resulting from the hurricanes’ damage, and this funding represents the first step in that rebuilding process.

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The bill also includes $823 million for the National Park Service, including $860.4 million for Department of Defense military construction projects and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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The bill also includes $823 million for the National Park Service, including $860.4 million for Department of Defense military construction projects and the Department of Veterans Affairs.
Madam Chair, these events happened 6 months ago, and yet the first supplemental request to be submitted by the administration is not to address natural disasters; it was for border needs. I am astounded that the administration would ignore these real emergencies which clearly should have been addressed months ago, and I am proud that the Democratic majority is doing just that today.

I urge all Members of this body to cast a ‘yes’ vote.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELAZQUEZ), the chairwoman of the Small Business Committee.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this legislation.

It has now been 2 years since Maria barreled into Puerto Rico inflicting historic damage, enormous suffering, and the loss of 3,000 American lives. Yet 20 months later, the people of the island continue struggling to recover and rebuild.

Compounding this problem, Puerto Rico has exhausted funding for its nutritional assistance program, and the Governor has informed us they require $600 million to meet the food needs of the Commonwealth’s most vulnerable. These are seniors, working single mothers, and those with disabilities.

Let me remind my friends, in the U.S. Territory Puerto Rico, 65 percent of our children live in poverty. It is unacceptable to deny nutrition assistance to American citizens living in Puerto Rico, particularly children. That is immoral, and we should be ashamed that, in the richest country, most powerful country in the world, we have allowed for children to suffer this way. That is simply wrong.

In January, we passed a package to address this, but the Senate has failed to act, even though a number of my Republican Senate colleagues have promised to deliver Puerto Rico the aid they so desperately need.

Making matters worse, our President has repeatedly distorted and misled the American people about the amount of money Puerto Rico receives.

We must remember, Madam Chair, those suffering in Puerto Rico are our fellow citizens. It is unacceptable that this President and Senate Republicans would abandon them.

Importantly, the bill also instructs FEMA to rebuild in a manner that is more resilient and capable of withstand future extreme weather. Maria taught us painful lessons, and it only makes sense that as the island recovers we provide it with the tools to rebuild and resist future hurricanes.

The CHAIR. The gentlewoman from New York has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield the gentlewoman from New York an additional 2 minutes.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I pray passage of this bill which right-

fully assists so many other parts of the Union, of our Nation, will motivate the Senate at last to act and the President to sign this badly needed aid into law. This is a matter of life and death for so many in Puerto Rico. I urge a ‘yes’ vote.

The CHAIR. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, to close, I would like to thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her leadership. I look forward to working with her on legislation that addresses both natural disasters and the humanitarian crisis on the border.

We should provide much-needed relief to communities recovering from hurricanes, floods, wildfires, and tornadoes, but we cannot turn our back on a border crisis that is growing worse by the day. Law enforcement agencies providing humanitarian assistance are being rushed and pushed to the limit, and we must address that.

The chairwoman and I have worked together for many years to find solutions in the national interest. I know we will be able to do so again.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, it is time to stop playing games and provide assistance to all Americans, no matter whether you lost your home to a wildfire in the West, farmland to flooding in the Midwest, or your entire community to a hurricane in Puerto Rico. Vote ‘yes.’

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2157, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019.

This bill is a comprehensive emergency disaster supplemental bill to help meet the urgent needs of American communities still struggling to recover from recent hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters.

This robust disaster package includes $17.2 billion in long overdue emergency spending for disaster-stricken communities across our nation and territories.

It builds on the legislation that passed the House in January—including an additional $3 billion to address the urgent needs of those living in the Midwest (Nebraska, Missouri, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas) and South (Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas) who have been devastated by flooding and tornadoes in recent months.

This bill also provides some additional disaster assistance to communities continuing to recover from Hurricane Harvey.

House Democrats are standing up and taking action to help communities across the United States and in Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa recover and heal from devastating disasters—these communities should not be held hostage because of President Trump’s personal contempt for Puerto Rico.

Senate Republicans should come to their senses and join Democrats in advancing this bill and speeding relief to millions of Americans.

Included in this legislation is critical funding for: Infrastructure and community development to rebuild our transportation systems and repair housing, businesses and public infrastructure; Farmers and rural communities to bolster the farmer safety net and restore disaster-damaged lands; Social services, mental health, education and dislocated worker initiatives to invest in the well-being of children, other vulnerable families and communities in disaster-struck areas—including providing critical nutrition and Medicaid assistance for Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; DOD and Veterans Affairs to repair and rebuild hurricane-damaged bases and facilities; and, Disaster resiliency to mitigating damage and costs from future disasters which are becoming more frequent as a result of climate change.

American families hit by natural disasters deserve to know that their government will stand with them throughout the road to recovery.

Democrats are committed to delivering this assistance to our fellow Americans as they work to rebuild their lives and their communities.

Another reason I strongly support this bill is that H.R. 2157, the “Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019,” provides much needed and long overdue relief to Americans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still suffering from the ravages of Hurricanes Maria and Irma, as well as relief to victims of Hurricane Michael which struck Alabama, Florida, and Georgia in October 2018. It also provides relief to the victims of the Midwestern floods that have caused so much damage in Nebraska, Missouri, South Dakota, Iowa, and Kansas.

I support this legislation and offered an amendment that would have provided additional funding for electricity delivery and necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Yutu including technical assistance related to electric grids.

As the representative of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas, which was ground zero for Hurricane Harvey, I regularly hear from constituents expressing their concern with ineffective and inadequate FEMA mechanisms put in place to help rectify the damage caused by natural disasters.

That is why I also offered an amendment to H.R. 2157 that would prohibit funds in the bill from being used to prevent the FEMA Administrator from monitoring the response given to disaster victims in order to ensure quality control or becoming aware of complaints regarding the response given to disaster victims and helping in place a mechanism to address such complaints.

A third Jackson Lee amendment to H.R. 2157 would have provided a minimum of $1 million for wastewater and drinking water treatment works and facilities impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

Hurricane Sandy inflicted more than $70 billion in damages in 2012, and Matthew cost the U.S. about $10.3 billion in 2016. With Harvey, an estimated 13 million people were affected, nearly 135,000 homes damaged or destroyed in the historic flooding, and up to a million cars were wrecked.

Hurricane Harvey ranks as the second-most costly hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland since...
Our residents need more money than for single-family home repairs, whether it is disaster recovery or general housing dollars and I will continue to stride on behalf of the neighborhoods who do not have these funds, so they can continue on with their lives and return to their homes.

Victims of natural disasters are entitled to know when to contact issues related to FEMA and to be assured that their questions are answered, and complaints addressed.

Allocating funding for measures such as Electricity Delivery for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, Irma, and Super Typhoon Yutu, is vital to negate the effects of these catastrophic events from significantly worsening.

Hotels, first-responders, and a number of other vital institutions that help our communities recover from the aftereffects of natural disasters need access to electricity.

Moreover, with the severity of natural disasters and the ranging of their locations we must be proactive in our preparation for recovery.

Alternatively, water is the most essential resource known to man.

Floods can last for more than three weeks without food—Mahatma Gandhi survived 21 days of complete starvation—but water is a different story.

At least 60 percent of the adult body is made of it and every living cell in the body needs it to keep functioning.

Under extreme conditions an adult can lose 1 to 1.5 liters of sweat per hour and if that lost water is not replaced, the total volume of body fluid can fall quickly and, most dangerously, blood volume may drop.

We do not have the luxury of not preparing for hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, mudslides, tornadoes or other natural disasters.

With these events it is not a question of if, but when.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-12, modified by the amendment printed in part B of House Report 116-51, shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 2197

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

That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizations of the United States Government for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes, namely:

TIThE I
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PROCESSING, RESEARCH AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For an additional amount for the "Office of the Secretary", $5,000,000, which shall remain available until December 31, 2020, for necessary expenses related to losses of crops (including milk, on-farm stored commodities, and forested and nonforested, cultivated, vine, grape, nut, tree, bush, and vine crops and vineyards), as a consequence of Hurricane Michael and Florence, other hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, volcanic activity,或者其他 traumatic and catastrophic events occurring in calendar years 2018 and 2019 under such terms and conditions as determined by the Secretary: Provided, That the Secretary may provide assistance for such losses in the form of block grants to eligible States and territories and such assistance may include compensation to producers, as determined by the Secretary, for past or future crop insurance premiums, forest restoration, and poultry and livestock losses: Provided further, That of the amounts provided under this heading, tree assistance payments may be made under section 192 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(e)) to eligible orchardists or nursery tree growers (as defined in such section) of pecan trees with a tree mortality rate that exceeds 7.5 percent (adjusted for normal mortality) and is less than 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality), to be available until expended, for losses incurred during the period beginning January 2, 2018, and ending May 10, 2019: Provided further, That in the case of producers impacted by volcanic activity that resulted in the loss of crop land, or access to crop land, the Secretary shall, subject to availability, as appropriate, to bring replacement land into production: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading for crop insurance for an insurable commodity for the year 2019 under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or the Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7332) shall not exceed 90 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading for producers who did not obtain a policy or plan of insurance for an insurable commodity for the applicable crop year under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or the Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) for the crop year under NAP for the crop incurring the losses shall not exceed 70 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That producers receiving payments under this heading, as determined by the Secretary, shall be required to purchase crop insurance where crop insurance is available for the next two available crop years, excluding policies, and producers receiving payments under this heading shall be required to purchase coverage under NAP where crop insurance is not available in the form of block grants to eligible States and territories and such assistance may include compensation to producers, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That, not later than 120 days after the end of fiscal year 2019, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress specifying the tape, amount, and method of such assistance by State and territory: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an additional amount for Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations", for necessary expenses for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $125,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for "Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations", for necessary expenses for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $480,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(c)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, $120,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

Sec. 101. In addition to other amounts made available by section 309 of division A of the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-122, 115 Stat. 303), there is hereby appropriated $600,000,000,000 for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide a grant to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for disaster assistance in response to Presidential declared major disasters and emergencies: Provided, That the funds made available to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under section 381E(c)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Sec. 102. In addition to amounts otherwise made available, out of the funds made available under section 18 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 2001) for Federal assistance to individuals, $25,000,000 shall be available for obligation by the Secretary to provide a grant to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for disaster nutrition assistance in response to the Presidential declared major disasters and emergencies: Provided, That funds made available to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under this section shall remain available for obligation by the Commonwealth until September 30, 2020, and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Sec. 103. For purposes of administering title I of subdivision 1 of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 Public Law 115-97, insured losses to agricultural producers resulting from hurricanes shall also include losses of peach and
blueberry crops in calendar year 2017 due to extreme cold: Provided, That the amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the operations of the U.S. Marshal Service, for hire of special agents and for salaries and expenses related to thejuice of law enforcement, $2,600,000 shall be available: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES For an additional amount for “Buildings and Facilities” for necessary expenses related to the construction of new Federal prisons, $2,180,000,000 shall be available: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. RELATED AGENCIES LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION For an additional amount for “Payment to the Legal Services Corporation” for the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act by providing for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and storm systems, for activities related to the consequences of Hurricane Florence, Michael, and other major disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce, including those declared by the Secretary to be a direct result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, and calendar year 2019 tornadoes and floods, $15,000,000: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE III DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MILITARY CORPS For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps”, $200,000,000, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and storm systems, for activities related to the consequences of Hurricane Florence, Michael, and other major disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce, including those declared by the Secretary to be a direct result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, and calendar year 2019 tornadoes and floods, $15,000,000: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for “Fishery Disaster Assistance” for necessary expenses associated with the mitigation of fishery disasters, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds shall be used for mitigating the effects of commercial fishery failures due to natural disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce, including those declared by the Secretary to be a direct result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, and calendar year 2019 tornadoes and floods: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.
heading may only be used for the purposes specifically described under this heading.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE**

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force”, $400,000,000, for necessary expenses to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 251 of title 10, United States Code, or any other provision of law, the funds made available under this heading may only be used for the purposes specifically described under this heading.

**TITLE IV**

**CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**INVESTIGATIONS**

For an additional amount for “Investigations” for necessary expenses related to the completion, or initiation and completion, of flood and storm damage reduction, including shore protection, studies which are currently authorized or which are anticipated after the date of enactment of this Act, to reduce risk from future floods and hurricanes, at full Federal expense, $35,000,000, to remain available until expended, in States and areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and Tropical Storm Gita: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES**

For an additional amount for “Mississippi River and Tributaries” for necessary expenses to address emergency situations at Corps of Engineers projects and repair damages to Corps of Engineers projects, caused by natural disasters, including disasters in 2019, $575,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**CONSTRUCTION**

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses, $740,000,000, to remain available until expended, to construct flood and storm damage reduction projects, including shore protection, projects which are currently authorized or which are anticipated after the date of enactment of this Act, and flood and storm damage reduction and shore protection projects which have signed Chief’s Reports as of the date of enactment of this Act or which are studied using funds provided under the heading “Investigations” or the Secretary determines such projects to be technically feasible, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable, in States and insular areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and Tropical Storm Gita: Provided, That projects receiving funds provided under the first proviso in “Corps of Engineers—Civil” in Public Law 115-123 shall not be eligible for funding provided under this heading: Provided further, That for projects receiving funding under this heading, the provisions of section 902 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 shall not apply to these funds: Provided further, That the completion of ongoing construction projects, including construction projects deriving Federal matches from non-Federal sources, and activities related to the construction or operation and maintenance of the project, except for damages due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors: Provided further, That any projects using funds appropriated under this heading shall be initiated, at full Federal expense, by a contractor: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT**

**CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT**

For an additional amount for “Central Utah Project Completion Account”, $330,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses in carrying out fire remediation and suppression emergency related to wildfires in 2017 and 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION**

**WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES**

For an additional amount for “Water and Related Resources”, $17,000,000, to remain available until expended, for fire remediation and suppression emergency related to wildfires in 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**ENERGY PROGRAMS**

**ELECTRICITY DELIVERY**

For an additional amount for “Electricity Delivery”, $15,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Yutu, including technical assistance related to electric grids: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of Electricity Delivery shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**TITLE V**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS**

For an additional amount for “Operations and Support” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Lane, Tropical Storm Gordon, and Typhoon Mangkhut, $48,977,000; of which $46,977,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2023, for environmental compliance and restoration: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**COAST GUARD**

**OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT**

For an additional amount for “Operations and Support” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Lane, Tropical Storm Gordon, and Typhoon Mangkhut, $46,977,000; of which $45,000,000 shall be used to initiate, at full Federal expense, $45,000,000 shall be used to initiate, at full Federal expense, construction of authorized Corps of Engineers ecosystem restoration projects that have incidental flood risk management benefits in areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Maria: Provided further, That up to $25,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for continuing authorities projects to reduce flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and wildfires in States and areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Maria: Provided further, That any projects using funds appropriated under this heading shall be initiated, at full Federal expense, by the Secretary if the Secretary determines such projects to be technically feasible, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable, in States and insular areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Maria, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and Tropical Storm Gita: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES**

For an additional amount for “Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies” for necessary expenses, $519,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS**

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” for necessary
expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Lane, Tropical Storm Gordon, and Typhoon Mangkhut, $476,755,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021. Provided, That such amount is appropriated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE**

**SEC. 501. (a) IN GENERAL.—**The Federal share of assistance provided for DR-4339–PR, DR-4339–USVI and DR-4340–USVI under section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b and 5173) shall be 100 percent of the eligible costs under such sections.

(b) The Federal share of assistance provided by subsection (a) shall apply to disaster assistance applied for before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 502. The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall provide assistance, pursuant to section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), for critical services as defined in section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for the duration of the recovery for incidents declared on or after May 30, 1996, and DR-4398 to:

(1) replace or restore the function of a facility or system to industry standards without regard to the pre-disaster condition of the facility or system;

(2) replace or restore components of the facility or system not damaged by the disaster where necessary to fully effectuate the replacement or restoration of damaged components to restore the function of the facility or system to industry standards.

**SEC. 503. Section 6001 of Public Law 115-123 (132 Stat. 85) is amended by striking “may” and inserting “shall”.** Provided, That the amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**SEC. 505. (a) IN GENERAL.—**The President shall make a contribution under section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) to the applicable State or local government for each eligible hydroelectric facility that was damaged or destroyed during calendar year 2015 to carry out the improvements for which such contribution was provided under this section.

(b) CONTRIBUTION.—Each contribution provided for improvements to an eligible hydroelectric facility under subsection (a) shall be sufficient to:

(1) rebuild canal embankments to meet all applicable guidelines in the Engineering Guidelines for the Evaluation of Hydropower Projects prepared by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

(2) restore all water-control and retaining structures to meet all applicable such Engineering Guidelines provided, That the amount provided under this heading shall include $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, including costs to States and territories necessary to complete compliance activities required by section 306(h) of title 54, United States Code (formerly section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act) to administer the program: Provided, That grants shall only be available for areas that have received a major disaster declaration pursuant to section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): Provided further, That individual grants shall
not be subject to a non-Federal matching requirement: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**CONSTRUCTION**

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) with respect to calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, $78,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

For an additional amount for “Surveys, Investigations, and Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu and Mangkhut, and calendar year 2018 earthquakes, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

For an additional amount for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 earth- quakes, Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Yutu, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, notwithstanding subsections (b), (e), and (f), of such section: Provided, That the funds appropriated herein shall be available until September 30, 2019: Provided further, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and of which $261,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and of which $296,100,000 shall be for capitalization grants under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: Provided, That notwithstanding section 604(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(d)(2) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds appropriated herein shall be provided to States or Territories in EPA Regions 2, 4, and 6 in amounts determined by the Administrator for wastewater treatment works and drinking water facilities and projects impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria: Provided further, That, for Region 2, such funds allocated from funds appropriated herein shall not be subject to the provisions of section 602(b)(2), 602(b)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or the matching requirements of section 1452(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligibility requirements of section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: Provided, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, each State and Territory shall use the full amount of its capitalization grants allocated from funds appropriated herein to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: Provided further, That, for Regions 4 and 6, notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(f)(2) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, for the funds allocated, each State shall use not less than 20 percent but not more than 30 percent amount of its capitalization grants allocated from funds appropriated herein to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: Provided further, That the Administrator shall retain $74,600,000 of the funds appropriated herein for grants to any State or territory that has not established a water pollution control revolving fund pursuant to section 601 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act for drinking water facilities and waste water treatment plants impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria: That the funds appropriated herein shall only be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability to or enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or any eligible facilities under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligible tasks at treatment works or facilities necessary to further such purposes: Provided further, That, for Region 2, notwithstanding section 1452 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(f)(2) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds allocated from funds appropriated herein may be used to make loans or to buy, refinance or renew capital for capitalization grants allocated from funds appropriated herein for the purpose of providing funds to eligible recipients only where such debt was incurred on or after September 20, 2017: Provided further, That the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may retain up to $1,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein for management and oversight: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

For an additional amount for “Science and Technology” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the funds appropriated herein shall only be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability to or enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligible tasks at treatment works or facilities necessary to further such purposes: Provided further, That the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may retain up to $1,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein for management and oversight: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM**

For an additional amount for “Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for “Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 wildfires, and Typhoon Yutu, $1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Typhoon Yutu, $500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**INSULAR AFFAIRS, FEDERAL FACILITIES AND TERRITORIES**

**ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES**

For an additional amount for “Technical Assistance” for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

For an additional amount for “Science and Technology” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 601. Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the agencies receiving funds appropriated by this title shall provide a detailed statement to the Committees for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

For an additional amount for “Training and Employment Services Administration Training and Employment Services (including transfer of funds)” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

For an additional amount for “National Forest System” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $84,960,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of this amount $21,000,000 shall be used for hazardous fuels management activities: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for “Capital Improvement and Maintenance” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $36,040,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Wildland Fire Management” to remain available through September 30, 2022, for wildland fire suppression operations: Provided, That such funds shall be solely available to be transferred to and merged with other appropriations accounts from which funds were previously transferred for wildland fire suppression in fiscal year 2018 to fully repay those amounts: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GENERAL PROVISION

For an additional amount for “General” for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191): Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the base grant in any area, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 614A(h)(1)(B), and 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are not subject to the allocations, distribution, and set-aside requirements of section 640(a) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Health Surveillance and Program Support

For an additional amount for “Health Surveillance and Program Support” to remain available until September 30, 2020, for grants, contracts and cooperative agreements for behavioral health treatment, crisis counseling, and other related helplines, and for other similar programs to provide support to individuals affected by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, wildfires occurring in 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191): Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the base grant in any area, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 614A(h)(1)(B), and 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For an additional amount for “Forest and Rangeland Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $12,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

For an additional amount for “State and Private Forestry” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $84,960,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of this amount $21,000,000 shall be used for hazardous fuels management activities: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For an additional amount of $84,960,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For an additional amount for “State and Private Forestry” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Children and Families Services Programs”, $60,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Services Expansion Grant Program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for “Social Services Block Grant Programs”, $60,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Services Expansion Grant Program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

For an additional amount for “Social Services Block Grant Programs”, $60,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Services Expansion Grant Program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

For an additional amount for “Social Services Block Grant Programs”, $60,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Services Expansion Grant Program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

For an additional amount for “Social Services Block Grant Programs”, $60,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Services Expansion Grant Program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HURRICANE EDUCATION RECOVERY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for "Hurricane Education Recovery" necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, the wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions occurring in calendar year 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 701 of the Stafford Act, $165,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2019, Provided, That such assistance may be provided through any of the programs authorized under this heading in title VIII of subdivision 1 of division B of Public Law 115–123 (as amended by Public Law 115–141), as determined by the Secretary of Education, and subject to the terms and conditions that applied to those programs, except that references to dates and school years in Public Law 115–123 shall be deemed to be the corresponding dates and school years in Public Law 115–141, and (E)''; and inserting ''(E) Subject to subparagraph (F), for the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending September 30, 2019, with respect to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Navy and Marine Corps installations: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for such projects: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 702. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education shall provide a detailed spending plan of anticipated uses of funds made available in this title, including estimated personnel and administrative expenses, and shall submit such plan to the Committees on Appropriations:

Provided, That such plans shall be updated and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations every 60 days until all funds are expended or expire.

SEC. 703. The proviso under the heading "Hurricane Education Recovery" under the heading "Department of Education" under title VIII of subdivision 1 of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123; 132 Stat. 95) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) (A) in subparagraph (I), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "and (D)" and inserting "(D) by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"

(3) in subparagraph (C), by striking "(F)" and inserting "(F) by inserting after subparagraph (D), the following:

"(E) Subject to subparagraph (F), the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending September 30, 2019, with respect to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Navy and Marine Corps installations: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for such projects: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE VIII

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Director of the Army National Guard, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Air Force", $700,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for design and construction expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMED FORCES

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Armed Forces", $42,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for design and construction expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Army National Guard", $1,150,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for design and construction expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Army, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", $1,150,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for planning and design related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Navy and Marine Corps installations: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE IX

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", $1,150,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for planning and design related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Navy and Marine Corps installations: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.
For an additional amount for the Emergency Relief Program as authorized under section 125 of title 23, United States Code, $1,650,000,000, to remain available until expended, for amounts made available under this heading: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That as a condition of making such grant, the Secretary shall certify in advance that such grantee has in place efficient financial controls and procurement procedures and has established adequate procedures to prevent the award of benefits as defined by section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), to ensure timely expenditure of funds, and to maintain comprehensive websites regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse: Provided further, That with respect to any such duplication of benefits, the Secretary shall act in accordance with section 1210 of Public Law 115–254 (132 Stat. 3445) and section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155): Provided further, That the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster formula allocations made pursuant to section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306): Provided further, That a State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe may use up to 5 percent of its allocation for administrative costs: Provided further, That the Secretary, in administering the funds under this heading in the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (division I of Public Law 115–254) and section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Management Act, may insert “State or unit of general local government” and inserting “State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe” (as such term is defined in section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306)): Provided further, That the sixth proviso under this heading is amended by striking “State or subdivision thereof” and inserting “State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306))”: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster formula allocations made pursuant to section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306): Provided further, That the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes: Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative 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recipients of funds provided under this heading that use such funds to supplement Federal assistance provided under section 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 408(c)(4), or 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) may adopt, without review or public comment, any environmental review, approval, or permit performed by a Federal agency or administrative action taken by the Federal agency or administrative action taken by the recipient with respect to such environmental review, approval or permit: Provided further, That, notwithstanding section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)(2)), the Secretary may, upon receipt of a request for release of funds and certification, immediately approve such funds for an activity or project assisted under this heading if the recipient has adopted an environmental review, approval or permit under the preceding proviso or the activity or project is categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.): Provided further, That the Secretary shall publish via notice in the Federal Register any waiver, or alternative requirement, to any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers pursuant to section 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster or emergency relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Until HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing this provision, grantees may submit for HUD approval revised plans for the use of funds related to Hurricane Matthew that expand the eligible beneficiaries of existing programs contained in such previously approved plans to include those impacted by Hurricane Florence. Approval of any such revised plans shall include the execution of revised grant terms and conditions as necessary. Once the implementing regulations are published, any additional action plan revisions shall follow the requirements contained therein.

(b) Amounts made available for administrative costs for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas under this Act or any future Act, and amounts previously provided under section 110 of division B of Public Law 115–123, shall be available for eligible administrative costs of the grantee related to any disaster relief funding identified in this provision, and such administrative costs may be included in the same proposals for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That the amounts made available under this heading and the amounts in Public Law 115–123 to $2,500,000 shall be transferred, in aggregate, to “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Program Office Salaries and Expenses—Community Planning and Development” for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of amounts under this heading: Provided further, That the amount specified in the preceding proviso shall be combined with funds appropriated under the same purpose in Public Law 115–254 and the aggregate of such amounts shall be available for any of the same purposes specified under this heading or the subtitle “Housing Act of 1974” in Public Law 115–254, or may receive similar allocations for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That the amounts made available under this heading and under the same purpose in Public Law 115–254, or may receive similar allocations for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That the amounts made available under this heading and under the same purpose in Public Law 115–254 (and their subrecipients) that receive allocations pursuant to this heading, received disaster recovery allocations under the same heading in Public Law 115–254, or may receive similar allocations for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That the amounts made available under this heading and under the same purpose in Public Law 115–254 shall remain available for obligation and expenditure under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the amounts designated by this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and any mitigation funding provided under the heading “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund of Public Law 115–254,” as reenacted in response to Hurricane Matthew, may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster, including funds provided under section 145 of division C of Public Law 114–223, section 192 of division D of Public Law 114–223 (as added by section 101(d)(3) of division A of Public Law 114–223), and section 145 of division C of Public Law 114–223, section 192 of division C of Public Law 114–223 (as added by section 101(d)(3) of division A of Public Law 114–223) and the necessary administrative requirements are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE XI
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES
FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND
For an additional amount, to be deposited in the Federal Buildings Fund, $91,200,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenditures for the Federal Buildings Fund, to be used for the rehabilitation of Federal Buildings, located in Florida, related to Hurricane Florence for repair and alteration of buildings under the custody and control of the Administrator of General Services, and real property management and related activities not otherwise provided for: Provided, That such amount may be used to reimburse the Fund for obligations incurred for this purpose prior to the date of enactment of this Act and for administrative activities, that such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, is in order except those printed in part C of House
Colorado's amendment which would increase funding to improve NOAA's weather forecasting abilities. This is an issue that we have to deal with. This is an issue that has to be dealt with in a proper way. This amendment does that. As chairman of the subcommittee that oversees this section of the bill, I approve of, and I hope my colleagues will vote for, the amendment.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman and as there is no opposition, I will close.

Madam Chair, I urge support for this amendment. I see my friend, Mr. DUNN, who has been in front of the Rules Committee half a dozen times on issues relating to this disaster relief bill and the impact that it has had on his State, Florida, and all of the Southeast United States and throughout the Midwest.

We have heard the gentlewoman from Texas make a great case for this bill, generally. Madam Chair, I urge support of my amendment, and I urge support of the overall disaster relief bill. We need it now, not later.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MRS. RADEWAGEN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part C of House Report 116–51. Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 9, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $13,000,000)”. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado, as we work to rebuild from hurricanes, flooding, and other natural disasters through this supplemental appropriations bill, I am glad the Appropriations Committee included funding to improve U.S. weather forecasting, modeling, and computing capabilities. Improving our forecasting abilities can save lives and protect property, which is exactly the mission charged to the National Weather Service. My amendment adds an additional $5 million for NOAA’s weather forecasting, modeling, and cloud computing programs and helps accelerate implementation of the Earth Prediction Innovation Center, or EPIC, for short.

Congress authorized EPIC late last year to serve as a center of excellence to create an agile, focused, and measurable approach to community involvement in improving weather forecasting. The center will create a community global weather research modeling system that is publicly available to encourage collaboration. It will also strengthen NOAA’s ability to undertake EPIC-related research projects.

Importantly, EPIC has an opportunity to continue breaking down barriers by accelerating the transfer of research to operations and operations to research, which will improve our weather forecasting enterprise. Improving these capabilities will help everyone across the country, and I urge all my colleagues to support my amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO).

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of my friend from American Samoa’s amendment which would increase assistance grant funding by $13 million in order to ensure food security for the American Samoan population due to damages sustained by Cyclone Gita in February 2018. Cyclone Gita’s ravaging 100-mile-per-hour-plus winds and torrential rains of over 30 inches devastated family farms and small farm businesses, farms that most American Samoans need for their immediate and extended families for subsistence purposes or to support small business income. Cyclone Gita wiped out an entire growing season for the American Samoan farmer.

But this is a hand up, not a hand out, Madam Chair. This emergency food aid, along with the additional Medicaid funding Federal matching support in this bill will allow Samoans to get back on their feet and fight for their community and country. It is what we do best.

American Samoa has been the number one Army recruiting station in America for 2 of the last 5 years and suffered the worst casualty rate in the Iraq war, both on a per capita basis. This bill will truly help our local veterans, soldiers, and their families, churches, and greater community get back to their fighting weight.

Madam Chair, I thank Chairman McGovern for his leadership on nutritional assistance programs for so many years and Ranking Member CoLE and the Rules Committee members for listening to my testimony and providing this opportunity.

I thank Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member GRANGER for their consideration, as well as thanks to Ag Subcommittee Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member ADERHOLT.

I thank President Trump for swiftly declaring an emergency and PEMA for their response, and especially our Governor, Lolo Moliga, and his staff at home and in D.C., who have been so helpful on this request, and for his leadership in the recovery efforts.

Madam Chair, I ask again for your support for this emergency food assistance need for American Samoa.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, even though I am not opposed to it.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, on October 10, 2018, my district took a direct hit from Hurricane Michael, one of the most powerful storms to make landfall in U.S. history. It slammed into the Florida panhandle and drove through much of the Southeast, leaving a path of destruction all the way up to Virginia.

In Georgia, many producers suffered nearly 100 percent crop losses. Hurricane Michael killed more than 2 million chickens and devastated the Georgia cotton crop, which was nearing peak harvest and was on track to be the best crop in years. This is the third straight year all cotton damage caused significant losses to peanut, pecan, cotton, vegetable, landscaping, and the agri-tourism industries.
The Carolinas also suffered billions in damages a month earlier from Hurricane Florence. Californians had another devastating fire season, including both the largest and deadliest fires on record. In Hawaii, volcanic activity cost pineapple farmers nearly $3 billion in damages. Americans in the Marianas Islands and American Samoa were also hit by cyclones.

To meet these needs, this House passed and sent to the Senate an emergency supplemental appropriations bill on January 16 that allocated $14 billion in emergency spending to help families and communities recover from these hurricanes, wildfires, and other natural disasters.

Agriculture provided $3 billion for crop losses, $150 million for the Rural Community Facilities Program, $480 million for the Emergency Forest Restoration Program, and $125 million for the Emergency Watershed Program. They provided $600 million in disaster loans to help Puerto Rico’s continued recovery from Hurricane Diane in 2017.

Madam Chair, I thank my fellow Georgians, AUSTIN SCOTT, and the bipartisan leadership, the House leadership, our colleagues and our quick agreement on this bill. But as we passed it and sent it to the Senate, the Trump Office of Management and Budget issued a Statement of Administration Policy saying that the President has not enough money and that this money was not needed. That could not be further from the truth. I disagree. Farmers and communities in all of the impacted States disagree, and even the USDA disagrees.

The emergency supplemental appropriations bill has been stalled in the Senate for 4 long months, with no action and no relief for Americans who are suffering. American farmers are living through the worst economic crisis in 30 years, driven by low commodity prices, trade war pressures, and natural disasters. Those impacted have had their patience stretched thin and cannot wait any longer for disaster assistance that they were promised.

Right now, due to the disaster losses, farmers can’t pay their operational loans from last year, nor can they get new loans to plant and operate this year. Planting season is now. We already are in the growing season, with conditions permitting normal growth. If we miss this window, it will have lasting effects on agriculture production, including food, fiber, building materials, and fuel, that will increase costs for American consumers all over this country.

We are about to enter the 2019 hurricane season, which starts June 1. So today I am once again supporting this emergency supplemental bill, as more disasters have hit since the last bill passed, the latest being terrible floods in the Midwest and tornadoes that ripped through Georgia and Alabama.

This expanded supplemental bill will provide for the needs of those who suffered in those disasters and will add $3 billion, bringing the appropriations total to $17.2 billion, which will cover all disasters and get much-needed funds to those who were devastated and affected by Hurricane Michael.

From coast to coast throughout the territories, there is an urgent need for this disaster bill. As I said last October, after touring the damage from Hurricane Michael with the President, Vice President, and the Secretary of Agriculture, responding to natural disasters and helping our communities recover is a responsibility that we all share, regardless of ideology or political affiliation. Failure to respond now will result in failures later and suffering later throughout this country.

Madam Chair, I urge my House and Senate colleagues to support this bill to finally bring relief to our long-suffering communities.

Madam Chair, I support the gentlewoman’s amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. SABLAN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in part C of House Report 116-51.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 37, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $8,800,000)”.
Page 37, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $8,800,000)”.
Page 38, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $8,800,000)”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 357, the gentleman from the Northern Marianas Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Marianas Islands (Mr. SABLAN), Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, Congress will depend on the expertise of Federal agencies to tell us how much funding is needed by communities recovering from disaster. Unfortunately, in the case when the House passed H.R. 268 on January 16, we set aside $10.4 million in that bill for water and sewer recovery for areas impacted by Super Typhoon Yutu, and we relied on the Environmental Protection Agency to verify that amount.

But, as happens in recovery situations, preliminary estimates were not completely accurate. When debris is removed, unseen damage is revealed.

In March, after the House passed H.R. 268, EPA revised its estimate of the proposed sewer systems in the Marianas. But H.R. 2157, the bill now under consideration, has not taken that new March estimate from EPA into account. H.R. 2157 simply repeats what was in H.R. 268, the January bill.

The amendment I am offering instead relies on EPA’s new, updated assessment of the true need.

Madam Chair, I include in the record EPA’s estimate.

EPA-RELATED PROJECTS TO SUPPORT TYPHOON YUTU RECOVERY IN CNMI COMMUNITY PLANNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING, INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS, AND NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES, MARCH 20, 2019

Sponsored by Safe Growth. The second phase of the ongoing FEMA-funded, EPA-managed Smart, Safe Growth project which has helped the CNMI identify policies and practices to encourage sustainable post-disaster resiliency. Using contractors and direct assistance, help the CNMI government analyze and implement recent International Building Codes and incorporate smart safe growth practices into local permit decisions and long-term planning. Cost: $1.5M

Treatment for PFAS-contaminated well. Provide Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment for 6 drinking water wells contaminated by PFAS (associated with fire retardant). Benefit: would add about one-half million gallons per day (5 MG/D) to Saipan’s water supply; would significantly improve the ability to recover drinking water availability and safety in another disaster. Cost: $2.0M

New Dandan 1.0 MG water tank. Install a new 1.0 MG tank next to the existing 0.5 MG Dandan water tank to enhance water delivery during a disaster, with pretreatment and Polyjet filtration to mitigate long-term system demand. Cost: $4.0M

Waterline and service line replacement. Replace deteriorating waterlines (Texas Rd to the National Guard and Antonio Andres distribution systems), and deteriorating service lines to homes and businesses (San Roque, Tanapag service areas). Benefit: would significantly reduce leaks and improve drinking water system integrity; would improve drinking water resiliency during a disaster. Cost: $7.5M

New Kagman Reservoir. Start construction of USDA NRCS-proposed 75 MG Water reservoir, delayed 25 years due to lack of funding. Benefit: would eliminate agriculture use of drinking water and increase drinking water supply by 30 percent, reduce drinking water salinity, and improve drinking water quality. Cost: $20.0M

SCADA (water and sewer). Expand Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), an electronic network control system, from the current pilot (serving one water tank system) to a utility-wide system for drinking water and wastewater. Benefit: would improve water monitoring, water production, water billing, water distribution management, and wastewater conveyance and treatment management; would decrease water loss, waste, and energy consumption; and will facilitate better strategic planning and decisions. Cost: $5.0M

Agigan Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. Numerous upgrades are necessary for the current pilot (serving one water tank system) to meet EPA requirements.

As a result of previous deficiencies and damage inflicted by Typhoon Yutu, about 1 MGD of barely-treated sewage effluent is discharged to the ocean on an ongoing basis. Upgrades needed include: aerator replacement, VFD drive installation, sludge dewatering screw press, headworks rehab, electrocoagulation, anaerobic test, dewatering screw press, headworks rehab, and hydrogen sulfide controls. Benefit: provide adequate wastewater treatment to protect human health and the environment. Cost: $2.5M

Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. Situation is similar to Agigan Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades.
Congressional Record — House
May 10, 2019

H3702

WWTP with even additional needed upgrades, including clarifier retrofit and improvements to sludge digester. Cost: $3.2M

Lift Station upgrades. Lift stations need new pumps, valves, VFDs, generator overhaul, and wetwell aeration to improve compliance, as well as gates, fenc- ing, and improvements to water lines. Backup generators damaged by flooding and high winds also need improvements. Benefits: would reduce sewage spills and overflows on land and in waterbodies following a disaster and on a long-term basis. Cost: $8.4M

Lower Base and Beach Road Sewer system replacement. Replace the deteriorating old (pre-Trust Territories era) sewer collection system in Lower Base (Saipan’s main industrial area), including installation of one new lift station along Beach Road, replace deteriorating sewer and wastewater lines as CNMI DPW makes roadway improvements. (Note the Beach Road project cost includes only Phase 1 at $2.5M; the entire project would cost $12M). Cost: $7.0M

Marpi Landfill improvements. Debris from Typhoon Yutu and other recent typhoons are enough to “fill half a Rose Bowl.” Much of the debris is lying on open ground next to the existing Marpi Landfill, exacerbating an already non-compliant situation. The landfill’s containment capacity is insufficient to accommodate typhoon debris as well as Saipan’s regular municipal waste. Cost: $12M

Rota landfill construction. No landfill currently exists on Rota. A new landfill is needed to accommodate typhoon debris as well as municipal waste. Cost: $12M

Provide a Sustainability Advisor for recovery operations. This position will advise the FEMA Interagency Recovery Coordination team, Recovery Support Functions (RSFs), Federal, territorial and local officials on sustainable, green, and resilient prin- ciples and practices.

Access to EPA’s Recovery/Sustainability HQ blanket purchase agreement (BPA) capacity that can accept waste. Cell #3 is currently closed because repairs are required. Cell #3 is designed but requires construction in order to accommodate typhoon debris as well as Saipan’s regular municipal waste. Cost: $32M

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Water quality & Energy. Provide staff expertise on energy efficiency (including EnergySTAR resources), renewable energy, and electric vehicle readiness to assist with rebilling efforts.

Drinking Water Systems. Develop and increase the capacity and resiliency of public and private drinking water systems. Water quality capacity development and operator certification programs.

Brownfields and Land Revitalization. Help the CNMI identify brownfields that support long-term sustainability efforts and can be redeveloped for a higher public use. Ensure brownfields redevelopment and land revitalization are included as priorities in local planning, advance the reuse of sites perceived as being contaminated post- and pre-typhoon.

Mr. SABLAN. EPA reports that funds will be needed to upgrade the Agigan and Sadog-Tasi wastewater treatment plants “as a result of damage inflicted by Typhoon Yutu,” and for lift stations and backup generators that were “damaged by flooding and high winds.” EPA says these projects cost $14 million.

My amendment takes into account funding already in the base bill, how- ever, and asks only for an increase of $8.8 million. Again, this requested increase is based on EPA’s estimates that are only available to H.R. 206, the bill on which H.R. 2157 is based. (Mr. DUNN) and a Member opposed each other immediately.

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I would like to make a couple of other points that sometimes seem to get lost in our discussions. The Federal Government knows that it self-insures the military. From the moment the storms occurred, it was 100 percent certain that we were going to need disaster supplemental. By law, the funds cannot come from FEMA, and they cannot come from HUD. They must be directly appropriated by this Congress.

Hurricane Michael was a unique storm. It was more like a tornado than a hurricane, but it was a tornado that was 80 miles wide and 120 miles deep. In my district, we have 3 million acres of land that is crushed.

By way of comparison, in 2017, three hurricanes affected Florida: Hermine, Maria, and Irma. Fifty counties were affected. Just the county that Tyndall Air Force Base sits in has already cleaned up 30 million cubic yards of debris, compared with less than 3 million in those 50 counties in 2017. Nobody in the history of America has ever seen this much debris. We estimate that we are 20 percent of the way through our debris cleanup, and we have done more than we had ever seen in history.

What are we going to do with these bases? Well, we are going to rebuild them. Of course, we are going to rebuild them. We love our military, and we need our military.

I am a new friend prouder of any group than I have been of the airmen at Tyndall and the job that they have done to stand that base back up. They already have the first Air Force headquarters up and running, and that is air defense for all of North America. And we are ready to take back the F-22 training mission.

Madam Chair, I am proud to say that Tyndall has done a great job rebuilding, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed to it.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I toured Tyndall Air Force Base a couple of months ago with my friend Mr. Dunn. I commend the gentleman for offering this amendment, and I have enjoyed working with him on making sure that we can prioritize this vital funding. I appreciate the ranking member and Chairwoman Lowey’s support.

Congressman Lowey also joined us in February to survey the devastating damage Tyndall sustained because of Hurricane Michael. It was very clear to me, back in February, that Tyndall urgently needs supplemental funds to rebuild.

Tyndall Air Force Base, which is in my home State as well, encompasses 29,000 acres in southeastern Dade County. Within the base, facilities amount to a total replacement value of $3.48 billion.

Tyndall accounts for 37 percent of Dade County’s economy. The base serves a population of 3,393 Active military personnel, as well as 9,383 retirees and all associated families.

The supplemental before us contains $700 million for “Military Construction, Air Force” for planning and design and construction as requested by the Air Force to support relocation of F-22s, F-15 beddown, and facilities necessary to begin the rebuilding of the installation. That number is now outdated and must be increased to meet the Air Force’s needs.

The Dunn amendment, plus what is currently included in the supplemental, is a good first step to helping Tyndall rebuild and get back on its feet.

I am also pleased the gentleman from Florida included funds for the Marine Corps. North Carolina was hit by Hurricane Florence, which devastated all of the Marine Corps facilities in North Carolina.

The Marine Corps community continues to face daily challenges following Hurricane Florence. Although the storm made landfall on December 14, 2018, marines at Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Station New River, and Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point are still recovering.

Camp Lejeune, New River, and Cherry Point heavily contribute to Marine Corps readiness, and Camp Lejeune is home to the second Marine Expeditionary Force, which oversees and maintains a third of the Marine Corps’ combat operating power. Several headquarters buildings, training facilities, and aircraft hangars were affected by Hurricane Florence.

While II MEF is now able to meet operational commitments, its training environments remain degraded. Currently, marines are working in compromised facilities and temporary trailers. Furthermore, marines headed to Camp Lejeune are being told to look for housing off base due to a lack of availability of on-base housing and substantial damage caused by the storm.

Like the Air Force number, the Marine Corps number is also now outdated. I support the $385 million increase to this account, as well.

The Trump administration, unfortunately, still has not submitted an emergency supplemental for these and other disasters. Frankly, these facilities need relief, and they need it now.

It has been over 200 days since Hurricane Michael and Hurricane devastated North Carolina and Florida. It should not be taking this long to provide the necessary and vital funding to these locations.

Stunningly, I want to repeat, the President has not even proposed emergency supplemental funding for these disasters, and this month, actually, had the gall to urge Republicans to vote against this vital legislation.

Madam Chair, I urge all Members to support the Dunn amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNN. Madam Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER), my friend and colleague.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the gentleman’s amendment. These funds are critical to repairing and rebuilding our military bases affected by the recent storms.

I look forward to working with the gentleman to secure critical funding for our military in a final agreement that can be signed by the President.

I urge a “yes” vote on this amendment.

Mr. DUNN. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I am a strong supporter of our armed forces. I fully support the rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base and the North Carolina Marine Corps Bases and urge Members to support the Dunn amendment. I commend the gentleman for his advocacy for his community and for our home State, as well as the underlying legislation so we can make sure that we can finally help these military communities rebuild.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. CUNNINGHAM

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in part C of House Report 116-51.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 16, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $270,000,000)”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 357, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, my bipartisan amendment will allow the Air Force to repair and rebuild bases that were badly damaged by recent natural disasters and will restore funding for critical projects aboard the Nuclear Power Training Unit at Joint Base Charleston.

Without the additional $270 million my amendment provides, the Air Force has stated that they will need to divert funding from projects across the country to rebuild Tyndall and Offutt Air Force Bases.

This would have disastrous effects on the readiness of our armed forces and on our national security.
The operational success of our Navy is dependent on highly trained crews. The NPTU uses real nuclear power plants aboard retired submarines to train sailors to operate and maintain our nuclear power fleet.

And this month, the Lowcountry will be the only place in the Nation where sailors can learn these highly technical skills, which are fundamental to our Navy’s ability to maintain its worldwide presence and ensure the security of the global commons.

That is why it is urgent that we pass this amendment and ensure the NPTU has the resources to modernize and repair its training facilities and ensure that the pipeline of newly trained nuclear operators is not disrupted.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to claim time in opposition, although I do not oppose the amendment.

The CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the gentleman’s amendment.

We are still waiting for a final damage assessment, and we understand that the Air Force has just adjusted its original fiscal assessment.

The underlying bill includes $400 million for the airport. The Cunningham amendment will increase the amount to a total of $670 million.

The need for additional funding is urgent. I have two of my colleagues who will also speak on that need.

I would simply point out that I deeply regret at this late date that the administration still has not made official requests to fund the needs of both the Air Force and the Marines in the recovery from last fall’s hurricane.

Absent a comprehensive request, the funds necessary to address the extensive damage for these key installations will be provided in an inefficient and piecemeal fashion.

I would urge the administration, and particularly, the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of Defense, to finally send a full and detailed cost assessment to Congress and properly prioritize rebuilding of these installations.

I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON), my colleague.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Chair, first, let me thank Chairman Visclosky for the time and for his efforts here, as well as the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM), for offering this very important amendment to the bill.

Madam Chair, it is pretty jarring when you stand in your district at a major piece of America’s military infrastructure, Offutt Air Force Base, and it is a third underwater.

Offutt Air Force Base is also home to Strategic Command, which is the command that is in charge of our nuclear enterprise here and around the world.

In March of this year, a furious slur of soil and water and ice rushed down the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers. It crossed over the Missouri, hit the Iowa levee, blew it out, dug a 62-foot hole, and then water began to come back up the Missouri River.

Offutt Air Force Base sits at the confluence of the Platte and Missouri Rivers, and this is what forced the flooding.

I am very grateful, again, to my colleagues for recognizing that this is a disaster that needs national attention, along with the other natural disasters that have hit our country, particularly Tyndall Air Force Base, as well.

This amendment provides the funds to the Air Force operations and maintenance accounts to rebuild hangars and other buildings at Offutt, and this is in dire need.

I am pleased that my colleagues have recognized that this package, $120 million of which could potentially go to Offutt, is also essential for helping our Nation rebound from the various natural disasters that have hit us.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON).

Mr. BACON. Madam Chair, I appreciate the bipartisan work here to support our bases that need to be rebuilt.

I urge the House to support the amendment.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this bipartisan commonsense amendment.

Madam Chair, I urge a “yes” vote on the amendment.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I thank my colleagues Mr. DUNN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. BACON for their support, and I yield to my friend and my mentor in offering this bipartisan amendment.

Mr. DUNN. Madam Chair, I urge support for yielding, and we need to support this amendment.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I support the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN).

Mr. DUNN. Madam Chair, I rise today because the United States Air Force is in desperate need of our help.

I am proud to cosponsor this amendment that raises the Air Force funding levels for fiscal year 2019.

Our amendment brings the operations and maintenance account up to $670 million, which is the minimum the Air Force needs to continue to rebuild Offutt and Tyndall Air Force Bases.

On October 10th, Tyndall—in my district—took a direct hit from Category 5 Hurricane Michael.

Now, 7 months later, no supplemental funding has been provided. That is irresponsible.

On May 1, Secretary Wilson was forced to halt all work rebuilding Tyndall due to lack of funding. This is a severe blow to our Nation’s military readiness.

These bases are critical to our Nation’s defense for both combat and training missions, and some of the missions literally cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the world.

Madam Chair, our ability to defend America is suffering. My district and many other districts across our Nation are suffering from hurricanes, fires, and floods.

Madam Chair, I urge a “yes” vote on the amendment.

Mr. DUNN. Madam Chair, I thank my colleagues Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. BACON for their support, and I yield to my friend in offering this amendment.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this bipartisan commonsense amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. HUFFMAN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in part C of House Report 116–51.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce section 688.105(h)
of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, for any projects in response to disasters that occurred in fiscal year 2017 or thereafter.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 357, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her work on this disaster supplemental, as well as her broader efforts to advance this disaster funding. It is unfortunate that our colleagues in the Senate have not yet acted to deliver disaster relief to communities across the country.

My amendment responds to the needs of communities who are rebuilding their highway infrastructure after disasters. I am joined in these efforts by my colleagues, HARLEY ROUDA and NORMA TORRES from California. I thank them for their support. And I would also like to thank the California State Association of Counties for their important work on this issue in support of this amendment.

We need to send a clear message to the Federal Highway Administration. Congress expects FHWA to work with communities who are simply seeking reasonable extensions for the use of their emergency relief funding.

Under current policy, the FHWA requires that when a road or highway suffers serious damage, the State or local agency receiving Federal assistance must begin the construction project within 2 years of the disaster.

And we all agree that Federal money should get out the door as quickly as possible. But this well-intended policy allows for extensions, if there are reasonable difficulties in moving toward construction.

Sometimes it just takes longer than expected, or project, to finalize all the permits. In other cases, the scale of the disaster itself means that counties simply don’t have the capacity to move all their projects to construction within 2 years, even though they are moving as quickly as they can and doing everything right.

The problem is, in a recent decision, FHWA began denying a series of extension requests, including one in Humboldt County, in my district.

My amendment would pause FHWA’s ability to deny these extensions moving forward. And I hope this amendment gives FHWA the opportunity to correct course and to get back to working with communities who are trying to rebuild as quickly as they can.

Communities across the country, especially those in California recovering from flood and fire, are now facing the possibility of paying back millions of dollars that they desperately need, adding insult to injury.

How widespread is this problem?

Well, State-wide in California, FHWA denied 66 out of 73 projects requesting an extension. So we need some help, and we need this amendment.

We need this amendment. This amendment will not address all of the problems caused by FHWA’s extension denials, but it gives them an opportunity to reconsider their decisions and make things right.

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I am committed to working with my colleagues to establish clear guidelines on how the FHWA should manage emergency relief funds going forward; but for now, I urge adoption of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to insert the following:

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I am committed to working with my colleagues to establish clear guidelines on how the FHWA should manage emergency relief funds going forward; but for now, I urge adoption of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I want to thank the gentleman from California for introducing this amendment and highlighting the issue of the FHWA not granting extensions when they are needed and when they are justified.

It is important to highlight the issue, and as chairman of the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am aware of the issue and aware of the delays that affect certain Federal highway emergency relief projects in California.

Now, the amendment as drafted would have no practical effect on the funds to administer the program because they are not provided in this particular bill, but I look forward to working with the gentleman and coordinating with the Appropriations Committee with the authorizing committee, to address this issue in a tangible way.

Madam Chair, I have no objection to the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for his comments.

Madam Chair, the purpose of this supplemental appropriations bill is to help communities rebuild from disasters, and my amendment simply ensures that we give communities reasonable time to rebuild and recover.

We shouldn’t be yanking the rug out from under them before they have gotten themselves back on their feet. For that reason, I urge adoption of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.
From the beginning, Washington farmers, WSU, Washington State Department of Agriculture, and the USDA have joined forces to improve the productivity, efficiency, and safety of products coming from our State's fields and forests.

For example, in 2018, WSU received more than $5 million in funding to research pests threatening grapes, onions, garlic, and other specialty crops. This important research, which supports our State's diverse agricultural economy, would be jeopardized under the matching requirement authorized last year.

This bipartisan amendment would underscore congressional support for vital public research like the work at Washington State University. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition, although I support the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I understand that this sudden reversal of program was disconcerting for many of the universities and researchers that have received funding in the past and hope to do so in the future. Based on that, I have no objection to this amendment, and I fully support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Chair, in summary, I would like to encourage my colleagues to support this amendment. It will fund research throughout the country and end a process that is unfair to specialty crop farmers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Ms. SCHRIER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MRS. FLETCHER

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider Amendment No. 8 printed in part C of House Report 116–51.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Chairwoman, I have an amendment at the desk and I ask for its consideration.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 76, line 4, strike “90 days” and insert “14 days”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 357, the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Chairwoman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chairwoman, as I stand here this morning, my district and the entire Houston region are underwater again. A severe rainstorm swept across the Houston area last night. Our bayous, creeks, and tributaries are over their banks. Rivers are creasing near record levels and may surpass them before the weekend is over. Nearly 90,000 residents have gone without power, and many are trapped by floodwaters.

Parts of our area had up to 7 inches of rainfall within just a few hours last night, and it is still raining. It is the worst rainfall we have had since Hurricane Harvey. And last night, I heard from my constituents, it felt like Harvey and they were afraid.

As Members of this body will recall, Hurricane Harvey hit Houston and the Gulf Coast in August of 2017. It dumped nearly 60 inches of rain; it claimed 68 lives; and it caused an estimate of $125 billion in damages. It was the second most expensive hurricane in United States history.

Members of this body responded to Harvey’s devastation. In February of 2018, this body appropriated more than $1 billion to Texas, through the Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds, explicitly to rebuild and mitigate against future storms, storms like the one we are having right now.

But nearly a year and a half after those appropriations were made, those funds have not arrived. Why? Because the Department of Housing and Urban Development has not published the rule governing the fund’s use in the Federal Register.

Most recently, HUD told our State agencies that the rules were set to publish on May 1 of this year; but again, the day has come and gone, and all we have is silence.

This is unconscionable. It is for this reason that I offer this amendment today. My amendment requires the publication of the rule governing the 2017 CDBG-DR fund’s release within 14 days.

I am joined in this amendment by my Republican colleagues as cosponsors, and I would like to thank Mr. GRAVES and Mr. ROUZER for cosponsoring this truly bipartisan amendment. I know they have worked tirelessly on these issues for a while, and I appreciate their partnership on this issue.

I also thank my colleague and cosponsor from Houston, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Chairwoman, allow me to thank my very important sponsor of this amendment and, as well, our Republican colleagues for their leadership. We are underwater in Houston. We are concerned about Puerto Rico and support the underlying bill. If this amendment passes, we will be able to help all of those who have been impacted by disaster: 203,000 homes, 12,700 of which were destroyed.

Four billion dollars are important dollars, and to have that delay really hinders those who are suffering now. You can imagine that we will be going home to overflowing bayous and homes and people who are in fear. Therefore, this amendment, particularly in the shortening of the time, recognizes that disasters mean emergencies, and people in emergencies are desperate and they need help.

I am delighted to support this amendment and will join with the gentlewoman as we move forward on improving how FEMA responds, as well, to these disasters and how we can work further with the Army Corps of Engineers.

This important amendment is going to be a lifesaver for so many by shortening the time in which these regulations will be able to be rendered, and I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and her leadership.

Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of the Fletcher-Jackson Lee Amendment to, H.R. 2157, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019.

Harris County covers 1,778 square miles, enough space to fit New York City, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Seattle, Austin and Dallas, with room still to spare.

Hurricane Harvey dropped 21 trillion gallons of rainfall on Texas and Louisiana, most of it on the Houston Metroplex.

The underlying bill is a comprehensive emergency disaster supplemental bill to help meet the urgent needs of American communities still struggling to recover from recent hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, floods and other natural disasters.

This robust disaster package includes $17.2 billion in long overdue emergency spending for disaster-stricken communities across our nation and territories.

It builds on the legislation that passed the House in January—including an additional $3 billion to address the urgent needs of those living in the Midwest (Nebraska, Missouri, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas) and South (Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas) who have been devastated by flooding and tornadoes in recent months.

This bill also provides some additional disaster assistance to communities continuing to recover from Hurricane Harvey.

House Democrats are standing up and taking action to help communities across the United States and in Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa recover and heal.
from devastating disasters—these communities should not be held hostage because of President Trump’s personal contempt for Puerto Rico.

Senate Republicans should come to their senses and join Democrats in advancing this bill and speeding relief to millions of Americans.

Included in this legislation is critical funding for:

- Infrastructure and community development to rebuild our transportation systems and repair housing, businesses and public infrastructure;
- Farmers and rural communities to bolster the farmer safety net and restore disaster-damaged lands;
- Social services, mental health, education and dislocated worker initiatives to invest in the well-being of children, workers and families in disaster-struck areas—including providing critical nutrition and Medicaid assistance for Puerto Rico and U.S. territories;
- DOD and Veterans Affairs to repair and rebuild hurricane-damaged bases and facilities; and
- Disaster resiliency to mitigating damage and costs from future disasters which are becoming more frequent as a result of climate change.

American families hit by natural disasters deserve to know that their government will stand with them throughout the road to recovery.

Democrats are committed to delivering this assistance to our fellow Americans as they work to rebuild their lives and their communities.

Another reason I strongly support this bill is that H.R. 2157, the “Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019,” provides much needed and long overdue relief to Americans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still suffering from the ravages of Hurricanes Maria and Irma, as well as relief to victims of Hurricane Michael which struck Alabama, Florida, and Georgia in October 2018 and to the victims of the Midwestern floods that have caused so much damage in Nebraska, Missouri, South Dakota, Iowa, and Kansas.

Madam Chair, H.R. 2157, the “Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019,” provides much needed and long overdue relief to Americans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still suffering from the ravages of Hurricanes Maria and Irma, as well as relief to victims of Hurricane Michael which struck Alabama, Florida, and Georgia in October 2018 and to the victims of the Midwestern floods.

I support this legislation and offered an amendment that would have provided additional funding for electricity delivery and necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Yutu including technical assistance related to electric grids.

As the representative of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas, which was ground zero for Hurricane Harvey, I regularly hear from constituents expressing their concern with ineffective and inadequate FEMA mechanisms put in place to help rectify the damage caused by natural disasters.

That is why I also offered an amendment to H.R. 2157 that would prohibit funds in the bill from being used to prevent the FEMA Administrator from monitoring the response given to disaster victims in order to ensure quality control or becoming aware of complaints regarding the response given to disaster victims and having in place a mechanism to address such complaints.

A third Jackson Lee amendment to H.R. 2157 would have provided a minimum of $1 million for wastewater and drinking water treatment and other infrastructure improvements impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

Hurricane Sandy inflicted more than $70 billion in damages in 2012, and Matthew cost the U.S. about $10.3 billion in 2016. With Harvey, an estimated 13 million people were affected; homes damaged or destroyed in the historic flooding, and up to a million cars were wrecked.

Hurricane Harvey ranks as the second-most costly hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland since 1900, causing more than $125 billion in damage.

Our residents need more money than for single-family home repairs, whether it is disaster recovery or general housing dollars and I will continue to strive on behalf of the neighborhoods and on behalf of hard-working homeowners who deal disasters funds, so they can continue on with their lives and return to their homes.

Victims of natural disasters are entitled to know who to contact when issues related to FEMA arise and to be assured that their questions are answered, and complaints addressed.

Allocating funding for measures such as Electricity Delivery for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, Irma, and Super Typhoon Yutu, is vital to negating the effects of these catastrophic events from significantly worsening.

Hospitals, first-responders, and a number of other vital institutions that help our communities recover from the aftereffects of natural disasters need access to electricity.

Moreover, with the severity of natural disasters and the ranging of their locations we must be proactive in our preparation for recovery.

Alternatively, water is the most essential recourse known to man.

A human can go for more than three weeks without food—Mahatma Gandhi survived 21 days of complete starvation—but water is a different story.

At least 60 percent of the adult body is made of it and every living cell in the body needs it to keep functioning.

Under extreme conditions an adult can lose 1 to 1.5 liters of sweat per hour and if that lost water is not replaced, the total volume of body fluid can fall quickly and, most dangerously, blood volume may drop.

We do not have the luxury of not preparing for hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, mudslides, tornadoes or other natural disasters.

With these events it is not a question of if, but when.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

Mrs. PLETCHER. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Cali-

fornia (Mr. McCARTHY), the minority leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Chairwoman, I thank Congresswoman KAY GRANGER for yielding me the time, and I thank the gentlewoman for offering this amendment. You will see me vote for this amendment.

Madam Chairwoman, I rise to ask a simple question to this body: What is our mission? Are we here to make positive change for our fellow Americans, to solve problems, to respond in times of hardship, or are we here to message? I would say, collectively, together, the answer should be we are here to make the change to hardship. These are the moments in time when people do not ask if you are a Republican or a Democrat.

When Houston was flooded, I was down there that week touring with Members from both sides of the aisle, and nobody was arguing from either side.

When Puerto Rico was hit, it was then, as I was the majority leader and Congresswoman STENY HOYER was the time, the whip, now the majority leader, that we put a code together with the Republicans and Democrats. We just didn’t go to the Keys. We went to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands together to work to help to make sure we rebuilt.

When California had the devastating fire, one of the worst we have ever seen, I flew with the President. When needed, we were met by the Governor of California and the Governor-elect. Not only did we tour together and were of different parties, but we talked about how to rebuild. We flew down because California has more than just one devastation and one fire. We talked and we bonded on the basis of how we would work together. That is what America expects.

The bill that we will have on the floor today does not meet the criteria of both of us working together, and that is just not right. But yesterday, with the work of Congresswoman KAY GRANGER and the others in the Appropriations Committee, we put together our working with the Senate Republicans on Senate Appropriations and made an offer to the Democratic side.

I want to publicly say that to everyone. I know we can do better, and I know we can solve this. I made a commitment to the majority leader, STENY HOYER: let’s work together and be right back here next week and get this solved. This has gone on too long, too much hardship, and we could rise to the occasion.

The information I have gotten back from the majority leader is that, yes, he wants to work with us; yes, they want to move this bill today. But I don’t want to move a bill for the sake of saying I moved a bill. I want to make law and help those in need.

We have spoken to the leader on the Senate side. I believe we can solve this all by next week.
So today when this vote is done, and the messages are given, let's not stop. Let's put our committee together, and let's work through this weekend and the beginning of next week. I know the very best of us will rise to this occasion. And we could be right back here not with a debate of partisanship, not with a vote that defines pretty close to how we are registered inside this floor, but one united vote that will become law that the President will sign to.

We know the outcome of the bill that we will vote on today. The President said he is not going to sign it. People are hurting. He wants to solve those problems, too. We want to make sure that even the money that we have already voted on to deliver gets delivered to the areas that need it the most. We want to make sure that we make the corrections so that the fires and the floods will not come back as severe as they were before from any ability that we have to stop that.

I will make this pledge to everyone in this House, all partisanship aside, let's do this together. Let's show America that when it comes to a time in which we are hurt, we will make law, and we will solve this. Just as the offer went across the aisle, I know we can do better.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I yield my colleague for yielding.

Madam Chair. I do want to speak in strong support of this amendment which we could be right back here and the most important amendment to be offered this morning. I certainly think that with respect to my home State of North Carolina where thousands of residents are eagerly awaiting the issuance of the Federal Register notice which this amendment references.

This notice will unlock billions of dollars, CDBG disaster mitigation funds, to rebuild communities in North Carolina, Texas, Florida, South Carolina, Virginia Islands, Georgia, and other locations.

Now, to be clear, while the underlying bill addresses the damage from Hurricane Florence which hit North Carolina last September, this Federal Register notice we are discussing addresses damage from Hurricane Matthew and from other storms, 2016 and 2017 disasters, where we are still awaiting relief and recovery.

Secretary Carson promised during our subcommittee hearing last March that the notice we are talking about today would be released on May 1, and as far as HUD was concerned that was achieved. But now it is OMB, it is the White House. They prevented this notice from being released. This so-called review appears to be a change in practice. That is not acceptable.

North Carolina residents have endured two hurricanes in the past 3 years. And other storm victims around this country should not have to endure more stalling and more slow-walking from President Trump.

This amendment sends a message that Congress is tired of the administration's behavior that we are serious about helping communities in need. So I couldn't more strongly support this amendment. I commend my colleague and the bipartisan group who have offered it.

Madam Chair, I urge support of the amendment.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Chair, I thank my cosponsors and my colleagues for their support of this amendment.

I agree. The time for action is now. Madam Chair, for the reasons that we have set forth, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER).

The question was taken; and the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MRS. AXNE

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 9 printed in part C of House Report 116-51. Ms. AXNE, you have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 4, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by $310,000,000)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 357, the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. AXNE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The amendment recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa.

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Chair, it has been almost 2 months since severe flooding devastated communities in southwest Iowa and our neighbors in Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri. Entire towns were under water. Homes were destroyed, and family farms were devastated. Small businesses are facing irreparable damage, and many local schools may be forced to permanently close their doors.

I have been down to the flood zones multiple times to speak with farmers, homeowners, and business owners who have lost everything. Their resilience is inspiring, but the damage is heartbreaking.

When I helped Lizzie Young and her family muck out her house, I saw firsthand how desperately Iowans need that disaster relief.

David Leuth, a farmer from Percival, has been kayaking out to his farm field to assess and repair his damage.

Fran Par, a Pacific Junction resident whose home remained under water for weeks, has been helping repair large city water pumps to move water out of the flooded area.

In Hamburg, Grape Community Hospital, the only rural hospital in the area, had to bring in military-operated water tanks just to keep its doors open to provide basic services. True to who Iowans are, they are now providing space to local businesses inside the hospital so that those businesses don't have to leave the area. We want to keep people in our State.

School district superintendents in Mills and Fremont Counties are locating displaced students to provide them with transportation and meals so they can keep coming to school on a daily basis.

Iowans need our help. My amendment today increases funding for programs that are crucial to helping Iowans and our neighbors rebuild and recover.

My amendment will increase funding for the Emergency Watershed Program which is desperately needed for the Midwest to recover. The Emergency Watershed Program helps communities quickly address severe damage to infrastructure and land and fix imminent hazards to life and property caused by natural disasters. From my firsthand experiences in the flooded areas, I can attest to the serious damage and hazards that these communities face.

The USDA had to release a new estimate in April for funding for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program due to the Midwest floods. Instead of the $125 million that was the prior estimate, the USDA has now estimated they will need $435 million. So my amendment of $310 million makes sure the USDA has enough money to help the Midwest. Without this funding increase, the USDA might not otherwise be able to ensure Iowans and our neighbors get the help that they deserve.

The Emergency Watershed Program funding will be used to remove debris from streams, roads, and bridges; it will help repair breached levees and stream banks, and it can be used to repair damaged and destroyed drainage facilities in communities like Hamburg. This funding can be used to repair the more than 40 levees that breached during the flooding, and those that broke suffered erosion damage from overspill from those that are still standing.

Experts believe it will take years to repair all the damage. Iowans don't have the time to wait, and the National Weather Service shows that the Midwest will remain vulnerable to flooding all spring and summer, and rivers are expected to stay high.
This Federal aid is vital to rebuilding Iowa communities. The Iowa Governor believes we sustained almost $1.6 billion in damages. Early estimates also indicate at least $214 million in agriculture-specific damage, and we still don’t know the true extent of our agriculture losses yet.

We can’t afford to wait. We can’t let partisan politics stall this crucial bill, and we must not turn our backs on our communities when they are recovering from these harsh realities. In our communities, we can’t solve the problem alone through just State or local resources. We need a partner with the Federal Government to repair badly damaged watersheds so vital to our Nation’s environmental security.

The amendment adds $310 million to the $125 million in the bill. Approximately 60 percent of the funds will go to the damage caused in the Midwest floods as well as communities impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Harvey, and Michael.

On the ground, Madam Chair, in both of our States this program will help restore the scarred lands. This important relief will proceed with repairing stream banks, repair levees, and restore conservation priorities.

Our communities are getting back on their feet, but we need this program to quickly address serious and long-term damages to the infrastructure and our land.

Madam Chair, I thank my colleagues for their consideration.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS).

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of this amendment to H.R. 2157, increasing funding for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

Last year, Utah, like many States in the West, faced devastating wildfires that affected areas of my district. The Pole Creek fire and Bald Mountain fire, which started on Pole Creek land, collectively burned over 117,000 acres and left, damaged, infrastructure and watersheds.

Many of my communities affected by the fires need assistance to rebuild and repair the critical watersheds that they rely on, but they have not been able to receive it. For example, Utah County has been approved for over $9 million in aid from NRCS through this program, but inadequate funding means they won’t receive those promised dollars.

Cleaning up and rebuilding after a wildfire is an important step in protecting against future disasters. I am pleased to support this amendment that will bring aid to communities like Utah County that have been affected by catastrophic natural disasters.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MRS. AXNE

The amendment is to increase funding for the Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief program.

As we have just discussed, I have toured the flood zones in my district, and I have experienced firsthand how badly the floodwaters have eroded and impacted our roads. The flooding was so severe that as of only just this past Wednesday of this week, our major interstate I-29 finally fully reopened, and this comes nearly 2 months after the flooding began. The closing of I-29 cut off the major north-south artery in Iowa that connects the Omaha-Council Bluffs area to Kansas City.

Drivers are forced to travel hours out of their way and find smaller two-lane roads and highways to get to where they need to be. The resulting truck and traffic damage on our secondary roads is already apparent. Residents have suffered as traffic has suddenly doubled and tripled, and we still have roads that aren’t open yet.

Mr. and Mrs. Patel, motel owners in Fremont County, are dependent on I-29 between and through the area to keep their business open, and that is not going to happen without functional roads. If our roads remain closed, children can’t get to school, community members cannot patron local businesses, and grandparents can’t spend time with their grandparents.

The Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief program will help Iowa address our immediate highway repair needs, restore traffic, and help restart our facilities.

Safe and functional roadways are some of the most critical infrastructures in any community, let alone one trying to recover from a disaster, and this type of Federal aid is vital to rebuilding Iowa communities in need.

Initial estimates from our Governor show we sustained over $1.6 billion in damages, and that number is growing. Programs like this one mean that Iowa and Nebraska can focus on repairing our local roads and ensure the Federal Government does its part in paying for those roads.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in the House and the
Senate to get to work helping hard-working Americans, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition, although, in fact, I do support the amendment.

The CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, the Federal Highway Administration’s latest estimate for the Emergency Relief program identified $1.3 billion in projects in disaster-affected States, and then any excess funds would remain available for future disaster relief.

I thank my colleagues for offering for this amendment. I think it is needed, and I support its adoption.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Chair, I want to close by thanking my colleagues across the aisle and, in particular, Representative FORTENBERRY and Mr. CURTIS for helping out all these communities, not just in our communities in Iowa, but across the country. I am looking forward to passing this disaster bill today so we can get this immediate relief out to folks across this country, including those in my own backyard.

I am grateful for all the work that has been done by the chair of Appropriations and the subcommittee chair, SANFORD BISHOP, to help us get where we need to be on this. I am looking forward to going back to Iowa and letting them know we have got the funding necessary to help them repair their lives.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mrs. AXNE).

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part C of House Report 116–51 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. PELMUTTER of Colorado.

Amendment No. 3 by Mr. SABLAN of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Amendment No. 6 by Mr. HUFFMAN of California.

Amendment No. 8 by Ms. FLETCHER of Texas.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.
The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The Clerk ordered the recorded vote.

The result of the vote was announced.

The amendment is in order.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

The CHAIR then put the question to the House, there being 2 minutes remaining.

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFERED AMENDMENT

The amendment to the amendment is offered by Mr. HOFFMAN.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

The CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MRS. FLETCHER

The CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redeems the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded. 

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 393, noes 20, not voting 24, as follows:

[AYES Roll No. 200]

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. VEASEY). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE and the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FINKENAUER) having assumed the chair, Mr. VEASEY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole on the House of the United States, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2157) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 357, he reported the bill, as amended by the substitution back to the House with sundry further amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any further amendment reported from the
Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I am in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. GRANGER moves to recommit the bill H.R. 2157 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following inscription:

Page 58, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $2,880,000,000)”.

Mr. VISCLOSKY (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman’s motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A point of order is reserved.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk continued to read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas recognizes for 5 minutes.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, my amendment amends the bill by adding the additional $2.88 billion the administration has said is needed to care for the unaccompanied children who continue to flood our southern border.

I am offering this motion because the bill we are considering today does not address this need. The funding in this motion is just one piece of what is needed to respond to this crisis.

The children who come across our border without a parent become the responsibility of our Federal Government. As of the end of April, nearly 13,000 unaccompanied children were in the care of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

We are told that if these trends continue, the Department will soon run out of funds to care for these children and face Antideficiency Act violations.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. HUNTS) offered this same amendment in a full committee markup of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies’ appropriations bill just 2 days ago. At that time, the chair told us that the amendment would not be supported because we could not wait for a regular appropriations bill to be enacted.

We were told this funding was needed now. By including the funds in this emergency supplemental bill, we will do just that.

We are giving our colleagues on the other side of the aisle another opportunity today to provide the funding necessary to continue to care for these children. Whatever our positions may be on border security, I think we can all agree that we have a responsibility to ensure that our agencies have sufficient funding to do what we have asked them to do.

I urge a “yes” vote on the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation of a point of order is withdrawn.

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Connecticut is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, the administration submitted a supplemental request last week for an additional $20 billion for the unaccompanied children program.

We are carefully reviewing that request. We expect the administration to provide further details about the proposed use of those funds. We have had bicameral, bipartisan meetings to get more details on the request, and we expect that in the next several days, but we need additional details from the administration before we can sign off on this request.

How many children are expected to be referred by Customs and Border Protection over the next few months? What kinds of shelter beds are we paying for with the $2.9 billion? Let’s be clear. There are child welfare differences, and major cost differences, among traditional beds that are $250 a night, soft-sided dormitories, and brick and mortar influx shelters, which run from $750 to $1,250 per bed per day.

Does the estimate include appropriate on-site mental health professionals and clinicians for facilities so that the children have access to the services they are legally required to have? We know they have been wanting in those services.

These staffing ratios are critical, as are legal services and child advocates for the most vulnerable children in ORR’s care. We need to know if these costs have been included in OMB’s estimates.

I assure my colleagues, we are taking this request seriously, but you should not be fooled. This bill is not the right vehicle. It is the wrong bill for the unaccompanied children program.

This motion to recommit does not provide funding for unaccompanied children. It adds $2.9 million to the account for Head Start.

Madam Speaker, my friends should have been with us on our appropriations bill on Labor, Health and Human Services, and related agencies just 2 days ago. They had a chance to vote for $4.5 billion for childcare, for child welfare. They said no. They said no to this.

So don’t be fooled by this, keeping in mind this is the 1-year anniversary of their child abuse policy to separate our kids at the border.

You want to know about unaccompanied kids? You could have cared for them last year and every day since.

Vote “no” on the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Iowa (Mrs. AXNE).

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, passing this disaster supplemental is vital to any community that suffered from disasters over these last 18 months. But I rise today to talk about one community—mine, Iowa’s Third Congressional District.

Entire towns were underwater. Many Iowans have had their homes, small businesses, and family farms destroyed. Medical centers and schools face irreparable damage and may never be able to reopen their doors again.

Parents are worried about where they are going to be able to send their kids to school. The lasting impacts on the health and well-being of Iowa families and our rural communities are beyond calculation.

I have been to our flood zones multiple times to speak to farmers, homeowners, and business owners who have lost everything. Their resilience is inspiring, but the damage is devastating. And Iowans are hardworking, tax-paying Americans.

This motion to recommit is playing partisan politics with people’s lives, and it is unacceptable.

I helped Lizzie Young and her family muck out their house. David Leuth, a farmer from Percival, has been kayaking out to view his fields. Fran Mierzwa from Pacific Junction had her house underwater for almost 2 months.

Great Community Hospital in Hamburg, the only rural hospital in the area, had to bring in military-operated water tanks just to keep its doors open for basic services. Now, because they are standing up for their community, they are providing space for small businesses to operate, in hopes that those businesses don’t leave the area so that community doesn’t die.

If this motion to recommit passes, it will prevent this disaster funding from moving forward.

If this motion to recommit passes, it will prevent disaster funding from moving forward. A “yes” vote is to tell Iowans and Americans to wait longer. A “yes” vote is a slap in the face to every Iowan and American to wait longer. A “yes” vote is a slap in the face to every Iowan and American to wait longer. A “yes” vote is a slap in the face to every Iowan and American to wait longer. A “yes” vote is a slap in the face to every Iowan and American to wait longer.
Madam Speaker, I urge this body to stop making Americans wait, to vote down this motion to recommit, and to pass this bill.

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill. Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 199, noes 215, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 202] YEA—257

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

[Roll No. 202]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill. Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 199, noes 215, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 202]
The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal. Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 962, BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, if this unanimous consent request cannot be entertained, I urge the Speaker and the majority leader to immediately schedule the born-alive bill for immediate consideration in the House.

The Speaker pro tempore. The gentleman is not recognized for debate.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019, TO TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader for going through the schedule and walking through some of the bills we are going to be taking up next week.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who is the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for those remarks. I also thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his remarks.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 12 p.m. for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. A complete list of suspension bills will be made available by the close of business today.

The House will also consider H.R. 312, the Marshpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act. That will be considered under a rule.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 987, the Strengthening Health Care and Lowering Prescription Drug Costs Act. This legislation is composed of seven bills that would protect and expand affordable healthcare and lower prescription drug costs. The legislation consists of separate bills from the Energy and Commerce Committee to ban junk health plans, bring generic prescription drugs to market more quickly, provide funding for States to establish State-based marketplaces under the Affordable Care Act, require and provide funding for outreach and enrollment, and fund the prevention program that assists Americans during the open enrollment period.

All of these bills will be directed at trying to reverse some of the steps that have been taken to undermine Americans’ access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Lastly, Madam Speaker, the House will consider H.R. 5, the Equality Act. LGBT Americans and their families deserve to be protected against all forms of discrimination no matter where they live. This legislation would ban discrimination against LGBT people in housing, employment, education, jury service, credit and financing, and public accommodations.

Mr. SCALISE, Madam Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the majority leader for going through the schedule and walking through some of the bills we are going to be taking up next week.

As we just dealt with disaster funding, I know the gentleman is well aware of the disagreements that have been expressed by many on our side, as well as the President and some Senators over there, about some of the things that weren’t in the disaster bill, some of the problems regarding the crisis at the border, to help make sure that we can do better at addressing that crisis that is real and that is growing, as well as some of the problems that were identified in the agriculture funding that was included in the bill where it was identified that there are some problems in the language to help some of our farmers get the actual money that they needed.

A lot of those fixes have been negotiated, and those bills have gone on for a few weeks now.

I would hope that as the bill goes over to the Senate, the gentlelman and his side would continue to work with our side—House, Senate, Republican, and Democrat—to achieve a bipartisan disaster relief bill that can ultimately get all these problems addressed and signed by the President.
Those conversations are ongoing. Hopefully, they will continue through the weekend, and when the bill gets over to the Senate, then we can try to get all of that resolved so we can quickly move that bill through the process to the President’s desk.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The good news is, we just passed a bipartisan bill with 34 Members from the friend’s side voting in favor of that bill to give very, very substantial relief and an additional $3 billion to take care of the storms and natural disasters that have occurred since we passed a bill to the Senate many, many weeks ago that, unfortunately, was not dealt with by the Senate, largely because there was a reluctance to help the Americans who happened to live in Puerto Rico to the extent that we are helping other people around the country as we should.

I agree with the gentleman. We had a bipartisan bill today. I am hopeful that we can have a bipartisan bill moving forward.

As my friend knows, the amendment that was offered, the MTR that was offered, was offered to an object in the bill where there had been already a substantial increase, with apparently the argument being made on the floor that that money was going to be taken from that which we appropriated to it to another area to which it was not appropriated.

We had that somewhat, I want to say, confrontation with the President on doing exactly that, taking money from MILCON and wanting to put it in a wall.

Very frankly, there was the opportunity to do that in the subcommittee and in the committee. In fact, as the gentleman knows, many of his colleagues on that committee voted against funding the level of Head Start that they wanted to make a $2.8 billion increase to.

That aside, I will tell the gentleman that, clearly, we want to make sure that we handle people at the border in a humanitarian way that is consistent with the American way.

It is ironic, I will tell my friend, as you heard in the debate, that today is the 1-year anniversary when we started a policy plan with children from their parents at the border, separating them. Some of those children to this day have not been reunited with their parents. We are very concerned about that.

One of the things that I know the gentleman knows is that when we opened the government was shut down when we took over—we included a little over $500 million for humanitarian expenditures for people at the border so we could treat them fairly. I think, frankly, that money has not all been spent at this point in time. We do know there is a challenge for us at the border, with the numbers of people who are seeking asylum and seeking refuge. We are certainly, as the gentleman suggested, going to work on trying to respond to that in a bipartisan, effective way.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, reining my time, first, to address the gentleman’s comments. First of all, let me correct him because there was a bad day.

Today, we are seeing experiences through Homeland Security where more than 4,000 illegal crossings occurred multiple times.

Secretary Jeh Johnson under President Obama said that when he would get that report every day—it was the first report he would get as Secretary of Homeland Security—of how many people crossed illegally the day before, if more than 1,000 crossed illegally, it was a bad day.

Today, we are seeing experiences through Homeland Security where more than 4,000 illegal crossings occurred multiple times. It is why the President sent a supplemental funding request, and we would like to see that included in this bill.

We tried to start addressing that problem.

I know maybe there is an inability on the other side to look into this properly because there is so much fixation with the Russia collusion, Russia’s denial about the Mueller report that showed there was no collusion.

We just saw the Judiciary Committee come out with a contempt finding. I don’t know if the gentleman is planning a floor vote to bring contempt to the floor, the bill that just came out of the Judiciary Committee, but it would be unprecedented—probably the first time in American history—that somebody was found in contempt of Congress for not complying with the law, for not breaking the law.

I would hope we can come together and agree that we have got to solve this problem, and that is what the supplemental request starts to address. It surely doesn’t address it entirely. And what we had to do over the last few months, and we will continue that. Hopefully, we can resolve that, too.

But, in the meantime, I would like to see us address that problem.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

He had a lot of facts and assertions in his comments. First of all, let me correct: He adopted the President’s number, which the President was wrong. It bore no relationship to reality. He picked it out of the air. Numerous fact-checkers have indicated that.

The facts are that $42 billion has, in fact, been allocated, $20.3 obligated, and $12.7 outlaid. So, clearly, there are funds that have been allocated, but not the $90 billion to which the gentleman referred.

I think that is why we have been put to the process of passing another bill.

The good news in that delay is, we did take care of the Midwest. We put $3 billion in there for disaster relief that occurred subsequent to the first emergency disaster relief bill that we passed. And, as I said, we included $500 million when we opened up the government for humanitarian relief.

We included another half a billion dollars for judges because there are, as the gentleman knows, legitimate seekers of asylum who are fearful of their own lives, the lives of their families
are in danger, and they are coming here.

The gentleman well knows there are some people in the White House who want to see the numbers of immigrants to America almost eliminated, so that there is some discussion and disagreement in the White House. I don’t know exactly where the President stands on that, but he certainly has been hostile to immigration. So, take the gentleman at his belief, but we have not necessarily seen that from the White House.

Having said that, we will work—because we believe, as he does, that people who come to the United States need to be treated, for whatever reason they come to the United States, in a way consistent with our American values, in a humanitarian way.

And it is—I will repeat—ironic that we are debating this issue on the year’s anniversary of children being taken from the arms of their mothers and fathers and sent hundreds of miles and, in some cases, thousands of miles away, and still have some of them who have not been reunited with their parents.

I am glad that there is concern about humanitarian treatment now. That is appropriate. I share the gentleman’s view on that. Hopefully, we can reach bipartisan agreement in the very near term.

As the gentleman knows, the President’s request was just sent down last week. As the gentleman further knows, we have appropriated money to certain objects. And I know we had a confrontation on that, and both the House and the Senate thought the President was taking money and applying it to an object which we had not authorized.

Then the Congress stood up for itself, in a bipartisan way, in the Senate and in the House.

Unfortunately, the President vetoed that bill, and he is spending money that was not authorized by the Congress of the United States.

We are facing a number of challenges to the underpinning of our democratic system and the authority of the Congress of the United States versus the exercise of authoritarian power by the President of the United States, and I would hope the gentleman would share that view.

But, having said all that, we clearly want to get to the same objective, and I am sure the Senate—and I know, as I have told Mrs. Lowey—the Senate are going to review the request, as Ms. Scalise has just talked to Mrs. Lowey—they are going to review the request, as Ms. Scalise has just talked to Mrs. Lowey.

I hope that we can move that as quickly as possible.

Mr. Scalise, Madam Speaker, let’s be clear. On the problems with our immigration laws, the gentleman mentioned asylum. We all know right now somebody comes across the border on a daily basis—in the thousands on some days. And they come across and claim asylum, coming through illegal parts of our border, not the ports of entry.

The President has made it clear: If you are seeking asylum, there is a legal way to do it. Come through a port of entry and properly seek asylum.

Many people know there are coyotes, people who make money human trafficking people across the border, and they read from a script. They all know the script. Whether they are seeking asylum or not, they just read the script, and they are let in.

We see it all the time, and they know the game, because it is a loophole in the law that we have tried to fix and haven’t gotten any help from the other side.

But they know that if they read the script and they know—ironically, they have come through multiple countries that have offered them asylum, and they have turned down that asylum.

So that is not the right way to do it. The President said: Come the right way. And I hope that today we hear from the President say get rid of immigration laws. He said fix the immigration laws, secure the border, have a legal way to come here, and get rid of things like the visa lottery system and turn it into a merit-based system to make this law work better for the people who want to come here and seek the American Dream.

And I know we have beaten this to death, and we will continue to debate it. But we have had conversations over the weekend to solve these other problems in the disaster bill that aren’t included and clear up the number.

We have seen a number of $90 billion plus that has been appropriated to Puerto Rico. Regardless, clearly, it is well over 50, probably closer to 90. We will continue to talk about that as well and address this problem.

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

CELEBRATING MIAMI’S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

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

Ms. Shalala. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Small Business Week to celebrate one of the longest-thriving small businesses in Florida’s 27th Congressional District.

In publication for 61 years, Miami’s Community Newspapers is a family-run business founded by Ronald Miller in 1958. Today, brothers Grant and Michael Miller and the 30 employees of Miami’s Community Newspapers as a great small business.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAY PRICE

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

Mr. Comer. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of my friend Mr. Jay Price of Casey County in the First Congressional District of Kentucky.

After graduating from Western Kentucky University as an ag major, Jay returned home to manage his family’s beef cattle farm and teach agriculture at Casey County High School. Jay devoted his career to educating nearly three decades of young farmers. His students will not only remember the skills they learned but the life lessons and guidance he provided at every opportunity.

As an FFA adviser, teacher, and mentor, his support in and out of the classroom had an outsized influence on thousands of young adults. By connecting them with industry and State leaders, he ensured they were well prepared to pursue remarkable educational and career opportunities.

Jay also dedicated his time to advancing the prosperity of his fellow farmers through his leadership in local and State organizations. His peers recognized his profound influence on Kentucky agriculture and inducted him as a member of the Kentucky Cattlemen’s Association Hall of Fame, along with many other accolades throughout his life.

His passion for the agriculture industry and his students is rivaled only by his love for his family: his wife, Carol; his daughters, Lauren and Lindsay; their husbands, Brian and Jon; and his...
grandchildren Clay, Avery, and Hudson.

I join with his entire family—including his mother, siblings, and a host of friends who he considered family—in celebrating and remembering his lifetime of service to others.

TIME FOR THE SENATE TO ACT ON HOUSE-PASSED BILLS

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today because I am frustrated. I came to Washington, D.C., because I was tired of politics as usual. That is why the voters of Orange County sent me here. I also came here to honor my constitutional obligation and the oath of office I took.

Yet, today, we see a President and an administration that continues to sabotage the passage of bipartisan legislation. I ask and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Academic Magnet High School in North Charleston, which was just ranked the number one high school in the country by U.S. News & World Report.

Academic Magnet students embody hard work and determination in the classroom, along with the passionate teachers and administrators who work tirelessly to help students achieve their goals and dreams. Scholarship, honor, and character are the principles that guide students and faculty at Aca-

Academic Magnet has a graduation rate of 100 percent, a college readiness score of 100, and is nationally ranked as one of the top STEM schools in the country. This educational achievement should not go unrecognized. I know, personally, the quality of students that they produce by the legis-

I know that the Mooresville Police Department, and the community during his difficult time.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to re-

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National Nurses Week to celebrate America’s hardworking and professional caregivers, our nurses.

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6 through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

Men and women who enter the nursing profession care for bodies, minds and educate and empower pa-

This rewarding profession allows nurses to deeply impact their patients’ lives. Often, nurses help those facing serious health challenges.

Nursing is a science; it is an art; and it is a profession for the most giving, caring, and compassionate individuals.

Nurses help patients and their families enter new stages of life. From the birth of a child to the challenge of an aging parent, nurses are there, providing expertise and encouragement, delivering care and compassion, and working to deliver positive outcomes.

Madam Speaker, some nurses travel the globe caring for others. Others are the well-known caregivers in their small communities.

Wherever they practice, I say thank you to our nurses for caring so deeply for all of us.

□ 1300

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Academic Magnet High School in North Charleston, which was just ranked the number one high school in the country by U.S. News & World Report.

Academic Magnet has a graduation rate of 100 percent, a college readiness score of 100, and is nationally ranked as one of the top STEM schools in the country. This educational achievement should not go unrecognized. I know, personally, the quality of students that they produce by the legis-

I know that the Mooresville Police Department, and the community during his difficult time.

separating immigrant children from their family is a violation of basic human rights and a betrayal of our values as a nation.

In the wake of this terrible policy, my colleagues and I went to work and spoke out because, Madam Speaker, we are a nation of immigrants. I intro-

Today, the other side of the aisle presented a false motion to recommit. We voted it down because we are, Madam Speaker, a nation of immigrants.

This administration must own up to its failure, and my colleagues and I will continue to work to make sure this never happens again.

RECOGNIZING BERKS COUNTY MARCH FOR LIFE

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the ninth annual Berks County March for Life, which I attended this past weekend. I was proud to join over 250 participants, and I would like to thank Helen MacMinn for organizing the event and Donna Lea Merritt for inviting me.

Madam Speaker, I am proudly pro-life and believe in the sanctity of innocent, unborn human life. I was deeply troubled to see a Democratic Pennsylvania State representative openly be-

This behavior is reprehensible for anyone, but particularly appalling from an elected official. This type of hostile discourse should be repudiated by Democrats and Republicans.

The Berks March for Life event was a wonderful reminder of the unity and kind spirit found among the pro-life
community in Pennsylvania’s Ninth Congressional District. I commend Pro-Life Berks for their dedication.

HONORING THOSE WHO STRUGGLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today by honor every American who has ever struggled with mental illness.

With May being National Mental Health Awareness Month as well as National Nurses Month, we recommitted ourselves to: Building better futures for those struggling with a mental health condition; Supporting research into diagnoses and treatment; Erasing the stigma around seeking help; Removing barriers to high-quality and timely mental healthcare by educating and training doctors, nurses, and behavioral specialists dedicated to treating these disabling conditions.

Our Nation is also battling an epidemic of veteran suicide. Tragically, over 7,000 veterans die by suicide every year, more than the total number of American servicemembers killed in action during the entire Global War on Terrorism.

It is no coincidence that our Nation is short 100,000 neuropsychiatrists and 500,000 advance practice nurses in these fields. At the VA alone, today, there are nearly 50,000 medical vacancies. If we are to make progress, then the country, our Nation, must support investments in educating these physicians and nurses to treat those who, every day, look for a better way of life.

I look forward to partnering with Members of Congress to help America treat these illnesses and create a more humane society for all.

REPUBLICANS HAVE NO PLAN TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 986, the Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act.

I am proud of the progress that this legislation makes to protect Americans’ health care coverage, and I look forward to continuing to expand access and lower healthcare costs.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION REFUSES RULE

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to condemn the Trump administration’s dangerous final rule that allows healthcare workers to discriminate against patients based on their personal beliefs.

Too often, healthcare in this country is riddled with inequality, and while Democrats in the House are working to address this, the administration is trying to make it worse.

This policy will be most harmful to our sisters of color who often live in areas with hospitals that may refuse comprehensive medical care, including abortion and birth control.

Refusals have already threatened the life of women with pregnancy complications. This rule could make the maternal mortality crisis among African American women even worse.

This is yet another attempt by the Trump administration to impose their beliefs and take away our healthcare and our rights, and I will continue to fight to ensure that healthcare is equal for all Americans.

Dr. Lawren, from my home state of Illinois, wrote to the Trump Administration in response to this rule.

She said, “As a physician, it is absolutely crucial that I provide the same level of care for every patient no matter how my own beliefs differ from theirs. I often have patients with whom I disagree about a wide spectrum of political and social causes. It would be so outrageously inappropriate for me to use that as grounds to change my medical care or to alter the level of respect and compassion I show for these patients.”

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. OCAÑO-CORTÉZ). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOMERT. Madam Speaker, we have heard a great deal today—actually, from both sides of the aisle pointing fingers across the way at the opposing party—about the issue of children: taking care of children that are brought here illegally, taking care of children that supposedly come here on their own.

But since we know that nobody crosses from Mexico into the United States illegally without the permission of the drug cartel that controls that section of the Mexico-U.S. border, it is not really accurate to say a child comes unaccompanied, because a child can’t cross Mexico by himself. A child is brought by somebody.

Unfortunately, and as the figures from both government groups, Doctors Without Borders, and others are pretty staggering when you realize that such a large percentage—25 percent, 30 percent—of girls who come to the United States through Mexico are raped.

I have seen too many rape trees that it breaks my heart. It is just, as the poet said, incredible, the inhumanity to man. It is staggering, and sometimes it is difficult to tell people no that want to come here, but there is not a country in the world that lets more people into that country than the United States does. There is nowhere.

Countries that are much bigger geographically, countries that have many more people, countries that have more space per person, there is no country that is as generous with the right being given to come in to a country legally as the United States, and I love that about our country.

But it is important to have rules about who gets to come in. Obviously, some have projected that there may be 1 billion, 1.5 billion people who would like to come to the United States. If the 300, 350 million or so people here were to have a billion people come in, obviously, this country would cease to exist as it has or is or could be. It would cease to exist. It would become a Third World country. There would be so much massive unemployment overwhelming the social services. Disease would become rampant.

As we see people coming here from other countries, there are diseases that we had completely eliminated in the United States that are now being reintroduced to the United States because we have not enforced our borders and made sure that people coming in, as welcome as they are to come in legally, that they are coming in with a disease that puts people in the United States in jeopardy. Once you do that, then you don’t continue to be that light on the hill that so many want to come to. There is no place left.

As one president, there were some people here who said: Well, you know. If we keep losing more and more of our freedom here in the United States, maybe we just can all go to Australia.

I had a few guys that I met with from Australia. I thought they would find that amusing. But they didn’t smile; they didn’t laugh. They said: Do you not understand? If you lose your freedom here in America, China will take
us over in a heartbeat. There will be no place you are going to be able to go.

The United States of America is the place that gives everyone else in the world hope for freedom.

R 1315

I ran into the same thing in Nigeria, people implopping, in fact, some West Africans who were Christians wanted to meet with me before I left. The oldest gentleman said: You know, we wanted to make sure, before you went back to Washington, you understood we were all so thrilled when you elected your first Black President.

They said: But since President Obama has been the leader in the United States, we have seen America get weaker and weaker. And you have to make sure people in Washington understand, when America gets weaker, we suffer.

Ebenezer was his name. He said: You know how we know where we are going when we die. We are Christians. We are believers. But our only chance of having some degree of safety in this life is if America is strong.

Unfortunately, as I heard from people there, the good and since, the Obama administration was putting requirements: Look, we will give you more help in neutralizing Boko Haram, but you are going to have to legalize abortion, start paying for those, and you have to legalize same-sex marriage, and then we will give you some serious help with Boko Haram.

In the meantime, the American administration had a hashtag: #bringbackourgirls. It didn't really do much. Actually, it didn't do anything, really. The hashtag went around and around, but thank God for people who stepped up like our government did not and actually helped girls, and some continue to be helped. I won't talk about where they are, how well they are doing.

But it is just really tragic when the United States Government that so many people around the world look to for hope, look to as an example of what perhaps their country could be someday, start losing hope when they see what happens here. It is tragic.

I know some say, and we have seen this over the years, whether it is Dr. Spock's book on how to raise children, don't ever say no. Gee, you might hurt their self-confidence. Don't ever punish, just encourage.

But the fact is that the reason we have laws that don't allow children to enter into binding contracts is because we understand that children cannot be sold, or entertained. That is why criminals are able to dangle candy or in some way entice children into situations wherein their lives are destroyed.

There is a time to say no out of love and caring.

I don't know anybody on either side of the aisle here, either party, who wants to see children harmed, but the fact is, as the border patrolmen tell me constantly both when I am down there all night or when I am up here and hear from them: When you guys make it sound like anybody is welcome, especially if they have a child in their group, well, we have more children now coming, often to their own detriment, than we have ever seen.

So I understand the feeling, gee, let's don't say no to any child who wants to come into America accompanied, unaccompanied. We extend our arms.

But what happens? We know every time carrots are coming in, big, small, people die trying to get in. The drug cartels are so corrupt, they will utilize children. They have no problem taking young girls and using them in sex trafficking.

And by our leaving that open, I hear it all the time from people who work the border: You guys lure them up here to their own harm. If you would just secure the border, these folks will quit coming, and you won't have thousands of girls being raped. You won't have people being sold into slavery.

And I say "sold," but it sounds more like, from the stories we get down there that what happens, and it is not on the list of questions a border patrolman asks as they are in-processing people, but sometimes ask: How much did you have to pay? And sometimes they will add: to the gang or the drug cartel to get you in here illegally? The answer normally is 5, 6, 7, $5,000.

And again, the question is not on their list to ask, but sometimes they ask: How did you get that money? You don't have that kind of money. Where would you come up with that kind of money?

So often, the answer is: We got a thousand here. We had a thousand sent, $1,500 sent from people in the United States, and they are going to let us work the rest off when we get where we are going:

So, so many are not sold into slavery. You just agree, without realizing, they are about to become indentured servants, or drug cartels, and they are going to let us be a servant either in sex trafficking or drug trafficking.

So often I have stood there and watched people waiting to be processed, and they will have an address in a city in the U.S. And I have seen them, different times, exchange, and they would switch cities, and then they would tell the border patrolman: Here is the city where I have relatives, where I can take care of.

And it is where the drug cartels told them to go. So, technically, they are not sold into slavery, but they have agreed to be indentured servants to the drug cartels.

So it is amazing how many people seem shocked when they read story after story about how the drug cartels in Mexico have big operations in cities all over America. That is why the border patrolmen say: You know what the drug cartels call us? They call us their logistics.

Like the commercial?

Well, yeah. Like the commercial.

They get them across the border, and then the U.S. Government ships these people wherever the drug cartels want them to go.

Right now, they are so overwhelmed on our border, it is just tragic.

I know there are Christian groups that receive millions of dollars for going down and helping get people in and taking care of them. And it sure makes it appear like they are scared of losing the millions of dollars they get for working with illegal aliens, but we need to be realistic.

When you are in a country that is self-governing, where you have an obligation as part of the government, if you are a citizen serving on juries, that makes you it judge of the facts of a case, or running for office, or voting, you vote because you are supposed to be the one who hires the servants who come to work in the county seat, the State Capitol, the Federal Capitol.

But the people are supposed to be the real rulers, and those of us elected are supposed to be the servants. But there is an obligation that goes with the freedoms, and that obligation means you have got to enforce the law across the board.

So when people quote Scripture, saying, we have got to be good to the foreigners—true; we have got to help the widows and orphans—true; we ought to be encouraging and embracing of families—true.

But when you are acting as the government, you have a different role, and that is a role to ensure that the law is enforced evenly and fairly across the board without regard to someone’s financial situation, social status, or anything else.

That is why there are verses in the Bible that say something to pray for is people who will not show favoritism to the rich and, also, verses say, not show favoritism to the poor. You treat everyone fairly across the board.

I sure got a lot of hateful things when I was a judge, and I revoked the probation of a daughter of one of the wealthy oil families in my hometown. They even had many of my supporters in the courtroom, thinking that would intimidate me from doing what I would have done to anyone else.

But as a judge, that is the job. You don't show favoritism to people because of their wealth or because of their lack of it. You enforce the laws fairly across the board.

Just as it would be crazy for a parent to welcome a child who can't swim to come jump in the pool, you say: No, No. That is dangerous. No, don't stick anything into the electric socket. There is a time to say no. But some think that being loving and caring means never to say no. There is a time to say no.

If we enforce our borders and do so fairly and are fair about the over a million visas that we give out in this country—again, the most generous of any country in the world—just do so...
fairly, then you don’t have people forced into sex trafficking, forced into drug trafficking.

You know, the best, most compassionate thing we could say or do to help people in Mexico would be to totally transform the border. But we are making the people suffer. We have a lot of people come in who are legally coming in and to shut down the money that the drug cartels are making off the drug trafficking and the sex trafficking because, according to some estimates, before they averted getting so much money from human trafficking, they estimated $80 billion, one source, $80 billion or so from drug trafficking.

And what an incredible business model. They are making all this money off drugs, but they don’t have to hire employees, because the employees come to them and pay them a fee to help them get to a place where they can sell the drugs for them at no charge to the drug cartels.

And don’t think the drug cartels don’t know how to say no and take lives. They know how to cut heads off and put them on pikes to intimidate people, to keep them in line. They know more effective in Mexico than being a law enforcement officer who is dedicated to truly enforcing the law fairly, including against people in the drug cartels. Their lives are at great risk, as are their families. But if we are secure the border, build a wall where we need it, secure the border, then the money dries up to pay for corruption in Mexico.

Mexico, you think about Mexico. They ought to be a top ten economy. They have incredible natural resources. They have got a better location than North America. They are between North and South America. They are between the two oceans. They ought to be the greatest country—these are the natural resources, and, of course, they have got some of the hardest working people in the world.

Why are they not a top ten economy? Because of corruption.

How is corruption funded? From money coming across our border illegally for drugs that come in illegally or sex trafficking coming in.

What an incredible gift to the people of Mexico, so many of whom dream of a day when they could have an incredibly vibrant economy and they didn’t have to worry about corrupt police or corrupt government officials.

That is why I know, when you hear some so-called official say they don’t want the border secured, then you can pretty well take it to the bank they are taking money to the bank from the drug cartels; otherwise, they would want to see Mexico reach its potential, be reached as quickly as we are allowing tens of billions of dollars to flow from the United States to the drug cartels for the corruption of government and harm to people.

We shouldn’t be playing politics with things like that. Let’s secure the border and take care of folks who are here and ensure that people who come into this country do so legally.

Actually, I asked a question to Secretary Nielsen when she was at Homeland Security this year. I asked her: What if we were to have immigration judges, not in an interior courtroom somewhere across America, but had immigration judges there at the border? Even if we had to have bigger tents, have the immigration judges at the border? She said that would solve the problem. You wouldn’t have to give somebody a notice to come back for a hearing 4 years from now to determine whether they can stay in the country legally or not, and for which most people never come back for their hearing.

I am hopeful that, at some point, President Trump will say: Do you know what we need to have the economy go? We need to have the economy grow. We need to have the economy thrive. We need to have the economy get its legs. You know, the best, most compa-

I did vote against my own party’s motion to recommit. That is not the way that kind of spending should be done. Two billion dollars will end up luring people again to this country. If we advertise, and people will know, the drug cartels will use it. Look, they just voted through a provision that will provide $2 to $3 billion for medicine, for people who come into this country. That is something we should be playing a game with. That is why I voted no. This is too serious to be taken lightly.
drinking and driving, and ended up back in my courtroom.

So, this time, I thought, well, if he is going to be here, obviously, he is an alcoholic, so I sent him to a substance abuse felony punishment facility because everybody there is either an alcoholic or a drug addict. They go through a 12-step program. And I figured, well, if he is going to be in the country, for heaven’s sake, he at least needs to be clean and sober. And I got word that at that facility he was there about 6 weeks. He was depressed. I would imagine he came back in the country somewhere, but, obviously, not back to my county.

So why wouldn’t we enforce our borders? A country that has no borders, or that has borders that are not enforced, it is not a country, it is not definable, it is just kind of an area where people go.

If we are going to continue to be a shining light for so many countries and so many people around the world, we need to follow the law, not show favoritism, not to people because they are rich, but to be fair and enforce the laws across the board.

That brings me to an important point that has been in the news a great deal lately, and, actually, it has been going on for some time. This country, regardless of how many people may want to rewrite history, was largely inhabited and founded by people who were Christians, different denominations, who were looking to have a place where they were not persecuted for being a Christian. And I know, we are told, as Christians, we are going to suffer for Christ’s sake. And I know Jesus said, remember, when they hate you, they hated me first.

But, for whatever reason, we have been allowed to have a country, unlike most any place in history, where you are not persecuted for being a Christian. Now, there are different denominations that would have big controversies with other denominations. Some of that was playing out in the first 5 weeks of the constitutional convention in 1787.

That is when Ben Franklin gave his famous speech. How do we know what he said? Well, Madison was taking notes. But afterwards, Franklin was asked for a copy of his speech. He sat down and wrote it out. Everybody who was in the room heard the speech said: Oh, yeah, this is word for word everything he said.

And I know most children apparently in the country are taught that Ben Franklin was a deist, you know, somebody who believed that there was some force, some being, something that created the universe. And if that thing, being, force still exists anywhere, it never interferes with the laws of nature or the activity of human beings. It never interferes with the laws of nature or the activity of human beings. And kids are being taught Ben Franklin was a deist.

But he stood up. He is 82 years old. He has gout, he has advanced arthritis, he is overweight, he has trouble getting up and down the few steps into Independence Hall, he has trouble getting up, he has a cane, and often had to have help.

And he hadn’t really spoken to that point at the convention. One of the people at the convention wrote that President Washington—he wasn’t President of the country, he was President of the constitutional convention—that President Washington looked relieved when Dr. Franklin sought recognition because there was so much screaming going on. Franklin didn’t have an M.D. or a Ph.D., but he was certainly recognized as being worthy of being a doctor.

But Franklin gets up—he probably had help—and we know what he said because he wrote it down. And he starts about saying, you know, we have been going on for nearly 5 weeks. We have got more noes than ayes on virtually every vote. And then this is his verbatim words:

How has it happened, sir, that we have not thought of humbly seeking illumination from the source of all life?

That is not verbatim, but close.

He said:

In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room. Our prayers so were heard, and they were graciously answered.

Then he goes on to point out that everybody in there should remember specific things that they prayed for as leaders in the Continental Congress during the Revolution, and that they should remember how specific things they prayed for were answered by God.

And then back to verbatim he says:

“I have lived, sir, a long time.” He is a year or so away from meeting his maker. And he said: “And the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?”

He is talking about the Bible: We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings that no empire is going to rise without his aid.

He says that we have a chance to create something special. These are not his verbatim words. He said if we take advantage of that and we come together, by the grace of God, we are going to have a special country. He adds, without God’s grace, we are going to succeed no better than the builders of Babel.

He said that we will be confounded by our local partial interests, and we, ourselves, shall become a byword down through the ages.

He goes on and ends up making a motion, just like during the Revolution, just like in the Continental Congress, that the Constitutional Convention should start with prayer every day.

See, it was really a secular Congress because they voted that down. If you go look at what the discussion was, there were a bunch of different denominations there. Usually, the Quakers were most disagreeable about whom they would approve for saying a prayer for a whole hour.

As the debate pointed out, yes, during the Revolution, we had a treasury. We had money so we could hire a Christian chaplain to say the prayer every day for us.

There wasn’t anybody here that could say a prayer that everybody else in the Convention would feel got a fair shake for their denomination. But we could hire, agree on, one chaplain, one minister who would say a prayer for everybody.

Here we are at the Convention, and we are not getting paid. We don’t have a treasury, so we are going to have to put off hiring a chaplain to do the prayer every day until we get this convention done. That is why it didn’t get approved.

Then Randolph from Virginia gets up. He says he understands that we don’t have money to hire a chaplain to do the prayer every day, but before we meet at the end of June 1787. He said it is the end of June, and we are about to celebrate our Nation’s birthday. We are not accomplishing anything, so why don’t we recess here now and reconvene together in a church on our Nation’s birthday, we worship God together. Then we come back and try to work this constitution thing out.

That passed. The Delegates at the Constitutional Convention came together and worshipped on our Nation’s birthday at the Reformed Calvinist Church in Philadelphia, Reverend William Rogers presiding. He was the minister, and he think you can even find online one of the prayers that he prayed for the Convention.

As somebody wrote back then, when they came back together, there were differences. There was a different spirit, and they were able to come together. They were able to reach an agreement.

There was such strong division among the most populous States. They said we are the most populous States, that we all agree on a Christian nation. Others said, no, we can’t come together unless we all have equal representation.

The Great Compromise came together, that we will have two separate bodies within the Congress. We will have one where States have representation based on the population, and it won’t be like the House of Lords where they really don’t have any power. This will be a separate body. They will have just as much power as the other house, but where State gets two representatives, and then we will balance.

That was the Great Compromise. It enabled them to come together. There
were great concerns about human rights and government intrusion into people's private matters. They wanted to make sure that a king or President couldn't just sign an order to go search somebody's home, take over a home, or go gather up anything they wanted.

There was a report on this Constitution, then we also agree that it must have a Bill of Rights that comes with it.

The first of the Bill of Rights that was written, the first 10 amendments, they didn't want to have a Church of England that was the official government church. They didn't want a government church.

Of course, now we got one. It is called, informally, the church of secularism the Supreme Court has forced us into. Regardless of what anybody thinks, a government—and I used to say in college that you can't legislate morality. Eventually, I have realized a government legislates somebody's morality. And we have kind of come to that.

Moses' face is up there because at one time he was considered to be the greatest lawgiver of all time. You have Hammurabi, the Justinian Code, started by Constantine, Jefferson—Jefferson didn't help with the Constitution, but these are all the great lawgivers, considered as such. We have two or three Popes up here. But Moses was supposed to be the great one.

In every culture, children are being taught there is no real right or wrong. It is whatever you feel in your heart is wrong, and it is all relative. Right and wrong are relative. That is not what Moses said.

I was hearing Dennis Prager earlier today saying you cannot have a free country based on secularist beliefs, based on atheism. You can't.

The only way you can have the level of freedom we have had is not requiring everybody to be a Christian but the government upon Judeo-Christian beliefs. That has been our history.

We welcome people. We don't mind anybody having any religion or no religion. But the only way you can have that kind of freedom is to base it on Christian beliefs.

I know from visiting with General Jay Garner, who President Bush initially sent to Iraq to talk to people and get a feel from the Iraqis what kind of government they should have, he talked to a direct descendant of Mohammed.

There were a lot of people with him. After they left, General Garner asked if we could come together on this Constitution, then we also agree that it must have a Bill of Rights that comes with it.

The Founders knew, just like the descendant of Mohammed, that is the best way to have a free country. But now we are seeing more and more the persecution of Christians.

Now the U.N. General Secretary, back when he was in charge of all the refugee programs, was asked about why there is not as high a percentage of Christians in the U.N. refugee program as there is a percentage of Christians in the areas where refugees are coming from, like Syria.

He basically made the statement that Christians are so very important to these refugees, and Muslims that we think it is important to leave them where they are. They were being wiped out where they were.

The truth is, when Christians were coming to the U.N. refugee camps to be reunited or sent elsewhere after that, they were often victims of violence.

I read many reports, talked to people over in some of the refugee camps. The Christians didn't want to go there. They didn't like the way they were picked on, so you didn't find that many Christians in those camps.

Here is an article from May 3. This is from the BBC because this stuff is not being reported properly in the mainstream media in America.

The title is, “Christians Are Most Persecuted Group.” It says, “The persecution of Christians in parts of the world is at or near ‘genocide’ levels, according to a report ordered by the Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt.” That is the Foreign Secretary in England.

Christians were the most persecuted religious group, is what this study found.

“The interim report said the main impact of ‘genocidal acts against Christians’ is overseas and that Christianity faced being ‘wiped out’ from parts of the Middle East. It warned the religion—’talking about Christianity—’’is at risk of disappearing’ in some parts of the world, pointing to figures which show Christians in Palestine represent less than 1.5 percent of the population, while in Iraq they had fallen from 1.5 million before 2003 to less than 120,000.’’

‘Evidence shows not only the geographic spread of anti-Christian persecution but also its increasing severity.’”

It says, “In some regions, the level and nature of persecution is arguably coming close to meeting the international definition of genocide, according to that adopted by the U.N. Its findings come after more than 250 people were killed and more than 500 wounded in attacks at hotels and churches in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday."

I mean, this is the kind of stuff going on.

The article goes on, again from the BBC, “What we have forgotten in that atmosphere of political correctness is that right now there are 20 to 25 million Muslims that are being persecuted are some of the poorest people on the planet.”

“In response to the report, the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Marie van der Zyl, said Jews had once been the targets of persecution and felt for Christians who were discriminated against on the basis of their faith.

‘Whether it is authoritarian regimes or bigotry masked in the mistaken guise of religion, reports like the one launched today remind us that there are many places in which Christians face appalling levels of violence, abuse, and harassment.”

Pretty tragic. Then here in the United States, this story from CBN News, May 7, this year, the Pacific Institute, “The Pacific Justice Institute, PJJI, announced Tuesday that a Bible study for elderly residents of the Veterans Home of California has been re-store.”

“The facility is owned and operated by the California Department of Veterans Affairs.”

“The nonprofit PJJI,” Pacific Justice Institute, “also says its attorneys will continue to fight for full restoration of religious freedom in the facility.”

“After some negotiation, CalVet”—which is California Department of Veterans Affairs—“said it would allow Arts Breau and her Bible study attendees to resume the Bible study, effective immediately, after it had been shut down for weeks.”

However, CalVet is California Department of Veterans Affairs—“continues to insist that it can investigate and substantiate allegations against Breau and her fellow residents for expressing religious views that it”—the California Department of Veterans Affairs—“deems ‘offensive,’ and even for discussing Heaven and salvation.”

“We are encouraged that CalVet realized it could no longer prohibit and threaten the veterans’ Bible study,” PJJI President Brad Dacus said in a press release. At the same time, the agency’s position that it can continue to punish religious”—and really, Christian expression is specifically what CalVet is going after—“expression it deems discourteous or offenses is unacceptable. We’ve won an important first round in this battle for these heroes”—the veterans—and we are committed to seeing this through to complete victory.”

“PJJI attorneys began representing Breau last fall when staff at the veterans home complained that she had committed ‘emotional abuse’ and ‘elder abuse’ by allegedly causing another
resident to lose sleep after a discussion about Heaven and hell. Last week, CalVet admitted the allegation was unsubstantiated.

"This past March, a CalVet attorney threatened to have Breau removed from the home if she did not immediately halt her longtime Bible study.

"What we've seen at the Veterans Home of California should concern every freedom-loving American. Of all the veterans and their widows from the Greatest Generation should enjoy the greatest blessings of liberty—not the least. We're not about to let up until these veterans have complete freedom.

"This is from the PJI attorneys. It is just outrageous how wrongheaded people have gotten, and that is because they are imposing a court-ordered imposition of secularism.

We have come to a point in political correctness where the only group that is politically correct to abuse, belittle, and discriminate against is Christians. You don't have to like Christians, but for heaven's sake, that is the kind of freedom in allowing Christians to worship freely that made us the greatest country in history.

Now we have got the Equality Act. Supposedly, it is going to come up next week.

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 was passed by a huge majority of Democrats in 1993 because they were concerned, in 1993, some of them, including our current chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Jerry Nadler, about the persecution of Christians and Jews, and they saw the need to have the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993.

Back then, these same people believed that Moses knew what he was talking about, and when Jesus quoted Moses verbatim about marriage, that he knew what he was talking about.

In fact, we knew that that still was true in 2008, from David Axelrod's book. They knew that Barack Obama could not win the Presidency if he said of marriage with the same sex, that that was fine. It was not sufficient to say—you could have same-sex relationships. That was fine. But marriage is what the Bible said is between a man and a woman.

Apparently, they had polled it every which way, and in 2008, if you thought marriage was something besides what Moses believed and that Jesus said as verbatim about marriage, that he knew what he was talking about.

As the lady who was the first to ever have a women's scholarship from Villanova said—she is a Ph.D.—when she testified: Look, you have got thousands of men who can beat the best time in the world for the women's 400 meter in the 2016 Olympics. Women are not the ones getting the scholarships anymore if this Equality Act becomes law.

Martina Navratilova, she makes no bones about being a lesbian, and she has been basically destroyed in social media for saying that a woman should not have to compete with a biological man. It is unfair.

We had a lady who tells us, she was a lesbian testing: Look, women's sports are being destroyed if you pass this bill. All the great gains made for women being treated fairly and equally are going to go by the wayside.

I know from my days as a judge, hearing the tragic stories of sexual assault and sexual trauma, that women suffer from a greater percentage of post-traumatic stress disorder than soldiers do if they have been sexually assaulted.

One of the things that can trigger the trauma against a confined space and a man comes in. But the response from the majority is, well, they just basically need to get over it because we don't want to hurt the man's feelings if he thinks he is a woman.

I hope this doesn't pass. I hope it doesn't become law. There are some great things in here for equality, but that is not one of them.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence is granted to Mr. ROXIE DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. McCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of his daughter's college graduation.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industrial Policy, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting a report describing the potential impacts on national defense and the manufacturing base resulting from congressional direction to restart steam turbine production for Nimitz-class and Ford-class aircraft carriers and Virginia-class and Columbia-class submarines, pursuant to Public Law 115-232, Sec. 338; (132 Stat. 1728); to the Committee on Armed Services.

A letter from a Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits; received May 6, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Cyflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerances (EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0532; FRL-9990-60) received May 6, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List; Partial Deletion of the Beckman Instruments Superfund Site [EPA-HQ-93-D-0866; FRL-974-97]; received May 6, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Environmental Protection Agency Acquisition Regulation (EPAAR); Clause Update for Submission of Invoices [EPA-HQ-OARM-2018-0742; FRL 9992-99-OMS] received May 6, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of...
Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 965. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; with an amendment (Rept. 116–55, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 965. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; with an amendment (Rept. 116–55, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 965. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–57, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2664. A bill to improve energy performance in Federal buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Science, Space, and Technology, Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Mr. TIPTON (for himself and Mr. GORAK).

H.R. 2665. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to provide requirements on the use of assistance for broadband deployment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ESCOBAR (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. NORTON, Ms. GARCIA of California, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. TLABIR, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GELILJAVA, Ms. DEAN, Ms. LE of California, Mr. VELA, Mr. LUCAN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. SPEER, Ms. SCANLON, and Ms. MUCARELLO-FOWLER):

H.R. 2666. A bill to prohibit from being used to implement the Migrant Protection Protocols the Secretaries of Homeland Security on December 20, 2018, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. WALORSKI:

H.R. 2667. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the retirement earnings test, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 2668. A bill to improve energy performance in Federal buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 2669. A bill to amend the Secretary of Energy to establish a smart energy and water efficiency program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure, to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 2670. A bill to protect the Nation's law enforcement officers by regulating the sale of the Five-seveN pistol and its variants, testing handguns for capability to penetrate body armor, and regulating the manufacture, importation, sale, or purchase of such handguns by civilians; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALcolm of New York, Mr. NORTON, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2671. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to provide for a Department of Veterans Affairs policy on medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. DE LAURO (for herself, Mr. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2672. A bill to amend section 482(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide increased accountability of nonprofit athletic associations and to establish a commission to identify and examine issues of national concern related to the conduct of intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KIM (for himself and Mr. ROY).

H.R. 2673. A bill to amend section 102 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNA MOORTHY, Ms. SCHARKOWSKY, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York):

H.R. 2674. A bill to enhance safety and security at federally licensed gun shops, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. GARCET, Mr. SOTO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. CRIST):

H.R. 2675. A bill to provide for a Department of Veterans Affairs medical cannabis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.
H.R. 2661. A bill to require the Federal Insurance Office to conduct a study to adjust insurance premiums for home insurance against flooding, and for other purposes; to make the study report available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COLE of New York:

H.R. 2660. A bill to amend the Tribes in California Act of 1990, to establish a new system for the recognition of Indian tribes in California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COLE of Connecticut:

H.R. 2659. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study of a dam for the development of hydroelectric power on the Colorado River, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2658. A bill to prohibit discrimination in the provision of emergency medical services for women veterans from the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the provision of these services for women veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. DRUDGE):

H.R. 2657. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the tolling of the statute of limitations with regard to certain offenses committed by the President of the United States during or prior to tenure in office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. DEAN):

H.R. 2656. A bill to amend section 330C of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize special programs for Indians for providing services for the prevention and treatment of diabetes and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 2655. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the availability of prosthetic items for women veterans from the Department of Veterans Affairs, to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself and Mr. ADAMSON):

H.R. 2654. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multichannel video programming distributors to carry rural video programming, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2653. A bill to increase consumer protection with respect to negative option agreements entered into on the Internet, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2651. A bill to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a study to identify disparities between communities in auto insurance costs and payout amounts based on the predominant racial makeup of such communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 2650. A bill to amend the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2020 through 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in the consideration of such purposes as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WATERS (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORRIS, Ms. LEEL of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. DEVIN of Michigan, Mr. GORE, Mr. LOB arty of Texas, Ms. LOWEN of Connecticut, Ms. OASCE-CORTES, Mr. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 2649. A bill to prohibit, in the transfer, obligation, or expenditure of Federal funds to take property for the construction of a wall along the southern border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. PATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENBAUER, Mr. CLARK of Washington, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEEL of California, Ms. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PAYNE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. RUIZ, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 2648. A bill to prohibit discrimination in the provision of emergency medical services for cannabis-related businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. MCCACI, Mr. HOYER, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mrs. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. COLLINS of Georgia):

H. Res. 372. A resolution expressing concern for the United States-Turkey alliance; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Oversight and Reform, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H. Res. 373. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a National Move Over Day: to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. McCLINTOCK (for himself, Mr. SIMPSON of Nevada, Mr. WILSON of Florida, Mr. LOESEKROEN, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. CARTWRIGHT of California, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BISH of Texas, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. COOK, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GROTHEM, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. STECHER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. WILSON of New York, Mr. NGUYEN, Mr. LEVENSON, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GOERMERT, Mr. CHENSHAW, Mr. JOHN son of Ohio, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WILSON, Mr. HARTZLER, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. PETER son, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. BURGESS):

H. Res. 374. A resolution condemning Iranian state-sponsored terrorism and expressing support for the Iranian people’s desire for a democratic, secular, and non-nuclear republic of Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mr. CISSENO, Ms. WILD, Ms. MOORE, Mr. WATERS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BASS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CLYburn, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JOHNSON, Mr. ROY of Illinois, Mr. MEKES, Mr. PAYNE, and Ms. SKEWELL of Alabama):

H. Res. 375. A resolution recognizing the Fifth Anniversary of the Chibok Girls Kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria and all other concerned parties to take steps to resolve the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Ms. MEZEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. ROSE of New York):

H. Res. 376. A resolution recognizing Israeli-American heritage and the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, the Speaker presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii, relating to the Fifth Anniversary of the Chibok Girls Kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria and all other concerned parties to take steps to resolve the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Ms. MEZEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. ROSE of New York):

H. Res. 376. A resolution recognizing Israeli-American heritage and the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 2659. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 2662. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause III: ‘‘To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.’’

By Ms. WALTERS:

H.R. 2661. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

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

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 2660. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause III: ‘‘To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.’’

By Mr.町TONKO:

H.R. 2659. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause III: ‘‘To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.’’
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MOURTON:

H.R. 557.

H.R. 556: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. CASE.

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 555: Ms. OSAKI.

H.R. 554: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 553: Mr. SCALISE.

H.R. 552: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. MILD, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HARDER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 551: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. Johnson of Texas, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. Wilson of Florida, and Ms. BASS.

H.R. 435: Ms. LOFLOREN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 434: Mr. RYAN and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 549: Mr. Garcia of Illinois and Mr.CURTIS.

H.R. 548: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. CASE.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 2665.

H.R. 2664.

H.R. 2663.

H.R. 2662.

H.R. 2661.

H.R. 2660.

H.R. 2659.

H.R. 2658.

H.R. 2657.

H.R. 2656.

H.R. 2655.

H.R. 2654.

H.R. 2653.

H.R. 2652.

H.R. 2651.

H.R. 2650.

H.R. 2649.

H.R. 2648.

H.R. 2647.

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H.R. 2644.

H.R. 2643.

H.R. 2642.

H.R. 2641.

H.R. 2640.

H.R. 2639.

H.R. 2638.

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H.R. 2602.

H.R. 2601.

H.R. 2600.
CONGRATULATING UCI CHANCELLOR HOWARD GILLMAN ON THE 2019 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. KATIE PORTER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Dr. Howard Gillman, Chancellor of the University of California, Irvine (UCI), as a recipient of the Ellis Island Honors Society’s 2019 Medal of Honor. In his time with UCI, Dr. Gillman has been an advocate and an example for students, working to foster diversity and inclusion throughout the UC system.

Dr. Gillman grew up in Southern California and was a first-generation college student, an experience that has guided his work at UCI, where he has been Chancellor since 2014. Prior to joining UCI, Dr. Gillman spent more than two decades at the University of Southern California (USC), where he held appointments in the Departments of Political Science and History and the Gould School of Law. From 2007 to 2012 he served as dean of the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, the largest, oldest, and most academically diverse unit at USC.

As Chancellor, Dr. Gillman has established UCI as a trailblazer in creating opportunities for low-income and minority students. The University of California (UC) system has been called “California’s Upward-Mobility Machine,” and with Dr. Gillman’s guidance, UCI has stood out as a leader within the UC system. The New York Times named UCI the No. 1 University “doing the most for the American dream,” and College Access Index ranked the campus as one of the nation’s best in its support of low-income students. UCI has also been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and as an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI), for its role in serving substantial populations of these students, the majority of whom receive federal financial assistance.

The Ellis Island Honors Society was “created on the conviction of its founders that the diversity of the American people is what makes this nation great.” Today, UCI is ranked sixth in the nation for awarding bachelor’s degrees to minority students in the 2016–2017 school year. I thank Dr. Gillman for his leadership as Chancellor of UCI and his work to ensure that UCI provides opportunities for a quality, affordable education to every student.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. ROBERT SPITZER
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, this weekend, we say goodbye to a Burlington legend, a man who exemplified the Wisconsin spirit. A farmer, educator, businessman, president of the Milwaukee School of Engineering, and UN delegate, Dr. Robert Spitzer dedicated his life to bettering the nation and our Southeast Wisconsin community.

Dr. Spitzer’s reach and knowledge was not limited to Wisconsin—or the United States. In nearly every aspect of his life, Dr. Spitzer’s commitment to education is evident. Dr. Spitzer served as head of the U.S. State Department’s Food for Peace program in the 70s and later as the U.S. delegate to the United Nations’ World Food Program. These programs have helped billions of people worldwide gain access to food sources. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Spitzer became the third president of the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Under his leadership, MSOE expanded its programs, rose enrollment, and became internationally recognized. Dr. Spitzer also spent more than two decades at Murphy Products Co., an agribusiness in Burlington, Wisconsin.

To Dr. Spitzer’s wife, Dolores, his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, our prayers are with you. Burlington, our state, and nation are stronger because of Dr. Spitzer’s innovative spirit and expertise. His passion and legacy will be remembered for generations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL BOYLE OF TOLEDO
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life of William F. “Bill” Boyle, a lifelong Toledoan, a veteran, police officer, business owner, civic leader, and a leading force in Lucas County politics for the better part of four decades. On behalf of our entire community, please let me extend deepest sympathy, comfort, and gratitude to Bill’s beloved family and friends. Always a family man and proud of his Irish-American heritage, he was a compassionate and tireless advocate for the disadvantaged, the most vulnerable, and the underrepresented.

Bill was born on June 5, 1930 to Theresa and Daniel Boyle, who immigrated to America from Ireland. He attended St. Ann Grade School and was a proud 1948 graduate of Central Catholic. He attended Georgetown University, and then later attended the University of Toledo, receiving his bachelor’s degree in 1990.

He was gifted. He was patriotic. He was a strong, fearless, and unrelenting leader on many levels. He was a dogged fighter for his beliefs. His toughness could mask a sense of humor that he royally shared. Rising from the working class of people, he began his career in service to America as an Air Force Intelligence Officer, returned home to enlist in the Toledo Police Division where he was seriously wounded in a gun battle with his right eye, and then faced recasting his life.

He pursued wide ranging interests, choosing to lead a community-focused life with innumerable generous works. He chose to take the helm as Chair of the then beleaguered Lucas County Democratic Party. He built it into the most successful county party in the state of Ohio at the time, drawing forth new leadership down to the precinct level. He recruited a new generation of idealistic candidates to serve the region. Bill served as Executive Director of the Democratic Party from 1967 to 1970 and was Chairman of the Democratic Party from 1970 to 1984.

Bill then built again—by acquiring the ToTest Company and transforming it into a highly successful Toledo company, anchoring its headquarters in then job-short Downtown Toledo, just blocks away from where he had been wounded in the line of duty.

Our community has benefitted intergenerationally from Bill’s wisdom and community-minded life. His business acumen and philanthropy in education and other fields kept building Toledo forward even during the toughest economic times.

Bill will be remembered for his dedication to his family, and we offer his children Mike, Kathy, Beth, Pat, and Kris, his 14 grand-children and 7 great-grandchildren, his brother Regis and sisters Sheila, Theresa and Ann, and his friends our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of what Bill had meant to so many who treasured his life and valued his pursuits.

May his loved ones gain strength to endure from the example he set—to triumph again and again over adversity. His relentless spirit and good works now form part of the precious character of our community. I thank Bill Boyle for sharing his extraordinary life with us.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAFE KIDS NORTH CAROLINA

HON. DAVID E. PRICE
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. PRICE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of Safe Kids North Carolina. Housed within the North Carolina Department of Insurance (NCDII), Safe Kids was founded in

• 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.
1994 with the mission of preventing unintentional child injuries, which are the number one cause of death for children in North Carolina and the United States. Today, the organization leads a state-wide network of 48 local Safe Kids coalitions representing children's hospitals, health departments, and EMS services, and non-profits. This network gives Safe Kids North Carolina a strong presence to provide injury prevention services to communities throughout the state. It is the largest Safe Kids Worldwide state coalition in the United States.

One of Safe Kids’ focus is ensuring parents keep their children safe on the road. Their network of local coalitions held over 100 car seat check events last year and operates 96 permanent car seat inspection stations to make sure car seats are properly installed and to educate parents on child passenger safety. Additionally, last fall, in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence, the organization hosted a series of Child Passenger Safety Seat Take Back events to help families replace, free of charge, car seats damaged by the region’s extensive flooding. At these events, Safe Kids North Carolina made over 400 car seats available to needy families in the hardest-hit parts of the state.

In addition to car safety, Safe Kids North Carolina has been a pioneer in drug takeback measures. The organization works with communities and families to decrease the incidence of childhood unintentional medication ingestions. Since 2010, Safe Kids North Carolina has joined with the North Carolina Bureau of Investigation, local law enforcement agencies, and community partners in Operation Medicine Drop, which has resulted in the safe disposal of more than 152 million pills of unwanted medication. In the years since Operation Medicine Drop began, the organization has supported over 3,000 events and helped to establish 250 permanent disposal locations across North Carolina. In this program, Safe Kids North Carolina and NCDOI are a model for other states to follow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Safe Kids North Carolina for its work over the past 25 years to protect the health and safety of all North Carolina children.

Mr. Hammond was renowned throughout his community for the many things he did to help the town grow. During his time in office, he worked tirelessly to better the city’s education system and protect the community’s natural environment. He also led efforts to develop the city’s infrastructure and helped it to recover following the Great Recession.

In addition to being a devoted leader, Mark was also a loving friend to all those around him. Many recall numerous times where he went out of his way to help those in need, or even just to brighten someone’s day. To Mark, lending a hand was not a challenge, but an opportunity.

Mark’s love of life and those he shared it with fundamentally changed my home state of Colorado and our entire nation for the better. His leadership and commitment to others brought changes to his community that will be enjoyed for years to come. I hope others in this body and throughout this nation will join me in remembering Mark and the tremendous service he gave to his community and country.

HONORING JAMES HAMMOND FOR HIS SELFLESS DEVOTION TO CIVIL RIGHTS AND SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. KATHY CASTOR
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in admiration and respect to honor the life of true civil rights champion, James Hammond. Retired Lt. Col. U.S. Army James Hammond was born on November 11th—Veterans Day—a man who would give so much to our state and our country. A pioneering civil rights leader, Mr. Hammond shaped my hometown of Tampa and we will remember his legacy for the stands he took, the differences he made and the lives he touched.

Born in Tampa, FL, Mr. Hammond graduated from Middleton High School and later attended Hampton University earning a degree in electrical engineering. He served his country in the U.S. Army in Texas, Germany, England, and Washington, rising all the way to the rank of lieutenant colonel. While serving in the Army he created the Hammond Electric Company. He became Tampa’s first African-American, licensed, class-A electrical contractor. He would go on to use his experience in business to help create the Tampa Hillsborough Action Plan—seeking to bring affordable housing and business incubators to underserved areas.

Mr. Hammond served as the First Commissioner of Community Relations for the City of Tampa. In that role he was tasked with working towards racial equality during the mid-60s. He worked to bring people together, while constantly pushing our community to improve. His work led to more training and jobs for African-Americans in city government. He partnered with U.S. Congressman Sam Gibbons to secure a federal grant to create our community relations program. He worked to integrate Tampa’s downtown businesses. Where there was discrimination, he worked for change; where there was injustice, he worked to overcome it; and where there was an opportunity to improve the lives of his neighbors, he seized it.

Mr. Hammond’s commitment to education lasted throughout his life. He and his beloved wife Evelyn established a scholarship fund at their alma mater, Hampton University. At the elementary school named for him, students and families would often see him at school events. As Hammond Elementary School principal Sheri Norkas described, “He would tell the students to repeat after him, and they happily repeated, ‘I will be somebody.’”

Mr. Hammond was part of the fabric of the Tampa community, helping improve lives every day. He served as Chairman of the Civil Service Board, District Chairman Boy Scouts of America, Board of Director Member of The Greater Tampa Urban League, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and Community Federal Savings and Loan Association. He was a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the NAACP. He has been honored on this floor before, when my friend Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS proclaimed May 4th as National James A. Hammond Day.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of America, the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor James Hammond for his courage and selfless devotion to the people in our country and our community. The time and energy he put in to improving the lives of everyone he met are unmatched. Today, we all pledge to carry on his work and practice what he preached, the “Three P’s” of patience, persistence and positive thinking. He lifted up others and inspired our greater Tampa community to bridge our differences for the benefit of all. He walked humbly and was full of grace.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL’S ‘WE THE PEOPLE’ TEAM

HON. ERIC Swalwell
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. Swalwell of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the students of Amador Valley High School (AVHS) in my congressional district, who competed in the national We The People competition held right here in Washington, D.C. I am proud to report that its We the People competition team took second place out of 56 participating groups.

The We the People competition is held annually. Teams come to Washington, D.C. to compete in mock congressional hearings that test the high school students’ knowledge of U.S. history and the Constitution. I am thoroughly impressed with the participation, dedication, and knowledge of AVHS students regarding our history, government, and political system. The students displayed exceptional commitment and love of history and civics. They are truly a model for students across the country.

I also want to recognize their teacher, Stacey Sklar, who worked tirelessly to provide guidance, organize the team and prepare the students in winning the statewide competition this winter and place second in the national competition. And I also want to commend Cheryl Cook-Kallio for her resounding efforts as the California state coordinator for the We the People program.

Madam Speaker, I will again congratulate AVHS and their students from the We the People program. I want to take this opportunity to list the members of the team: Shurthi Chandran, Esha Chawla, Sandra Chen, Emma Garman, Prerita Govil, Robin Huang, Kate Inman, Kayva Katragadda, Queue Kuntz, Matthew Tan, Micah Yee, Trevor Mec, Nicole Park, Andrew Pereira, Vanshaj Singhania, Jessica Stubbs, Emil Tu, Evan Yang, Zoe Yao, and John Yi.
Recognizing Coach Patrick Fain Dye for his Service to Alabama

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019


Coach Dye also served as Auburn’s Athletics Director from 1981 to 1991, a tenure marked by the successful relocation in 1989 of the annual Iron Bowl to Auburn’s Jordan-Hare Stadium from Legion Field in Birmingham. That monumental Iron Bowl, the first played in Auburn in decades, was a 28–18 victory for the Tigers. It was appropriate that in 2005 the field at Jordan-Hare Stadium was renamed Pat Dye Field in his honor.

During Coach Dye’s head coaching career, which included early stints at East Carolina University and the University of Wyoming, he compiled an overall record of 159–62–5 and a bowl record of 7–5–1. For his accomplishments, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2005.

When interviewing for the head coach position at Auburn, Coach Dye was asked how long it would take him to beat the University of Alabama, where he had previously served as an assistant coach under the legendary Paul “Bear” Bryant. His response of “60 minutes” was representative of the confidence and grit that endeared him to his players and the Auburn family. His promise came true in his second season, ending a nine-year Alabama win streak.

The Auburn family’s love for Coach Dye continues to this day. He was a father figure to so many of his players over the years, and his legacy has continued to grow through the years with his work in the Auburn community and his philanthropic activities. To this day Coach Dye remains close with so many of his players and is a beloved figure in the state of Alabama and beyond.

I thank Coach Dye for his distinguished years of service to Auburn University and the people of Alabama. War Eagle.

Honoring the Life of Rev. Tammy Garrett-Williams

HON. JOE NEGUSE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, because last month the state of Colorado and our nation suffered the tremendous loss of Reverend Tammy Garrett-Williams.

Reverend Garrett-Williams was a civil rights activist whose ceaseless pursuit of justice for every member of our society made her a hero and icon in Denver and across Colorado.

Reverend Garrett-Williams spent her life fighting for criminal justice reform. She was a leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Vice-President for Political Affairs for the Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance, and founder of the Auburn Waters Project which works with inmates and former inmates to help them re-integrate into society after incarceration.

Throughout her life, Reverend Garrett-Williams put herself forward as a beacon of hope for her community; an exemplar of all the good that can come through the pursuit of justice, and fairness, and wholehearted dedication to the progress of our society—a progress which she fought to ensure left no one behind.

She demonstrated a commitment to her community that placed her on the front lines of change and she never shied from the challenges we face, instead insisting on lifting others with her as she climbed.

I send my prayers to the Reverend’s mother, two sons and granddaughter.

May Rev. Tammy Garrett-Williams’ life inspire those of us who remain to stand and fight, as she always did, for a society of hope, possibility, and prosperity.

Conmemorating the Chinese Railroad Workers on the 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad

HON. GRACE MENG
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the nearly 12,000 Chinese railroad workers who tirelessly worked on the construction of the First Transcontinental Railroad.

As you may know, today marks the historic 150th Anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. The Transcontinental Railroad has long been considered one of the most remarkable engineering feats of the 19th century. After its completion, the railroad reduced cross-country travel time from six months to a single week—facilitating a new era of commerce; bringing the country closer together in the aftermath of the Civil War; and unleashing the unlimited potential of our nation.

But, too often in our conversations surrounding it, we emphasize the economic benefits; too often we forget to acknowledge the nearly 12,000 Chinese immigrants who made these benefits possible.

Madam Speaker, these workers endured both the arduous physical labor of constructing a railroad and the emotional trauma of being discriminated. They were given the most difficult, dangerous jobs, and were paid lower wages than other workers. While working in the Sierras, Chinese workers hung in baskets, 2,000 feet above raging rivers, to blast into the impenetrable granite mountain—making way for laying the tracks.

Despite these conditions, the Chinese railroad workers were considered indispensable
and were respected for their work ethic and discipline. Above all, these workers formed one of the first organized labor movements in the United States for better living wages and work conditions, which ultimately opened doors for future generations.

This is why I introduced a resolution in Congress since 2014 to recognize their important contributions and the dangerous risks they faced in the process. It is important for us to commemorate their efforts and share their stories, so that their role in America's history is not forgotten. After all, their stories helped create the space needed for today's growing conversations on Asian American diversity and inclusion.

Madam Speaker, I believe today's celebration is not only about recognizing the many contributions the Asian American community has made—and continues to make—but it is also a step towards weaving the story of Asian Americans into the greater American tapestry. I am thankful for the indelible mark they left in the growth of our nation—and hope their contributions are further honored for the next 150 years.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 35TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SAWTOOTHS AND OTHER RANGES OF IMAGINA-
TION: CONTEMPORARY ART FROM IDAHO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON
OF IDAHO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Sawtooths and Other Ranges of Imagination: Contemporary Art from Idaho. In 1983–84, the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) featured an exhibition titled Sawtooths and Other Ranges of Imagination: Contemporary Art from Idaho that exclusively showcased artwork by acclaimed Idaho artists. The exhibition was shown at SAAM and then at the Boise Art Museum. Curated by Barbara Shissler Nosanow from the Smithsonian, the exhibition was realized thanks to the strong influence of Louise McClure, wife of U.S. Senator Jim McClure (Idaho).

Louise, Senator McClure, Barbara, and one of Senator McClure’s staff toured Idaho in a five-seat plane, stopping in at least five locations to jury entries submitted by Idaho artists. The opening reception featured Idaho food, including a special potato chip made by Ore-I-dah and fresh huckleberries. In particular, President George H.W. Bush appointed Louise to the National Council on the Arts, the body that oversees the National Endowment for the Arts. She helped guide the National Endowment for the Arts through a challenging period during her six-year term of service. In addition to this important role in arts policy, Louise also advanced the arts in Idaho, including service on the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival Board, Boise State Public Radio Community Advisory Board, Boise Philharmonic, Women’s and Children’s Alliance, and many others. Louise’s work is supported and fostered a strong arts culture in the capital city that continues today. In 2010, Idaho Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter honored Louise and Jim by bestowing the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Governor’s Awards in the Arts.

On May 15, 2019, the James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research, along with the University of Idaho’s College of Art and Architecture, will partner with the Boise Art Museum, curators of the 35th anniversary of this exhibition, and the policymakers who value and support the arts, including Louise McClure.

There is no question that Senator McClure had a huge influence on me and my political career. I strive every day to represent Idaho in the manner which he did, and Louise has always been a close, personal friend of Kathy and mine. It is truly an honor to recognize her today and thank her for all she has done for Idaho.

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH CAUCUS

SPEECH OF
HON. DONNA E. SHALALA
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, May 9, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, the United States holds the worst maternal mortality rate of any country in the developed world: every year, approximately 700 women die from pregnancy-related complications.

This rate is three times as high as Canada’s and six times as high as Scandinavia’s.

In Great Britain, a man is more likely to die while his partner is pregnant than she is.

In the United States, however, a woman today is 50 percent more likely to die in childbirth than her own mother was.

And the biggest risk factor in dying from childbirth is being black.

A recent CDC study found that 60 percent of pregnancy-related deaths in recent years could have been prevented.

Title X family planning clinics play a key role in preventing these deaths by helping women avoid and terminate unwanted pregnancies. Given the particular danger of pregnancy, this care saves women’s lives.

However, the administration’s proposed gag rule would bar Title X providers from offering comprehensive reproductive healthcare. If this rule goes into effect, maternal mortality rates will rise.

Racial disparities in healthcare will worsen. And more families will be needlessly ripped apart.

RECOGNIZING FIRST BAPTIST BRYAN BUSINESS MEN’S BIBLE CLASS

HON. BILL FLORES
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Baptist Bryan’s Business Men’s Bible Class during the 100th anniversary of their organization. During World War I, Dr. Jonathan Held, the pastor of First Baptist Church, was encouraged by Brazos Valley women to address the challenges facing the community. On February 9, 1919, Dr. Held assembled a group of 15 men at the Queen Theatre in Downtown Bryan to share the message of Jesus Christ.

At that time, the precedent for their meetings was set. Beginning with two hymns, the program is followed by prayer, a lesson, benediction, attendance, and open discussion. Teaching responsibilities are shared by four individuals and the Explore the Bible series is the basis for all the lessons.

In 1927, the group moved to the First Baptist Bryan’s church facilities. As the group approached its 50th anniversary, the weekly Bible lessons began to be broadcast on the radio each Sunday. These broadcasts have increased the reach of the lessons as folks who are unable to attend can participate by listening.

Since that time, the Business Men’s Bible Class has grown to over 300 members of varying religious denominations committed to upholding the group’s mission. Meeting every Sunday, the group gathers to facilitate more Bible study and share the story of Jesus Christ to all people and deepen the faith of all those who know Him.

Madam Speaker, the Business Men’s Bible Class has had a deep impact in the Brazos Valley since their organization in 1919. Their service to our community and commitment to spreading God’s message cannot be overstated.

I have requested that a United States flag be flown over our Nation’s Capitol to honor the work and legacy of the First Baptist Bryan Business Men’s Bible Class.

May God bless its membership and the United States of America.

As I close today, I urge all Americans to continue praying for our country, for our veterans, for our military men and women who protect us, and for our first responders who keep us safe at home.

PIKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU 100 ANNIVERSARY

HON. DARIN LaHOOD
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Pike County Farm Bureau. On May 10, 1918, leaders in Pike County met with the goal of helping farmers and our strong agriculture community in west-central Illinois.

Exactly one hundred years later, the Pike County Farm Bureau continues to thrive supporting rural communities by educating our farmers and providing them with best practices to succeed.

It’s a busy time of year for our farmers who are in the middle of planting season. As we have seen heavy rains and flooding the Pike County Farm Bureau continues to generate awareness to support those in the agriculture community who are in need.

With over 2,000 active members, the Pike County Farm Bureau is engrained in our community and their commitment and dedication is clear to our farmers.

As we celebrate the last 100 years, I want to thank the Pike County Farm Bureau for their unwavering support of our farmers.
I wish to take this opportunity to thank the over 400,000 correctional officers in the United States. Correctional officers are tasked with keeping these inmates and our communities safe, as well as the thousands of staff that support the operation of our detention facilities. Correctional officers are an integral part of our criminal justice system and play a key role in helping maintain public safety.

Equally important are correctional officers’ interactions with prisoners, the vast majority of whom will be released at some point. Correctional officers are partners in our efforts to reduce recidivism by providing the tools and resources that they need to succeed once released from custody. Correctional officers are the individuals who spend the most time with the prisoner population and investing in them so they can help inmates become productive members of society is a worthwhile endeavor.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Sheriff Jason Ard for winning the Destination Zero Officer Traffic Safety Award. Talking about change is easy, as this body well knows. Making change happen is a different thing altogether. Sheriff Ard earned this recognition by taking decisive action to solve a real problem affecting the performance of his deputies. In January 2017, Sheriff Ard was advised that Livingston Parish Sheriff’s Office had a ‘bad driving’ problem and that his deputies were spending too much on vehicle maintenance and repairs, having at-fault accidents, and dealing with crash injuries and even lawsuit settlements. So he stepped in and initiated change. First, he identified those among his deputies with safe driving records and rewarded them with an extra week off. He also installed GPS devices on all Sheriff’s office vehicles and required all deputies to complete the NADA pursuit driving class—some of his drivers ended up becoming trainers. The result? An immediate 28 percent reduction in at fault crashes, a 62 percent reduction in damage costs, a 25 percent reduction in lawsuits, and an 87 percent reduction in lawsuit settlement payments. Sheriff Ard’s leadership and decisive action serve as a model for law enforcement teams across the country that may be facing the same issues. I thank him for his service to our community and to the State of Louisiana—and for setting the example.

IN HONOR OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY’S 150TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JAMES R. BAIRD
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my alma mater, Purdue University, as we celebrate 150 years of “giant leaps” and academic excellence.

Since Purdue’s first classes with six instructors and 39 students in 1874, upcoming generations have been equipped to push boundaries in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Now, with more than 200 areas of undergraduate study and over 69 graduate disciplines, students continue to pave the way for tremendous advances in medicine, agriculture, space exploration, engineering, and numerous other professions.

Through partnerships with world-renowned programs like NASA and serving the manufacturing sector with technical assistance programs, Purdue’s mission to increase economic prosperity touches every aspect of life in Indiana and across the nation.

I am proud that this university stands as a pillar of excellence in our community.

Since its 1869 groundbreaking, Purdue University has evolved in response to a changing world, but one thing remains the same: a commitment to integrity and service that has been embodied since the very beginning.
States for the often-thankless job that they do. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these key public servants.

RECOGNIZING BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to speak about South Florida’s Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. Consistently recognized as the best eye hospital in the nation, Bascom Palmer treats over 250,000 patients every year at its five centers in Miami, Coral Gables, Plantation, Naples, and Palm Beach Gardens.

In addition to serving as a national model for excellent eye care, Bascom Palmer acts as the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Miami.

The center provides students with the opportunity to work with world-class doctors and conduct innovative research to improve patient care and treatment methods.

Eye care is a delicate science.

The doctors, students, and staff at Bascom Palmer demonstrate every day not only their vast knowledge of the constantly developing field of ophthalmology, but also their enormous compassion for patients who suffer from blindness, glaucoma, ocular cancer, and other debilitating conditions.

It was a joy to partner with this stellar team of medical professionals when I led the University of Miami.

I am grateful to know that the eye health of South Florida is in good hands with Bascom Palmer leading the field.

CONGRATULATING SBA CAPITAL REGION SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR CHRIS MARTELL

HON. PAUL TONKO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Chris Martell, President of Druthers Brewing Company of Saratoga Springs, on being named this year’s Small Business Person of the Year by the Syracuse regional office of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Founded in 2009, Druthers is a craft beer company in Newport Beach, California, located in my congressional district.

The company has grown exponentially from a single brew pub in 2009 to over 40 locations nationwide. The company has won numerous awards and is known for its innovative and sustainable practices.

On behalf of their many patrons and fans across New York’s Capital Region, including those of us who enjoy their beer cheese and burgers, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Chris and the entire team who make Druthers Brewing Company so special. I am honored to share the accomplishments of Druthers during National Small Business Week, and I hope that Chris’s passion and vision ignite in us a renewed appreciation for supporting our local small business community.

HIPPIE BOTS OF CLIFTON MIDDLE SCHOOL, MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Hippie Bots of Clifton Middle School in Monrovia, California, who became the first middle school robotics team to win the FIRST Tech Challenge Los Angeles-Southern California Regional Championship.

This extraordinary accomplishment made them the first middle school team in our region to qualify for the World Championship. At the World Championship in Houston, Texas on April 17-20, the team faced adversity yet showed its resolve by battling back into contention on the final day of competition. Although the students did not win, they truly made Monrovia and our entire San Gabriel Valley proud with the way they conducted themselves and represented their city throughout the season.

We send our many congratulations to Sophia Adkins, Evan Asti, Lucas Corsi, Christian Figueroa, Alex He, Ian Hughes, Dylan Polanco, Caroline Squire, and Miles Wilson, as well as their teacher, Paul Flores. They have made us very proud; and we wish them the very best in the future.

H.R. 986, THE PROTECTING AMERICANS WITH PREEXISTING CONDITIONS ACT OF 2019 AND H.R. 2157, A COMPREHENSIVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL TO HELP AMERICAN COMMUNITIES RECOVER FROM RECENT NATURAL DISASTERS

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to express my support for H.R. 986, the Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act. For too long this Administration has undermined and attacked the care of our most vulnerable Americans and perpetrated unjust barriers to treatment. By passing this bill my colleagues are fulfilling the will of the American people, who, their voices told us, want Washington that these partisan attacks on the Affordable Care Act were unacceptable.

The American people also care about protecting the only planet we have. Climate change continues to threaten the safety of Americans every year by fueling the frequency and severity of natural disasters. In my state of California, the fire season has turned into a year-long ordeal. People in California have lost so much as these fires get worse and worse. We’ve lost lives, homes, communities, and livelihoods. H.R. 2157 is another step towards protecting our fellow Americans.

Other things, it provides funds for emergency forest restoration, to farmers struggling with crop and livestock losses due to wildfires and other disasters, and for legal services for people who need legal help during the recovery period. H.R. 2157 provides needed relief for Californians and all Americans, including those living in Puerto Rico and other territories devastated by hurricanes.

Importantly, this bill also prevents Defense funds from being used to construct an unnecessary and ineffective wall along the southern border. When we have real problems to fix, we cannot waste a penny on an unnecessary slogan. Instead, we need to be addressing the healthcare needs of Americans and ensure they can get back on their feet in the wake of natural disasters, as we have done today.

As always, I want to take the time to thank those who have worked tirelessly to improve our nation’s healthcare, environment, and response to natural disasters.

RECOGNIZING THE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DURAIANT ANTOINE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. HARLEY ROUDA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work of my constituent, Duraid Antoine, who recently received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor for a lifetime of service to our nation.

Ellis Island Medals of Honor are presented each year to individuals who have distinguished themselves through inspired service to our nation and accomplishments in their field. Past recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor include seven former presidents, Supreme Court justices, and many other illustrious American leaders.

Mr. Antone was born in Baghdad, Iraq, and moved to the United States when he was six years old. As a young man, he was called to serve as an active-duty intelligence officer in the United States Army. He later found success in the medical device industry, starting a company in Newport Beach, California, located in my congressional district.

Mr. Antone has lived the American Dream. He has proven, like so many before him, that we are a country of immigrants, a land of opportunity. We send our many congratulations to Sophy Adkins, Evan Asti, Lucas Corsi, Christian Figueroa, Alex He, Ian Hughes, Dylan Polanco, Caroline Squire, and Miles Wilson, as well as their teacher, Paul Flores. They have made us very proud; and we wish them the very best in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMIE LAND’S SERVICE TO KENTUCKY

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE
OF KENTUCKY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Jamie Land of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, for his retirement from the Elizabethtown Police Department. Chief Land...
has honorably served in the Elizabethtown police force for over 21 years, and he will be missed when he retires at the end of this month.

Before joining the Elizabethtown Police Department in 1996, Chief Land served as a military policeman in the United States Marine Corps. Land's distinguished career at the department started as a patrol officer, and he has held many roles at the as he has risen through the ranks, including detective, a leader of the police department's special response team, patrol sergeant, and deputy chief of operations. Through his tenure with the Elizabethtown Police Department, Chief Land has dedicated himself to his community and proven himself to be a trusted leader.

I thank Chief Lind for his years of service to the Elizabethtown community. I wish Chief Lind and his wife Brandi nothing but the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING COMMANDER MARK GRABOSKI FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. JACK BERGMAN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Commander Mark Graboski for his retirement as Executive Officer of the Air Station Traverse City, United States Coast Guard. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion, Mark has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Mark graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Madison through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1989 and was commissioned as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy. Following deployments in the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf, he transitioned to the U.S. Coast Guard and served in Washington and Alabama. He ultimately landed in Michigan at Air Station Traverse City, which operates Air Facilities throughout the Great Lakes region—performing search and rescue operations and other critical missions along the entirety of Lake Michigan and significant portions of Lakes Superior and Huron.

As Executive Officer and a helicopter pilot, Graboski led a team of 166 personnel and three MH–60 helicopters for search and rescue operations throughout the Great Lakes and Midwest. He has accumulated more than 5,600 flight hours, and his decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, three USCG/Navy Commendation Medals, two USCG Achievement Medals and numerous unit, campaign, and service awards. His exceptional leadership skills are reflected in the excellence of those who have served under him at the trust placed in him by the people of Northern Michigan. Commander Graboski's constant dedication to the public good is commendable, and the impact of his work on the people of Northern Michigan cannot be overstated.

I want to recognize Commander Mark Graboski for his service to the people of our state. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a devoted individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Mark all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING CLAUDIA JACKSON
HON. MICHAEL CLOUD
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Claudia Jackson, a Corpus Christi native, for her commitment to serving Del Mar College and promoting education in the community.

Claudia Jackson started her career at Del Mar College nearly 42 years ago, and in 1977, became the Director of Public Information. By 2013, thanks to her work ethic and perseverance, she rose to become Executive Director of Strategic Communication and Government Relations.

During her tenure, the College Relations Office staff received a whopping 100 marketing and advertising awards, including a Gold Medallion of Excellence from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

Ms. Jackson’s leadership was felt throughout Del Mar College, as she served as a member of the President’s Executive Team and was responsible for interacting with local, state, and national elected officials to discuss and promote the college’s various needs and initiatives. Additionally, she represented the College on the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Board, and the Mayor’s Interagency Group.

Time and again, Claudia Jackson demonstrated her passion for education, and commitment to the city of Corpus Christi. Ms. Jackson was named Corpus Christi YWCA Woman of the Year in Communications in 1993. She received a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District IV in 1997.

Claudia Jackson represents the very best of the 27th District of Texas, and I would like to extend to her my thanks and appreciation for her excellent service and devotion to education.

CELEBRATING AMERICA’S NURSES FOR NATIONAL NURSE APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. PAUL TONKO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate National Nurse Appreciation Week. Since 1993, this week from May 6 through May 12, ending on Florence Nightingale’s birthday, has allowed us to express our deep gratitude and admiration toward our nurses, the beating heart and a major driving force of America’s healthcare community.

Despite its critical importance to our healthcare system, nursing continues to face critical staffing shortages from rapid job growth and a significant number of nurses approaching retirement—so, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing projects that we will need more than 200,000 additional Registered Nurses by 2026.

Having enough nurses to do the job results in lower mortality rates, safer conditions for patients and a decrease in the average stay at hospitals. The fact is, nurses save lives, make healthcare safer and more efficient, and provide us with comfort and compassion during some of our most painful times.

America’s nurses are on the front lines of our nation’s growing opioid epidemic. In 2016, my team and I worked to grant buprenorphine prescribing privileges to Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants, allowing them to provide needed medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Since that expansion, more than 5,000 nurse practitioners and physician assistants have become waivered providers of medication-assisted treatment, greatly expanding our treatment capacity, particularly in rural areas where doctors can be few and far between. If we invest in and empower our nursing workforce to their full potential, they can be powerful agents of change to help us turn the tide in this epidemic.

We must champion and empower our nursing professionals. This week we celebrate America’s nurses, whose endless dedication uplifts our families, heals our neighbors, and better our communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEAL P. DUNN
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I regretfully missed votes on 5/8. I was forced to return to my district with the President who was surveying damage from Hurricane Michael. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 187, and YEA on Roll Call No. 188.

16TH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF WORLD LUPUS DAY

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, today marks the 16th annual observance of World Lupus Day. It serves as a forum for lupus organizations and advocates to call attention to the need for increases in funding for medical research, educational programs, and improved access to medical care.

Lupus is a chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease that is highly individualized, extremely volatile and can affect any organ system of the body, including the skin, joints, kidney, brain, heart, lungs, blood and blood vessels. It currently affects over 300,000 Americans, and there is no known cause or cure.

There is no limit to lupus and it affects all nationalities, race, ethnicities, gender and age. For example, it is the leading cause of kidney disease, stroke, and premature cardiovascular disease in young women, and affects woman 9 times more often than men.

With continued commitment to this important day, I would like to again recognize World Lupus Day and demonstrate our nation’s concerns for the needs of millions of Americans and their families affected by lupus.
CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITIC VIOLENCE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 10, 2019

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, in the aftermath of the attack at Chabad of Poway on April 27, 2019, that took place on the last day of Passover and just months after the attack at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, I rise to strongly condemn antisemitism and to bring attention to the troubling increase in attacks on Jews.

Just last year, attacks on Jews and Jewish communities rose to a level that has not been seen in decades, with offensive language, actions, damage to property, injuries to people, and unfortunately, loss of life. There is an increase in anti-Semitic content online and in print and the rhetoric is becoming more common place and seemingly more normalized and accepted by civil society.

Last week was Israel’s recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day. It’s therefore fitting that we recognize the threat of unchecked anti-Jewish bigotry and discrimination in light of one of the world’s worst state sponsored massacres: the systematic and deliberate, government-controlled persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime.

At the same time, I stand with the victims of the attack in Poway and their families, and will work with those here, and in my community, to guard against such hateful violence in the future.
The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 3 p.m., on Monday, May 13, 2019.

No committee meetings were held.

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 2659–2688 and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 372–376 were introduced.

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 1010, to provide that the rule entitled “Short-Term, Limited Duration Insurance” shall have no force or effect (H. Rept. 116–43, Part 2);
H.R. 1499, to prohibit brand name drug manufacturers from compensating generic drug manufacturers to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable product manufacturers to delay entry of biosimilar and interchangeable products, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–56, Part 1);
H.R. 987, to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal Exchange outreach and educational activities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–52, Part 1);
H.R. 987, to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal Exchange outreach and educational activities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–53, Part 1);
H.R. 312, to reaffirm the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–54);
H.R. 965, to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products (H. Rept. 116–55, Part 1);
H.R. 5, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–56, Part 1);
H.R. 1500, to require the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to meet its statutory purpose, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–57, Part 1); and
H.R. 299, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–58).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Deutch to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Dr. Thomas E. Leuther, Family Worship Center, Columbia, Missouri.

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote.


Rejected the Granger motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 189 ayes to 215 noes, Roll No. 201.
Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–12, modified by the amendment printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–51, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

Agreed to:
Radewagen amendment (No. 2 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that amends the dollar amount of nutritional assistance for American Samoa from $5,000,000 to $18,000,000;
Dunn amendment (No. 4 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases the amount of MilCon funding for the Air Force by $500,000,000 and the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy by $385,000,000 to expedite the rebuild of installations affected by 2018 hurricanes;
Cunningham amendment (No. 5 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases Air Force Operations and Maintenance by $270 million;
Schrier amendment (No. 7 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that limits the matching requirement for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative;
Axne amendment (No. 9 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases the Emergency Watershed Program by $310 million;
Axne amendment (No. 10 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases the Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Program by $50 million;
Perlmutter amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases funding by $5 million for NOAA’s weather forecasting, modeling, and cloud computing programs, including the Earth Prediction Innovation Center (by a recorded vote of 247 ayes to 165 noes, Roll No. 197);
Sablan amendment (No. 3 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that increases funding for waste water treatment plants impacted by Typhoon Yutu by $8,800,000 based on EPA cost estimates for repair and resiliency updated on March 20, 2019 (by a recorded vote of 248 ayes to 143 noes, Roll No. 198);
Huffman amendment (No. 6 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that prohibits funds in the bill from being used to enforce regulations requiring within two years construction of agency relief projects funded by the Federal Highway Administration (by a recorded vote of 241 ayes to 168 noes, Roll No. 199); and
Fletcher amendment (No. 8 printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–51) that shortens the time requirement of the publication of rules of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Fund in Public Law 115–123 (by a recorded vote of 393 ayes to 20 noes, Roll No. 200).

H. Res. 357, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 986) and (H.R. 2157) was agreed to yesterday, May 9th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 14th for Morning Hour debate.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3710, H3711, H3711–12, H3712, H3714, and H3714–15. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a markup on the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2020. The State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2020 was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

OPENING UP THE PROCESS: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAKING LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION MORE TRANSPARENT

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Opening up the Process: Recommendations for Making Legislative Information More Transparent”. Testimony was heard from Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, House of Representatives; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House
No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Monday, May 13
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Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Michael J. Truncale, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Tuesday, May 14
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House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

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