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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 14, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMIE RASKIN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

VOTE TO LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, about 6 months ago, this country went through a historic election that shattered records that go back almost 100 years. It was the largest voter turnout for a midterm election since 1914. It elected a new majority in the House of Representatives by over 10 million votes.

If you drill down below those top lines, what you will see is that the biggest driving issue for American voters, who turned up in record numbers last November, was, in fact, the issue of healthcare.

If you drill down even further, what you will find is that the cost of prescription drugs was the biggest concern that people had about the security and stability of their healthcare. And why not?

Recent polling by Kaiser showed that 79 percent of Americans feel that prescription drug prices are unreasonable. Eighty percent believe that pharmaceutical company profits are to blame. One-third of Americans said they haven't taken their medications as prescribed because they have trouble affording it.

Again, the stories, in terms of the disparity of pricing in the U.S. versus other parts of the civilized, developed world, are just rampant. Obviously, we pay the highest prices here in this country, and the next highest country, Switzerland, pays 25 percent less than U.S. patients do for comparable medications.

This week, the new majority in the House of Representatives is going to be taking up H.R. 987, the Strengthening Health Care and Lowering Prescription Drug Costs Act, which we will be voting on either Thursday or Friday. This bill, which listened to patients all across the country and stakeholders who have been trying to endure these ridiculous costs, will do a number of things.

Number one, it will end pay-for-delay, which will prohibit brand-drug manufacturers from paying off generic companies that produce a competing generic drug. In other words, they are maintaining their exclusivity by paying off generic manufacturers, which are designed to create a stronger marketplace and lower prices for American patients.

It also ends the practice of parking by generic drug companies. Again, once you apply to the FDA for a generic drug, you can get 180 days where you exclude anyone else, any other generic manufacturer, from competing with a similar medication.

The FDA has estimated that these practices cost American patients \$3.5 billion in higher drug costs every year.

We will be voting this week, finally, to stand up to special interests, to listen to what experts and people who are close to this market are telling us about ways of trying to widen the marketplace to create more competition, and to, ultimately, lower the drug costs for American patients that are killing State Medicaid budgets and are also killing employer-based health plans. If you listen to what they are saying, that is where the cost driving is the most acute.

This past week, in the State of Connecticut, Attorney General William Tong announced a new lawsuit against generic manufacturers, which was profiled on "60 Minutes" last Sunday night.

Mr. Tong demonstrated how they have smoking-gun evidence of price-fixing amongst different drug companies. Forty-four States are joining Connecticut in that effort.

It is time, whether it is the legislative branch of Congress or whether it is a different branch, in the court systems, that we start holding drug companies accountable.

The vote that is going to take place this week keeps faith with that historic turnout last fall to make sure that we are going to get real action to address the issue of healthcare.

RELIEF FOR BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM
VETERANS

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, we are also voting this week on H.R. 299—it will be this evening—the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, which will finally eliminate a 17-year barrier

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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for people who served in the sea services during the Vietnam conflict and who are being denied access to VA benefits for the scourge of Agent Orange illnesses.

Again, this is a process that has taken forever. We passed this measure in the last Congress by unanimous vote. It was blocked from consideration by two Senators last December.

Congratulations to MARK TAKANO, our new House Committee on Veterans' Affairs chairman, for bringing up this bill immediately in the new House of Representatives, to make sure that we get this long-overdue justice for people who served in the Vietnam conflict taken care of.

Veterans service organizations that have been relentless in their advocacy for blue water Vietnam veterans, such as The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, AMVETS, MOAA, and Military Order of the Purple Heart, are supporting this legislation.

It is going to be important for us to get this bill passed out of this Chamber and force the Senate to do the right thing and provide justice for those who served in that conflict and who are still suffering from cancers, from heart disease, and from skin ailments because of exposure to a chemical that they had absolutely no idea was unsafe.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

PROCEEDINGS OF FORMER MEMBERS PROGRAM

The following proceedings were held before the House convened for morning-hour debate:

UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS 2019 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Cliff Stearns, vice president of Former Members of Congress Association, at 8 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of history, we thank You for this day, when former Members return to Congress to continue, in a less official manner, their service to our Nation and to this noble institution.

May their presence here bring a moment of pause where current Members consider the profiles they now form for future generations of Americans.

May all former Members be rewarded for their contributions to this constitutional Republic and continue to work and pray that the goodness and justice of this beloved country be proclaimed to the nations.

Bless all former Members who have died since last year's meeting—24 in all. May their families and their constituents be comforted during a time of mourning and forever know our gratitude for the sacrifices made in service to Congress.

Finally, bless those here gathered, that they might bring joy and hope to the present age and supportive companionship to one another.

Together, we call upon Your holy name, now and forever.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Cliff Stearns 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.

Mr. STEARNS. The Chair now recognizes the president of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, the Honorable Martin Frost of Texas, to address the Members.

Mr. FROST. Thank you, Cliff. It is always a distinct privilege to be back in this revered Chamber and to see so many of my good friends and former colleagues here.

On behalf of FMC, I appreciate the Speaker's invitation to return to this wonderful place and to present to Congress FMC's 49th annual report.

I will be joined by some of our colleagues in reporting on FMC's activities and vision for the future.

I also am submitting, for the RECORD, a more detailed review of FMC's 2018 activities.

First, I would like to ask the Clerk to call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll and the following Members answered "present":

Mr. Blanchard of Michigan
Mr. Coyne of Pennsylvania
Mr. Carr of Michigan
Mr. DiGuardi of New York
Mr. Frost of Texas
Mr. Gingrey of Georgia
Mr. Goodlatte of Virginia
Mr. Green of Texas
Mr. Hertel of Michigan
Mr. Jones of Oklahoma
Ms. Kennelly of Connecticut
Mr. Kolbe of Arizona
Mr. Konnyu of California
Mr. Kopetski of Oregon
Mr. Lancaster of North Carolina
Ms. Lincoln of Arkansas
Mr. Matheson of Utah
Mr. McMillen of Maryland
Mr. Mica of Florida
Ms. Morella of Maryland
Mr. Murphy of Pennsylvania
Mr. Payne of Virginia
Mr. Rahall of West Virginia
Mr. Slattery of Kansas
Mr. Stearns of Florida
Mr. Tanner of Tennessee
Mr. Weldon of Florida

Mr. STEARNS. The Chair announces that 27 former Members of Congress have responded to their names.

Mr. FROST. Thank you all for joining us today. As I prepared for today's report, it brought back many, many

happy memories of my 26 years serving in this august body.

For all of us, service in this remarkable building was the pinnacle of our professional lives, and I know that for each and every one of us there are memories that will forever remind us of the great privilege we enjoyed as a representative of our constituents.

For me, these memories include great friendships with colleagues from both sides of the aisle, working with terrific and talented young people as a part of my staff, and pushing forward pieces of legislation that I know have made a huge, positive difference.

By serving in Congress, we were given the opportunity to serve our country and its citizens. I am very proud that through FMC we can continue, in a small measure, the public service that brought us to Congress in the first place.

My colleagues and I will describe later in this report the many projects through which FMC Members continue to give back.

As you know, every year during our annual meeting we seek to recognize a colleague for her or his exemplary public service before, during and after Congress. This tradition was started in 1974, when we recognized President Gerry Ford with our first Distinguished Service Award and has continued annually since. Other recipients include Tip O'Neill, Bob Michel, Jack Kemp, Tom Foley, and many others.

The award rotates between the parties, and this year a Republican former Member is slated to be recognized.

When our executive committee started considering whom to honor, immediately Connie Morella of Maryland emerged as the clear favorite, and, by unanimous consent, we agreed that she should be our 2019 Distinguished Service honoree.

I now invite Connie to join me here at the dais.

Connie, I have a few remarks, and then you will have the opportunity to say something also.

Connie Morella, former Member of the House of Representatives and former ambassador, exemplifies like few others a commitment to serving her community and her Nation.

Her entire career, since earning her B.A. from Boston University, was focused on public service. Initially, that service was in education as a secondary school teacher in Montgomery County. Though impossible to confirm, I would guess that Montgomery County is the place in America with the highest number of residents able to quote Shakespeare, thanks to her.

She became active in politics based on an issue that defined her political career: women's rights.

Little did she know, when she became involved with the League of Women Voters, that she herself would become a trailblazer, an inspiration, and a mentor to countless women leaders spanning generations.

After serving in the Maryland House of Delegates for 8 years, she ran for

Congress and commenced a 16-year career in the House of Representatives. She quickly became known as a thoughtful, energetic, and pragmatic legislator who was able to forge bipartisan consensus and bring Members together on even the most difficult issues.

After leaving Congress in 2003, President Bush appointed her our Ambassador to the OECD, where she served until 2007.

Upon returning to the United States, Connie became active in a number of issues and organizations, and luckily FMC was one of them.

The years she served as FMC's president, 2012 through 2014, were some of our most productive, and she lay the foundation for all the success FMC has enjoyed since.

On behalf of the membership, board of directors, and staff of FMC, it is with great personal pleasure that I present our 2019 Distinguished Service Award to an outstanding American and an exemplary public servant: Connie Morella of Maryland.

Some of you who attended our dinner may remember that someone on the stage dropped the award, and I am going to be careful not to drop this one.

Connie, in addition to our award, we also have collected for you a great many letters of congratulations from your colleagues, and we have a book of those letters.

Anyone who has not contributed their letter can submit it to the office, and we will make sure that Connie gets that.

We now would be thrilled for you to share some remarks. But let's put this down so neither one of us drops it.

Ms. MORELLA. This is beautiful. What a tome. This is great. Thank you.

I want to thank you very much, President Frost. You reminded me of something Mae West had said: Too much of a good thing can be downright enjoyable.

I enjoyed it, but you could have gone on even further, although you did exceed the time limit.

Thank you very much for the laudatory and generous remarks. I want to thank you, also, for your leadership in the organization. You are a guy who has your eye on the objective, on the prize, and you work unrelentingly until you succeed. And you do succeed. You never retreat.

My special thanks and appreciation to the Association of Former Members of Congress, to the board, to my colleague Members. What an outstanding group whose action promotes dialogue, bipartisanship, and service.

I am very moved and humbled by this great honor, especially because it comes from my dear friends and colleagues. There is nothing higher than getting an award from your peers, it means a great deal. And it means a great deal to me, because it is from people who have served, many with me, very well in the people's House.

I reflect with awe on the list of previous recipients. Some of them were mentioned by President Frost: Bob Michel, Lee Hamilton, Lindy Boggs, Amo Houghton, Ray LaHood, and others. Incredible company, people I have respected and admired. And I accept the honor for all of you. I want to thank you for your continuous passion for the people's House and for your friendship.

I am a lucky, happy camper. I am the daughter of immigrant parents. I am the first in my family to go to college. I can boast of a wonderful family. I have been able to serve, as was mentioned, in my State, my country, here and overseas, and to work with dedicated people, Members of Congress and former Members who are seeking solutions.

I firmly believe that everyone who seeks office is motivated by a passionate desire to serve, a reason that would make things better for all. For me, as was suggested, it was the women's movement that put the movement into me. I was appointed to a commission for women in Montgomery County in the seventies, and at that time a Member of Congress, Martha Griffiths, introduced—not the first time—the Equal Rights Amendment. She got it passed through a draft resolution.

The discharge petition, remember that?

She passed it. It went through the Senate, signed by the President.

But amendment was needed to approve it to become part of the Constitution. So I started lobbying for Maryland to pass the amendment, and, as you know, we needed 38 States. That was when I realized the inequities, the inequities in education, credit, education. I then decided I wanted to seek office in the Maryland Legislature to have a seat at the table.

So, after 8 years serving in the Maryland House of Delegates, I was elected to Congress, the 100th Congress, with many people who still serve, like NANCY PELOSI, JOHN LEWIS, FRED UPTON, and many others who serve and many who are former Members, some who are here today, Dave Skaggs, Amo Houghton, Ernie Konnyu.

I served in the House for 16 years: For 8 years, I was a minority in the minority; for 8 years, I was a minority in the majority. I represented a highly competitive district, as you all know, and as Charlie Cook once said: That Morella, she knows her district. She will go "to the opening of an envelope."

And indeed, I did; it is true. That is still being done, but, unfortunately, more time is being spent raising money. And I must add something else that usurps time, and that is social media.

Well, it was an active time. We broke barriers as in women's health research, violence against women, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and we created opportunities in technology, in STEM. We witnessed the fall of the Berlin

Wall, the Soviet Union, apartheid in South Africa, but also 9/11.

We also witnessed bipartisanship, working together, seeking compromise to get results. We respected differences, whether party label or constituencies, and we got things done.

Indeed, when I would introduce a measure, I would gather together Democrats to sign on as sponsors, and the Democrats would do the same thing with me for sponsorship. And why? Bipartisanship got results. In fact, it is the only way to get desired results, and you establish trust with your constituents.

It also strengthened the bond of friendship. And there were many friendships from Members of Congress while I was there and many friendships with my former Member colleagues.

My hope is that Congress Members will reach out across the aisle to know each other personally. They will learn of their colleagues' aspirations, their family, their issues, and, most often, become friends.

The greatest tool of the diplomat, wherever and in whatever, is to listen, to learn, and to lead. They will learn the greatest tool is that. This is the path to forging compromises for our country and to appreciating and respecting each other.

These ingredients, friends, haven't changed, as you know full well. George Washington, when he was age 15, wrote "Rules for Civility and Decent Behavior." Rule number one:

When in the company of others, act with respect for those who are present.

You can't beat that advice. I am a confirmed political junky. I agree with W.B. Yeats, who wrote:

I was here to wind the clock. I want to hear it strike.

I agree and I care. And again, my thanks to all of you, my heartfelt thanks. I have to quote Shakespeare, don't I?

For these great graces heap'd upon me, I can nothing render but allegiant thanks.

Mr. FROST. And, Connie, I know it may come as a great surprise to you, but the great State of Texas that Gene Green and I represented was one of the first States in the country to pass the Equal Rights Amendment.

Ms. MORELLA. Very good. Thank you very much.

Mr. FROST. I am not sure the current legislature would have done the same thing, but that was a different era.

Again, congratulations to you, Connie, and thank you so much for all you have done and continue to do for FMC.

It is now my great honor in my capacity as president of FMC to report on FMC's activities for 2018 and 2019.

We are one of a very small group of nonprofits that have a congressional charter, and as such, we are required to report to Congress every year on our past activities. I will give a broad overview of our past work and have submitted for the RECORD a more detailed written report.

Now, I must note that the very competent staff member who prepared these remarks doesn't realize that some of us from the South speak more slowly than some other people from the rest of the country, so Phil Gingrey, who will speak later, and I will try to speed it up as much as we can.

Our association was founded in 1970 and chartered by Congress 13 years later, in 1983. We are completely bipartisan and see our mission as informing about Congress and bridging the political divide. That mission is translated into programs that bring former Members together with student audiences across the Nation, focusing on civics and public service.

We also further our mission by creating programs and study missions involving current Members of Congress on a bipartisan basis. This work, over the years, has been extended to now include congressional staff, both from the D.C. offices as well as district directors across the Nation. We are successful because Republicans and Democrats, whether former Members or current Members, come together in partnership with a willingness to work together for the common good.

We are proud to have been chartered by Congress, and we are equally proud that absolutely no taxpayer dollar is earmarked or expended to make our programs possible. Everything FMC does is financed via grants and sponsors, our membership dues, and our annual fundraising gala, the Statesman-ship Awards Dinner.

Our colleagues L.F. Payne and Mike Ferguson led our fundraising efforts for the most recent gala dinner at the Mellon Auditorium, and I am extremely pleased to report that, thanks to their leadership and the incredible efforts of a great many former Members, we had our most successful fundraising dinner when we honored Senator BURR and Senator KLOBUCHAR, as well as the House Problem Solvers Caucus and the Lufthansa Group for their corporate philanthropy. My thanks to all our colleagues who work so hard on this outstanding event.

Thanks to this success as well as our year-round fundraising efforts, I can report to Congress and the FMC membership that our finances are sound, our projects are fully funded, and our most recent annual audit by an outside accountant confirmed we are running FMC in a fiscally sound, responsible, and transparent manner. And let me stress again that no taxpayer dollars are earmarked for our work, that everything we do is self-funded.

Let me stress, also, that we are a volunteer organization, and our programs have an impact because our members, on a bipartisan basis, contribute to us their knowledge and time. We are successful because former Representatives and Senators come together, across party lines, for the good of our organization, and they do so on a pro bono basis. They believe in our mission, and they continue to have the public servant's heart.

Former Members of Congress, in 2018, donated to FMC over 7,000 hours of energy, wisdom, mentoring, and expertise without receiving any compensation for it. Their own remuneration is the knowledge that they are giving back, that serving in Congress was a unique privilege and it comes with the mandate to encourage and empower the next generation.

On behalf of FMC, I want to thank all of our colleagues who have contributed their time and expertise to make FMC such a great success.

We are extremely proud of our nearly 50-year history creating lasting and impactful programs that teach about Congress and representative government, at home and abroad. Next year will be FMC's 50th birthday, and it is truly amazing how much we have accomplished.

Let me give you a brief overview of 2018 and also a vision for 2019 and beyond.

Over the past 12 months, our FMC staff has conceived, organized, advertised, and implemented almost 100 events to move our mission forward. This is an astonishing number for a staff of 11 that relies completely on former Member volunteers for all our projects.

These events ranged from meeting with middle school students right here in the House Chamber to talk to them about the many responsibilities a Member of Congress has, to week-long study missions where current Member delegations, split evenly between the parties, traveled to countries, including Germany, Japan, and Korea, to study issues such as trade and security.

Our programming has included hundreds of current Members, former Members, senior congressional staff, and district directors. Most recently, we expanded our group of constituents to also include communications directors of congressional offices. They work with us because they know we are completely bipartisan, 100 percent non-advocacy, and that we seek to tell the positive story of our extraordinary representative democracy. Allow me to share with you some highlights of our work.

You will hear more detail about our Congressional Study Groups in a second, but for 2018, we are proudest of the incredible level of activity and impact of our newest Study Group: the Congressional Study Group on Korea. It shows how timely and right from the headlines our work is.

We launched the Korea program in February of 2018 and have since sent, to Korea, several current Member, former Member, and congressional staff delegations under the study group's umbrella. The Korea program now joins our other longstanding international projects: the Congressional Study Group on Germany, the Congressional Study Group on Japan, and the Congressional Study Group on Europe.

In addition to a great many Capitol Hill events, over the past 12 months,

we have sent numerous congressional delegations overseas, some for current Members, others for chiefs of staff, and a number for district directors, and just last month, our very first communications directors delegation—all bipartisan.

The purpose of these trips is to educate our participants on specific issues affecting U.S. international relations—mostly trade and security questions. An important side effect is the opportunity of building across-the-aisle relationships and to create a network of peers that transcends party labels and partisanship. All of these trips, of course, go through the rigorous process of ethics review, and we ensure 100 percent compliance with all regulations governing travel by Members or staff.

These international projects are just one component of our work to create bipartisan relationships and strengthen our representative democracy. Domestically, the main focus of our work is reconnecting citizens with their government, highlighting the responsibilities of citizenship and dispelling many of the myths that are out there when it comes to Congress.

First and foremost, we are incredibly proud of our Congress to Campus program. For over 30 years, we have sent a bipartisan team of former Members to meet with university audiences across the country. These are not simple meet-and-greet events where the Members drop in for a quick speech with some Q&A. Instead, these visits are a 3-day commitment by our former Members team so that the university can make the best possible use of FMC as a resource.

We now average about 30 visits during the academic year, which is incredible, given that, as recently as 15 years ago, we averaged about 5. Also, many of our Congress to Campus visits now include a visit to a local high school or even a middle school, so that we are reaching an even broader audience with our FMC team. Sharon Witiw of our staff, who runs this program, is to thank for this great expansion.

We work hand in glove with each university so that each visit is tailored specifically to the school's needs and curriculum. Our colleagues walk into different classroom settings throughout the day, sometimes engaging in discussions about U.S. foreign policy, at other times focusing on questions such as money in politics.

The outcome of each Congress to Campus visit is twofold: to showcase a partisan, yet respectful debate on the issues of the day; and to encourage in the next generation a respect for public service that may translate into future work on Capitol Hill.

We have reached thousands upon thousands of students, and through our own polling can demonstrate that we are making a positive difference when it comes to attitudes about Congress and about elected officials. You will hear more about this and our other civic education initiatives when I yield

the floor for that report in just a little bit.

Our work to reconnect citizens with their government takes many different forms. For example, we have a long-standing partnership with the National Archives, bringing former Members and other issue experts together with the public for a conversation about issues affecting all of us. Our next National Archives panel will be on June 13 for a conversation about female candidates for office and the extra challenges women face in the political world.

What I have described thus far is just a small part of the work we have done on our membership's behalf. And while programs such as Congress to Campus or the Congressional Study Group on Germany are longstanding undertakings that we have offered to the public for decades, they, along with our existing projects, all were infused with a new energy, vision, and enthusiasm thanks to the extensive strategic planning process that we briefed you on for the past 2 years.

Let me again thank Mark Sobol, who is here today, a highly respected expert in the field of strategic planning and organization management, who donated to us completely free of charge his tremendous expertise to help FMC achieve the next level of professionalism and impact. He helped us craft an extremely thoughtful and visionary strategic plan, which the FMC board approved a little over 2 years ago.

Since then, the effect of this incredibly important exercise can be felt in all aspects of the organization. We—our board of directors and the exceptional FMC staff—have made great strides in implementing this plan, for example, when it comes to branding FMC as a unique authority on Congress, unparalleled in our expertise and experience.

We now have a much more focused media strategy, have unified our current Member programming with our former Member programming under one logo and one recognizable brand, and are much better at pushing out our message of bipartisanship using social media, for example. Paul Kincaid is responsible for our message, and I thank him for his good work.

Over the summer, our staff put together an outstanding board of directors retreat, where we came together to refine and review the strategic plan and brainstorm about best ways to continue to implement.

One idea that stemmed from the board retreat was the notion that FMC's board and staff could benefit from additional voices and creative input, beyond just former Members of Congress. FMC, therefore, created an Advisory Board comprised of valued members of our Study Groups' Business Advisory Council. The inaugural group of Advisory Board members are: Majida Mourad of Tellurian, Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel of Lockheed, Anna Schneider of Volkswagen, and Dr. David

Steel of Samsung. To round out this group, we were pleased that our long-time consultant and friend Mark Sobol of Longwave Partners accepted FMC's invitation as well.

The Advisory Board, committed to bipartisanship and meaningful conversation and dialogue, will provide FMC with a unique perspective on the critical issues of the day and suggestions on how we engage our membership and partners to strengthen and streamline our mission. We thank each of these great friends of FMC for their commitment to our mission.

I am also more than pleased to report to you that a brand-new website showcasing our new logo and look has gone live since the last report to Congress. This has been a major focus of my predecessor, Cliff Stearns of Florida, who kept asking: When is the logo going to be up? When is the website going to be up? And he finally got his answer during his 2 years as FMC's president. I am thrilled that all of his hard work came to fruition with the new website, which reflects much more accurately the vibrant and impactful organization we have become.

Thank you, Cliff, for your leadership on this, and congratulations to our staff member Alia Diamond, who did such a tremendous job creating our new website.

As I look at FMC's future, some very exciting new initiatives stand out. We are using our Congress to Campus model to include a greater outreach into the community. We call this new initiative our Insight into Congress project. We took the idea for a test run just last week in Austin, Texas, with Gene Green, who is here today.

Two former Members, Gene Green and Randy Neugebauer, went to Austin not to meet with a single university, but different aspects of the whole community. This included several events hosted by Samsung with their local workforce and executives, as well as high schools, the chamber of commerce, and others. We think this could be a really interesting expansion of the work we already do under Congress to Campus.

Also, late last year, we implemented, for a second time, a new project as part of our American Democracy and Civics programs. We brought together a bipartisan group of four current Members, two Democrats and two Republicans, hosted in his Boston district by JOE KENNEDY, and put a program together for the four of them to meet with several high schools, universities, and public forums. Again, this is an exciting expansion of the type of work we do, we already do well via Congress to Campus, and I congratulate the staff on building on our obvious strengths.

Last year, we reported to you on the commencement of the Legacy program, which was conceived to interview retiring Members of Congress so that, under the FMC umbrella, we can create an oral history of all those who have served in the House and the Senate.

It is interesting: No one else was doing this on a comprehensive basis, not the Library of Congress, not the Historian's Office. This is something I think will have a lasting impact. And once these oral histories have been transcribed and analyzed, we are donating them to the Library of Congress, where they will be available for review.

I am pleased to report that we have already surpassed our initial goal of 30 completed interviews and we are now moving forward with analyzing the data we have collected, as well as expanding our interview outreach.

We started with the people, some of whom are in this room, who left at the end of the last Congress. I, along with five other Members, last week had the honor of testifying before the House Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. When completed, we hope to present our findings of the Legacy Project to the committee later this year.

I thank Mark Sobol and Lenny Steinhorn for being the driving force behind this project, ably staffed by FMC's Patricia Ochs.

In addition, we continue to find opportunities for former Members to travel—I know Members like to travel, both current and former—and be ambassadors on behalf of our representative democracy.

Just last week, we dispatched a delegation of former Senators to China. This is the 11th delegation over the past 6 years that we have sent to Beijing and other Chinese cities so that we can play a small role in fostering a better dialogue involving the United States and China. These trips have been made possible thanks to two great partners, the China-U.S. Exchange Foundation and the Chinese Association for International Friendly Contact.

The impact of these former Member delegations is enhanced by Capitol Hill programming, which we have been able to offer in partnership with the Committee of 100, a U.S. nonprofit made up of the foremost Americans of Chinese descent.

Later this year, we also will send another former Member delegation to Korea. This group will be hosted by Jay Kim, a former Member from California and head of the Jay Kim Foundation. Jay's wife, Jennifer Ahn, has been instrumental in putting this trip together.

Our other host is the Korea Peace Sharing Foundation. I wish to pay special tribute to the head of that wonderful organization, Reverend Kang Suk So, a senior pastor of Sae Eden Presbyterian Church in Seoul. Reverend So has made it his mission to bring peace to the Korean Peninsula.

One of the many ways he seeks to accomplish that lofty goal is by bringing veterans of the Korean war back to Korea for remembrance, tribute, and recognition. He has tirelessly invested his energy, focus, and fundraising success in making it possible for countless

Korean war veterans to return to Korea and witness for themselves the new Korea that they made possible via their sacrifice.

Reverend So is now engaging in a cross-cultural dialogue and is making former Members of Congress part of that important undertaking.

Thanks to him and the congregation of the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church, we are able to send former Members of Congress to Korea to better understand its culture and rich history. His leadership is truly inspirational.

As Members can see, the future for FMC is incredibly bright. We are energized, and we are having tremendous success for three reasons.

One I already mentioned, which is the outstanding work our board and staff have done to solidify our mission plan, put in achievable goals, and strategize how best to move FMC forward.

The second reason is our amazing group of partners. These are corporations that donate to us, especially via the Statesmanship Awards Dinner, because they believe in our purpose and recognize the positive impact we are having. These partners also include outstanding grant-giving entities: the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, the German Marshall Fund, the Hewlett Foundation Madison Initiative, the Democracy Fund, the Korea Society and the Korea Foundation, and the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, to name just a few. They believe in our capabilities and are giving us the opportunity to grow and create long-lasting programming. We appreciate them very much.

The third and most important reason is my fellow former Members of Congress, who donate to us their time, their expertise, their wisdom, and their leadership. As I said earlier, the 7,000 hours of combined former Member time has been donated to us pro bono by our membership. I thank them for that.

I have to warn former Members, our demand for their time and goodwill is only increasing. As we all know, there are many challenges our Nation faces, and FMC can play a pivotal role in bringing people together. This Nation's strength has always been found in its ability to unite and move the country forward for the greater good.

FMC, like no other organization, can build bridges between Democrats and Republicans, build bridges between those being represented and those doing the representing, and build bridges between one generation of public servants and the next. To do so will require more and more commitment to our work, and I am sure former Members of Congress will rise to the occasion.

In anticipation of former Members' support, I thank them from the bottom of my heart.

I want to interject one thing, and I am not the only one who fits in this category. A number of us have former staff members who now sit in Congress. My former field representative, MARC

VEASEY, is a Congressman from the Dallas-Fort Worth area today. I know other former Members have provided the exact same mentorship to people on their staff and people whom they knew in their community, and I thank them for that.

As Members have heard, this is FMC's 49th report to Congress, which means that, next year, we will celebrate our 50th anniversary. This is a tremendous achievement for a small nonprofit that was originally conceived as purely an alumni group with the occasional social gathering.

We have come a long way, and it is thanks to the volunteerism of the membership that we can look forward to celebrating 50 outstanding years.

Before getting to the business of electing our new board members, I do want to recognize two of my colleagues to give just a little bit more detail about our domestic and international governing.

I first invite Jim Coyne from Pennsylvania to focus on FMC's civic education program. He will be followed by FMC board member Phil Gingrey from Georgia to speak about our international programs.

Mr. COYNE. I thank Martin for the opportunity to make some remarks on a topic that is incredibly important and near and dear to my heart: our Nation's woeful attitude toward civic education.

In 10 States in the U.S., there is no requirement to take a civic education class in high school—none. Only nine States require a full year of civic education, while 31 States require only one semester.

It is no surprise that, in 2017, it was found that 35 percent of millennials stated that they were losing faith in American democracy. Just let that sink in for a moment. Over one-third of America's next generation states that they are losing faith in our Nation's representative democracy.

How can they support and appreciate it if they don't understand the background and importance of our system? Civic learning can be the best vehicle to have young people be active citizens in adulthood.

FMC's well-established civic programs, like Congress to Campus and Congress to Community, continue to grow to be a part of the civic learning solution. Thanks to the great work of Sharon White and Haley LaTourette of the FMC staff, we are doing even more.

In the 2018-2019 academic school year, FMC's Congress to Campus program has visited 25 schools, garnering the participation of 36 former Members, six of whom participated in two or more visits and five of whom are newly retired, together reaching thousands of students.

This academic year, we visited 11 new schools, most of which have heard about the program's success from other schools. The word is clearly spreading.

The hosting administrators have been stretching former Member en-

gagement beyond the typical political studies departments to include classes in business ethics, international relations, media and writing, feminism, public policy, and many other more diverse curricula. Many Congress to Campus visits include interviews with students and local media, as well as open public forums to reach the broader community.

By analyzing surveys that the participating students take before and after their school's Congress to Campus visit, we have learned that not only have 82 percent of the students' attitudes toward Congress improved—maybe that is not too hard—because of our Congress to Campus program, but the program has left 75 percent of students feeling more positive about Democrats' and Republicans' ability to work civilly and productively together.

Almost every school administrator expresses interest in hosting another Congress to Campus program after they have experienced one themselves.

We continue to extend former Members' experience and wisdom to high school and middle school students, particularly in the summer with the Envision program. This June and July, we have 12 programs scheduled.

Though these speaking engagements are early in the morning, we hope and deeply appreciate if each former Member here in the D.C. area will consider donating a couple of hours of their valuable time to speak with these students at this very spot on the House floor.

We have been engaged in this program for 3 years, and each year, the students report that the highlight of the week-long experience in D.C. is hearing from the former Members about their experiences in Congress.

Former Members are having a huge impact and are making a positive difference, and I guarantee that they will find their meetings with these students to be the highlight of their week. Sharon and Haley will reach out to former Members to see if we can sign you up for a visit with these middle school kids here in the House Chamber.

In addition to these solidly established in-person programs, Congress to Campus is also expanding virtually. This year, we have had three different bipartisan pairs of former Members speak to students as close as Boston and as far away as Germany via Skype and Zoom.

We are striving to expand our internet reach to encompass more students of all locations and backgrounds by virtually connecting them with former Members to answer their questions and concerns about Congress, public service, running for office, and much more.

This year's FMC's newly formed Congressional Study Group on American Democracy and Civics ran two effective study tours, one to each of the co-chairs' districts.

The first trip was to Representative RODNEY DAVIS' district in southern Illinois with Representative JIMMY PANNETTA from California. During the 48-

hour trip, the Members spoke to hundreds of high school students, community college students, and civics teachers within the region about the importance of building bipartisan relationships and reaching across the aisle. They were able to express to these audiences that having productive and respectful relationships that cross the political aisle is the only way to accomplish their important work in Congress.

The second trip expanded in size to include four Members of Congress. Representative JOE KENNEDY hosted Representative DAVIS, Representative MARKWAYNE MULLIN, and Representative LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER in his Boston district. The delegation spoke to hundreds of high school students and had a public discussion at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the Study of the U.S. Senate.

The overarching theme that emerged was that good laws come out of understanding that each Member represents a different group of people, and the reasons why certain issues are important to that group may differ immensely from another district's issues.

The presenting Members could not have come from more diverse districts, from a liberal urban setting in New England to a conservative rural district in Oklahoma, from a red, blue, and purple State to a wheat-belt State that has both Republican and Democrat constituents.

The delegation demonstrated what we all know to be true of Congress: Members can be respectful, civil, and pragmatic while still advocating for their districts, constituents, and beliefs.

The group reflected on what seems lost in today's society, that listening and understanding a colleague's position helps everyone find common ground.

The students responded positively, treating the delegation like rock stars, with raucous applause and waiting after the presentation to ask more questions or just grab a selfie.

The next study tour is planned for early September to Representative MARKWAYNE MULLIN's district in Oklahoma.

Our former Members are also helping to strengthen civic education at the State level. FMC has been working with the CivXNow Coalition to connect former Members of Congress with civic learning communities and individual States to improve and strengthen State-level policies and practices in civic education.

We began with Pennsylvania. Former Member Jim Gerlach leads a bipartisan group of eight Pennsylvania former Members who are working with the State Department of Education and local civic education organizations to update their civic curricula and requirements.

We are now forming groups for former Members to work together on promoting and improving civic edu-

cation in the great States of Texas and California. FMC hopes to add more States this coming year. We hope everyone will consider helping.

This is our eighth year of continuing a strong partnership with the National Archives. Just before last November's midterm elections, we hosted a panel discussion on "Voter Discontent During Wave Elections" with a bipartisan panel of former Members who either rode in or were swept out with a wave during one of their elections. The discussion examined the impact of previous elections and Presidential elections on the competitiveness of a congressional seat.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, June 13, at 7 p.m., when we will hold our next panel discussion to examine the unique challenges that women face when running for office.

This past year, we have continued our outreach beyond the beltway to the congressional family through engaging dozens of district directors. Last summer, FMC connected with the district directors that came to D.C. for their fly-in retreat with a reception hosted by one of our Diplomatic Advisory Council members. Over 100 Republican district directors learned more about FMC at a reception at the home of the Embassy of Germany's DCM, and several dozen Democratic district directors were hosted by the Ambassador of Finland.

We continue to see the great value of working with district directors. FMC has also brought dozens of district directors on study tours, both domestically and internationally. Under multiple of FMC's international Congressional Study Groups, delegations of district directors visited Germany, Japan, and Korea. Through a grant from the Democracy Fund, we were able to bring delegations of district directors to Ireland to examine the challenges and impact that Brexit may have and what lessons Brexit may hold regarding NAFTA, as well as to Puerto Rico to examine the devastation that Hurricanes Maria and Irma have caused the island.

Next week, we will bring a bipartisan delegation of district directors from all over the country to Nashville to better understand America's current state of healthcare, with a particular focus on the opioid crisis.

Later this summer, we will bring another delegation of district directors to Canada to take a closer look at our relationship with our northern neighbor, concentrating on new trade deals and border issues.

In the fall, we are bringing together all the district directors we have met for a 2-day symposium to examine more constituent issues and encourage solutions that help their districts regardless of parties.

None of this important work would be possible without the support of outstanding partners. We would like to thank the Hewlett Foundation, the Democracy Fund, the Stennis Center for

Public Service Leadership, the VF Foundation, and the National Archives for trusting in our work and empowering us to truly make an impact across the country. I thank you all.

Martin has asked me to yield some time at this point to Phil Gingrey from Georgia to share with the membership an update on our international work. I therefore thank Members for their attention and now yield the floor to Mr. Gingrey.

Mr. GINGREY. I thank Jim for yielding some of his time. Primarily, I will report on the Congressional Study Groups program.

As a Member, I had the honor of co-chairing the Congressional Study Group on Germany for, I think, 4 years. It was absolutely one of the highlights of my 12 years in Congress.

Today, as we stand in this well, hundreds of Members of Congress will shuttle back and forth from committee hearings to constituent meetings to the call time that we all loved so much. For a small part of their day, they will take in as much information as they can on the issues they and their committees are focused on.

All of us remember the days when we served here, and information was served 24 hours a day from a seemingly endless firehose. For most of us, and for most of them, that information did not concern American foreign policy or trade or our allies overseas.

Our colleague John Dingell once said of his committee's jurisdiction, "If it moves, it's commerce. If it doesn't, it's energy." Looking at the United States today, we may still be made up of energy and commerce, but the impact, and our knowledge of that impact, cannot be limited to our own Nation. We have become the keystone of a global economy.

In 1983, our colleagues saw that globalization was coming, and they realized that a fire hydrant of information was not going to include what was happening with our allies, our adversaries, our trading partners, and developing nations, except for those few Members who were on the Armed Services Committee or the Foreign Affairs Committee. Thus, the Congressional Study Groups were born.

In the past year, we have continued that mission through the continued program impact of the Congressional Study Groups on Germany, Japan, Europe, and, most recently, Korea.

Small, informal programs on Capitol Hill and travel opportunities bring the realities of these countries and our relationships with them as Americans into sharper focus. We also introduced Members and staff to their peers overseas, and we create for current Members and current congressional staff the opportunity to network with each other.

FMC understands that bipartisan cooperation doesn't just magically appear, and it doesn't always begin at work or in the committee rooms. Often, it starts informally at dinner, at

the ballpark, or on trips such as the ones conducted by the Congressional Study Groups.

Creating that bipartisanship is part of our calling at FMC, and I am proud to say that it is a goal we consistently seek when planning events for the Congressional Study Groups.

I would like to share a little bit about what each of our Congressional Study Groups has done this year and what we will do in the coming months, both to advance this mutual understanding and to advance toward FMC's strategic goals. Let me thank FMC's outstanding programming staff, led by Lorraine Harbison, for their tremendous work.

The first Congressional Study Group founded was the Study Group on Germany. This year marks the 35th anniversary of our Congress-Bundestag Seminar, which alternates between bringing the German Bundestag members to the United States and then taking U.S. Members of Congress to Germany.

In election years, Bundestag members traditionally travel to the U.S., and this year was no different. An engaging, diverse group of German legislators from several different political parties joined FMC in Washington, D.C., for a day before trekking off to Nashville and Chattanooga, where they toured Volkswagen's plant, which has become a huge part of that community. They met with cultural and educational leaders and got an opportunity to see the Tennessee Senate and Governor's race in full swing just as early voting began in the Volunteer State.

The Study Group on Germany also welcomed a new co-chair this year in the House as Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS from Indiana joined Congressman TED DEUTCH from Florida as co-chairs. Both co-chairs welcomed Ambassador Emily Haber at a dinner for Members of Congress following her appointment as Ambassador to the United States from Germany.

Our congressional staff engagement continues to grow, with a number of roundtables on the Hill and continued involvement of chiefs of staff and district directors in our study tours to Germany.

This year, the Congressional Study Groups also received funding from the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy to organize a new study tour aimed at bringing nearly a dozen communications directors, chosen on a bipartisan basis, to Germany for substantive exchanges on issues relating to the transatlantic relationship.

As with the district director programming made possible by this grant, engaging communications directors has allowed us to tap into a previously underserved and impressionable group of congressional staff. This year's two study tours saw FMC and the study groups bring 16 individuals on their first-ever visit to Germany. In this group, we see tremendous potential to

create new advocates both for the German-American partnership and for the efforts undertaken by the Congressional Study Group on Germany.

Further communications director and district director study tours will take place in 2020. We look forward to engaging with this new group of congressional staffers next year and to continuing the excellence in programming for which our FMC study tours are known. Patrick Egenhofer of the FMC team does just an outstanding job running the Congressional Study Group on Germany.

The congressional study tour to Japan for Members is always the highlight of the Congressional Study Group on Japan's year. This year was no different, as study group co-chairs BILLY LONG and DIANA DEGETTE accompanied six of their colleagues to Tokyo where they met with Prime Minister Abe and then to the Tohoku region—I hope I pronounced that correctly—which was so badly damaged by the 2011 earthquake and the subsequent tsunami. Members of Congress had the opportunity to view the Fukushima power plant and to see the exclusionary zone around the facility, where some residents have actually returned but which most have abandoned.

A similar agenda was created for chiefs of staff, as well as our first district director trip for the Study Group on Japan, bringing directors from across the Nation on a bipartisan basis. The trip continued the district director outreach that has now spread to three of our congressional study groups.

The similar agenda allowed us to see our meeting partners from the perspectives of three different parts of our congressional family—Members, senior D.C. staff, and district staff—to engage, and for former Members of Congress to create a “deep dive” to really grow a full understanding of the governmental and civil society roles played both in Tokyo and in the recovering area of Tohoku.

Domestically, Japanese Government officials and our Japanese Business Advisory Council were very interested in the 2018 mid-term elections, and, as a result, FMC provided several opportunities for both groups to meet with both current and former Members of Congress and staffers before and after the election, learning more about the critical issues and expectations going into the election and the likely changes that would take place in a Democratic-led House following the election.

The Congressional Study Group also welcomed a new Ambassador from Japan to the United States this year. After several years of outstanding cooperation between the Embassy under Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae, he elected to retire and was succeeded by His Excellency Shinsuke Sugiyama. The Study Group on Japan was able to host a dinner for the new Ambassador at his residence in Washington, allowing Members of Congress to learn more

about the important issues surrounding the U.S.-Japan alliance.

The Study Group on Japan also continued one of the best-received programs we have created recently, with our Chief of Staff Colloquium. This weekend retreat for congressional chiefs of staff allows for a “deep dive” into issues concerning the United States, Japan, and the entire Indo-Pacific region.

More than 20 experts in Asian issues conducted discussion sessions for ten chiefs of staff at the retreat held in Baltimore, Maryland. Baltimore's proximity allows chiefs who live in Washington to “get away” from the hustle and bustle of Capitol Hill, while remaining close enough to not feel out of touch. This provides an excellent learning experience for the staffers, as well as a great opportunity for FMC to engage with congressional staff who may be interested in our Study tours.

For years now, we have benefited greatly from the expertise and professionalism of FMC staffer Alexis Ayano Terai for all things Japan related. We will miss her greatly when she starts her full-time studies at Georgetown to earn her master's degree.

The Congressional Study Group on Europe was active this year as well, primarily focusing on events here in Washington, D.C. The European Study Group has been heavily focused, recently, on district director programming, encouraging these critical senior congressional staff to become more engaged in the transatlantic relationship. This year, Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi of Finland was kind enough to welcome dozens of Democratic district directors to the Finnish Embassy for a reception and a discussion on Finland, Scandinavia, and the role Northern Europe plays in both NATO and in our trading relationships. We expect to continue this relationship between FMC, our district directors, and European embassies this year and far into the future.

Europe was also exceptionally interested in the 2018 elections in the United States, and FMC worked with the Swiss Embassy to create an opportunity to hear from former Members, including President Martin Frost and Vice President Charles Boustany, regarding the results of the November elections here in the United States. This discussion session was heavily attended and allowed our friends from Europe to better understand what a divided legislative branch meant for the 116th Congress and what 2020 could potentially mean for the United States and its relationship with Europe.

Finally, our Congressional Study Group on Korea completed its first full year of activities and was a constant source of pride for FMC. After only having a small delegation of Members of Congress travel to Seoul last year, this year's group was larger and was complemented by a district director study tour, which recently returned from the Republic of Korea, in addition to a former Members delegation that traveled in February.

We also hope, later this year, to bring a chief of staff delegation to the peninsula. Members of Congress were able to meet with key government officials, reporters, and business leaders and, traveling to the Demilitarized Zone between the Republic of Korea and North Korea, were able to learn more about American defense standing in the region from our own military leaders. Each of the delegations also met with local college students in Korea, allowing a candid discussion on both domestic and transpacific issues that are important to the next generation of Koreans.

The Study Group on Korea was also active on Capitol Hill. As we welcomed both our new Senate co-chairs, Senator BRIAN SCHATZ of Hawaii and Senator DAN SULLIVAN of Alaska, Ambassador Cho Yoon-je, the Ambassador from South Korea to the United States, hosted a dinner in their honor, along with several of their House and Senate colleagues, to discuss important U.S.-Korean issues, particularly focused on trade, energy, and defense.

As well, the Study Group on Korea welcomed several governmental and business leaders to Capitol Hill for informal, organic roundtables with Members of Congress and their staff to better create an understanding of this critical alliance and relationship, particularly among Members focused on trade with Korea in their districts who are not able to address these issues through their committee assignments.

Thanks to the efforts of the Congressional Study Group on Korea, the South Korean National Assembly, our counterparts in Seoul, will be mirroring our efforts, as they create the Parliamentary Study Group on America. We wish them luck in that endeavor and look forward to working with our friends in Seoul to further the U.S.-Korean alliance. And we very much appreciate all the hard and good work of FMC staffer Dongwon Kim as he implements Korea-focused programming.

The Congressional Study Groups continue to work on better ways to communicate with our stakeholders, adding conference calls on important issues, featuring our frequent meeting partners, that allow Members of Congress, their staff, the business community, our supporters, and the diplomatic community to participate in Study Group programming without having to leave their office.

All of this great work being done by the Congressional Study Groups could not continue without the support of the members of our Business Advisory Council, BAC, and the institutional funding partners that we have. With that in mind, it is important that we thank Ambassador Jim Zumwalt and Ms. Junko Chano at Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Ms. Paige Cottingham-Streater at the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, Dr. Karen Donfried at the German Marshall Fund, Ms. Minjeong Kim and Mr. Kiho Jang at the Korea

Foundation, and Ambassador Thomas Byrne at the Korea Society.

The members of our BAC who are so committed to the transoceanic relationships fostered by the Congressional Study Groups include Hyundai, Samsung, KITA, POSCO, CJ, SK, Gale International, Michelin, Tellurian, Allianz, BASF, Bayer, B. Braun Medical, Daimler, Deutsche Telekom, DHL, Evonik Corporation, Fresenius Medical Care North America, Fresenius SE, Lufthansa German Airlines, Rather Prestia, Representative of German Industry and Trade, Volkswagen Group of America, Aflac, ANA, Honda, Itochu, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, JR Central, Hitachi, Lockheed Martin, Marubeni, Mitsubishi Corporation, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Mitsui, Mizuho, MUFG, NEC, Nissan, Nomura, Panasonic, Sojitz, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, and Toyota. We are deeply grateful to all of these organizations for their support of our work.

As with the rest of FMC, the future of the Congressional Study Group is strong and vibrant. I look forward to watching the incredible programming and travel opportunities that they provide to continue FMC's goal to truly create an effective, nonpartisan avenue for effective legislative and knowledge exchange between the congressional family and our friends and allies abroad.

I appreciate the opportunity to make these remarks. It is my understanding that we have some membership business to accomplish, and I, therefore, yield to FMC's president, Representative Martin Frost of Texas.

Mr. FROST. Thank you, Jim and Phil, for your reports and for your outstanding leadership of these important FMC programs.

I would note for the Record that, since we called the roll, several people have come into the room. I notice Barbara Kennelly, former president of our organization—I don't know if she was here when the roll was called—Blanche Lincoln, a former Member of the House and a former Member of the Senate from Arkansas; John Tanner from Tennessee; and, also, Jim Jones, a former Congressman and a former Ambassador.

I also would like to recognize several representatives of the Congressional Federal Credit Union, and I thank them for their many years of partnership and support.

Normally, at this juncture in our report, I would highlight each FMC staff member, briefly describe their areas of responsibility, and add a personal note since I have worked so closely with each of them over the past several years. I cannot do so this year simply because our team has grown so much. We are now up to 12 FMC staff members, so there is just not enough time anymore to recognize each individually.

However, I do want to highlight two names. First, our CEO, Pete Weichlein.

As you may know, he has been with FMC in various positions since February 1, 1999, which means that, earlier this year, he celebrated his 20th anniversary with us. Pete is brimming full of ideas. He is energetic and he is thoughtful. My job as President is to point out the one or two of his ideas that may not be quite as good as the others. He really does an extraordinary job for us, and I want to thank him.

The other staff member I want to salute is our COO, Sabine Schleidt. She joined FMC over 8 years ago and has been the driving force behind so much of our tremendous growth and success. Now, I know Sabine was here. She must be working on the next piece of our business, the next event.

Sabine is extraordinary, for those of you who haven't worked with her. She oversees all of our international programs, and she also—which I know L.F., as one of our dinner chairs, was grateful, and I, as president, was grateful—raises a lot of money for us. She is really very good, and we are very fortunate to have her.

At this point, let me also recognize a representative of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. As you know, our closest working relationships are with our colleagues in Ottawa and our colleagues in Brussels.

We have enjoyed, over the years, many joint projects, such as election monitoring. The Canadian Association is a wonderful partner and resource to us, and we are thrilled that one of its board members, Eleni Bakopanos from Quebec, is with us here this morning and throughout the day.

Thank you so much for joining us.

By the way, she is from Montreal, and if any of you need to know the best Greek restaurants in Montreal, you should check with her before you go.

As a personal note, several years ago, our organization sponsored a joint mission, a joint visit to the Normandy Battlefield with former Members of the Canadian Parliament. It was an extraordinary trip. Not only did we visit our battlefield sites, but also the Canadians, both from World War I and World War II.

Canada, per capita, lost an extraordinary number of soldiers during those two wars. We will be forever grateful for their partnership then and their partnership now.

I thank you so much for joining us. I hope you enjoy the rest of the program. This is a friendly group. I am sure they will come up and visit with you.

Every year at our annual meeting, we ask the membership to elect new officers and board members. I, therefore, will now read to you the names of the candidates for board members and officers. They are all running unopposed, and I, therefore, ask for a simple "yea" or "nay" as I present to you the list of candidates as a slate.

For the Association's Board of Directors Class of 2019, the candidates are:

Ann Marie Buerkle of New York,
Bob Clement of Tennessee,

Donna Edwards of Maryland,
Phil Gingrey of Georgia,
Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas,
L.F. Payne of Virginia,
Tim Petri of Wisconsin, and
Nick Rahall of West Virginia.

Some of these are repeat board members. They have served previously. We are glad that they will continue to serve.

All in favor of electing these seven former Members to FMC's board of directors, please say "yea."

Not hearing any "nays" they are elected.

Next, we will elect our Executive Committee. Charles Boustany serves as our vice president. He and I were elected last year to a 2-year term, and we, therefore, are not up for reelection.

Cliff Stearns automatically remains on the Executive Committee in his capacity as immediate past president.

The secretary and treasurer are each elected to a 1-year term, with eligibility for another 1-year term. The candidates are:

Ann Marie Buerkle of New York for treasurer, and

L.F. Payne of Virginia for secretary.

All in favor of electing these two former Members to FMC's Executive Committee, please say "yea."

Any opposed?

Hearing no opposition, the slate has been elected by the membership.

I thank you all for volunteering to serve on our board, and I very much look forward to working with you again over the next year.

It is now my sad duty to inform the Congress of those former and current Members who have passed away since our last report.

As you know, FMC has commenced a beautiful tradition, which is to recognize via a separate memorial service in Statuary Hall all those of our colleagues who have passed away in the previous 12 months. It is a truly wonderful and fitting tribute to which we invite the families of these Members, and I hope you will join us in September as we do so again this year.

I would note that we have patterned this after a very similar service conducted by the Canadian Parliament. I had the privilege of representing this organization at the annual meeting of the former Members of the Canadian Parliament and got to see this ceremony firsthand, and thank you for that, too.

It is a truly wonderful and fitting tribute to which we invite the families of these Members, and I hope you will join us in September as we do so again this year.

We also want to pay tribute to these Members by making sure their names are read here in the House Chamber and they are included in today's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I, therefore, will now read the names, and I ask all of you, including the visitors in the gallery, to rise as I read their names. At the end of the list, we will pay our respect to their memory with a moment of silence.

Thank you.

We honor these Members for their service to our country. They are:

Birch Evans Bayh of Indiana
Leonard Boswell of Iowa
Bill Broomfield of Michigan

George H.W. Bush of Texas, a former Member of the House of Representatives

Michael "Mac" Collins of Georgia

Ronald Dellums of California

John Dingell, Jr. of Michigan

Ralph Hall of Texas

James Hansen of Utah

Margaret Heckler of Massachusetts

Ernest "Fritz" Hollings of South Carolina

Walter "Dee" Huddleston of Kentucky

Walter B. Jones, Jr. of North Carolina

Paul Laxalt of Nevada

Marilyn Lloyd of Tennessee

Richard Lugar of Indiana

John McCain of Arizona

Guy Molinari of New York

Jim Moody of Wisconsin

Dick Nichols of Kansas

Ed Pastor of Arizona

Elizabeth Patterson of South Carolina

Ellen Tauscher of California

Harris Wofford of Pennsylvania.

Please observe a moment of silence.

Thank you.

I notice in reading this list that I served with a number of these Members, as did, I think, most of the people in this room. I hope you will join us in September when we officially mark this occasion.

Thank you. That concludes the 49th Report to Congress by the Former Members of Congress. On behalf of FMC, I wish to thank the Speaker and minority leader for giving us the opportunity to return to this very special place and report on FMC's activities.

I also wish to share with you how incredibly honored I am to be serving as the president of this outstanding organization. We do wonderful work, and our membership's commitment is a testament to how dear you all hold this institution.

I would mention, and I think you have all gotten a copy of this, that we have a program for most of this day. I hope that many of you will attend these events.

We have a reception in the Rayburn House Office Building starting at 9:30 and then a program about space policy, 50 years after Apollo 11, also in the Rayburn Building. Then we adjourn to the National Archives, and our colleague, Jim Blanchard, is chairman of the board of the National Archives. We appreciate everything you are doing to help us.

Mr. DIOGUARDI. I am former Congressman Joe DioGuardi. I would like to introduce, in the spirit of bipartisanship and emerging democracies, guests from Southeast Europe. If you don't mind, I would like to welcome them.

From Albania, we have Monika Kryemadhi. She is the first female to

run a political party in Albania. She is joined here by her chairperson for the Foreign Policy Committee of that group, Klajda Gjoshaj, and the chief of staff, Eriol Braimllari.

We also have Faton Bislimi, a Harvard graduate. He is from Kosovo.

We have from Presevo, a part of southern Serbia that has 100,000 Albanians, we have the mayor of Bujanovac, a majority Albanian city, one of the three in Presevo, in southern Serbia. We have Ragmi Mustafa and Ardita Sinani.

I just wanted to be sure that they know they are welcome. I know Shirley and I have been pushing, because we represent a nonprofit called the Albanian American Civic League, an advocacy group. We are volunteers; we don't get paid; but we are pushing for an Albanian study group.

The Albanians are the least understood people in Europe, Southeast Europe, and they were divided unfairly, after World War I, into six different countries to, clearly, politically keep them weak.

By the way, the honoree today, we know, Connie Morella. What you don't know and I found out through the Former Members Association, like my dad, she comes from a family that has Albanian roots. My dad came here in 1929 speaking only two languages—he was 15—Albanian and Italian. He comes from the people who were driven out of Albania in the 15th century by the Ottoman Turks and occupying for 425 years until World War I. Connie's family spoke Albanian, her grandparents, and so did mine.

Mr. FROST. And unlike many people in this room, I have actually been to Albania—it was an interesting experience—years and years ago, when I chaired a special task force of the House of Representatives to help the parliaments of Eastern and Central Europe after the Berlin Wall opened.

And I believe we now turn this back over to Cliff.

Sometimes we have leadership of both parties that come and speaks to us. I don't know if they were planning to come by today, but we are actually ending a little bit early.

So if we miss them, we are sorry. We had hoped that they would come by. They have done it in the past.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. President, thank you, Martin.

I think, as you pointed out, we were waiting for both the majority leader, STENY HOYER of Maryland, and the minority leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY, between 8:45 and 9:00, and they might have had different schedules/commitments. So we will probably be here, in effect, if they come by.

Mr. FROST. Next is our distinguished minority leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY from California.

Mr. MCCARTHY. It is an honor to be with you. A lot of you I have admired greatly. Some of you I have never gotten to meet. But part of the reason I ran, I watched you in public service,

and it is an amazing occupation, and we should honor it every chance we get.

There are days when we honor our democracy, so I am just going to tell you a quick story. If any of you have time and you want to come by my office—it is no longer in the majority side, but it is in the minority side over here. At one time it was the Speaker's office, whom some of you served, so you can find where it is.

In there I put paintings, and there is a reason why each painting that I put in there is from a different artist. I put my favorite Presidents, Lincoln and Reagan, and then I have the one of "Washington Crossing the Delaware." And this is the story I will tell you today.

When I look at the paintings, I always wonder what advice Lincoln would tell us. If you think about it, he was a Member of the House.

My favorite part whenever I give a tour is to go to Statuary Hall, stand right where Lincoln's desk is, and have my guests look back at the clock. I ask them to tell me what time it is because it is the exact same view and the exact same clock that Abraham Lincoln looked at. I am sure he did, and that is an opportunity to have.

But what would Lincoln tell us today? Lincoln would tell us to believe in the exceptionalism of this country; that we are different than any other country before us. And the reason why I believe that is, is the Gettysburg Address.

You all know it. "Four score and seven years ago our Fathers brought forth on this continent a new Nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

There has never been another country like ours. Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that we are all equal. There is something about democracy that that brings forth.

When you think about the world today, Saudi Arabia just now allows women the right to drive, and it makes you think about where we have come from.

But the painting that I want you to look at, and some of you have served with me and you have been in that room, is "Washington Crossing the Delaware." You know of that painting. You know that it hangs in New York, but did you know the history of who actually painted that picture? It wasn't even an American. His name was Emanuel Leutze. He had lived in America. He was an immigrant.

He lived here for a number of years and went back to Germany, and painted a picture based upon the belief that he wanted to inspire the Germans to have a revolution because he believed America was more than a country, that America was an idea. And he wanted the revolution in Germany to inspire the idea of freedom and democracy.

So he doesn't get it historically correct, but we don't blame him, right?

The Delaware looks like the Rhine, but he is German, so we live with that.

He puts 13 people in a row boat. Why would he put 13? 13 colonies, right? But he only shows you 12 faces.

He gets it historically incorrect, because people will tell you Washington either crossed in a Durham boat or on a barge, but he just makes it a row boat. But he puts Washington in a ceremonial uniform, standing up, crossing the Delaware on Christmas, at night.

We think that probably is not true, but when you look at Washington, you would say, "I bet that man has never lost a battle." Well, history tells us he had not won yet; that was our first victory when we surprised the Hessians, right?

But what I want you to do when you look at the picture, I want you to see who is in the boat. And this is the story of why democracy matters.

If you look at the second person, he is wearing a beret; he is Scottish.

If you look at the person directly across from him in the denim jacket, he is African American.

You come down the boat to the midsection, in the red is a woman. And in the very back, is a Native American.

I don't know if they were in the boat that night, but this young immigrant, that is who he believed—having lived in America—would have been in that boat.

But the second to last person is a farmer, and he has hand across his face. It is the hand of the 13th person nobody sees.

And what the young artist was saying, Here we are as a young nation—not even a nation yet, but an idea for a nation—an idea that we can self-govern, an idea about democracy, that we are willing to risk everything, having never won before, and do it on our holiest of nights: Here is a hand. Would you get in and join us?

I believe that is as true today as it was then.

It is not guaranteed, you have to earn it through each generation. And the service that you have provided actually passed the torch to the next.

I came here in 2007. I admired an individual, Connie Morella, who I watched stand up. She belonged to my party. And the part that I looked at is, I grew up in a family of Democrats, but I was a Republican based upon belief. And my belief was that an individual can govern themselves.

And I watched Connie stand up not only to things she disagreed with, but to things even within her own party. And she inspired people.

People would say she inspired a lot of women; she also inspired me.

And the idea that after she left this House she continued to work for democracy says a lot about who she is and why she was elected in the first place.

So it is an honor for me to be here today to say thank you for your service. And thank you, all of you, for what you contributed to this country.

Mr. STEARNS. We thank the distinguished minority leader.

And with that, let me close by saying, the Chair again, wishes to thank the former Members of the House and Senate for all of your presence today.

And before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to invite those former Members who did not respond when the roll call was called to give their names to the reading clerk for inclusion in the roll.

I think Tom McMillen came in. Is there anyone else to add?

If not, the Association of Former Members of Congress and the report to Congress is closed.

The meeting stands adjourned.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McGOVERN) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Help us this day to draw closer to You, so that with Your spirit and aware of Your presence among us, we may all face the tasks of this day.

Bless the Members of the people's House. Help them to think clearly, speak confidently, and act courageously in the belief that all noble service is based upon patience, truth, and love.

May all citizens, for their part, feel empowered to encourage their Representatives to use their best judgment in considering how to address the many needs of our Nation.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BAIRD 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.

HISTORIC EMBASSY OPENING IN JERUSALEM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on this day last year, I was grateful to lead nine House colleagues on a congressional delegation to Jerusalem for the opening of the U.S. Embassy.

We had the opportunity to meet with Members of the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, and to meet the Knesset Foreign Affairs chairman, Avi Dichter.

It was an honor to be welcomed to the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. We have a shared priority to stop terrorism and anti-Semitism in both of our countries and around the world. I am confident in the leadership of Israel and know they will do all they can to protect and serve its citizens.

I am thankful for the strong commitment shown to the American-Israeli alliance by President Donald Trump, with promises made and promises kept. Ambassador David Friedman enthusiastically coordinated the Embassy movement, fulfilling a vote of Congress in 1994 to relocate from Tel Aviv to the capital of Jerusalem.

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

HONORING MIKE PIGGOTT

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

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Piggott, who has become virtually an institution for the Lafayette community and Purdue University.

Mike has been an integral part of the greater Lafayette area for more than 40 years. He serves numerous roles at Purdue, including public address announcer for the men's basketball team and public orator for more than 100 commencement ceremonies.

Before working at Purdue, Mike was general manager at WLFI, and he was the television station's news director and news anchor for 14 years and news director at WASK radio for 13 years.

Mike's remarkable career focused on communicating with neighbors, friends, and alumni through sharing stories, delivering the news, and representing Purdue University.

His wife, Nancy, is a retired fourth grade teacher at Glen Acres Elementary. Together, they have two daughters, Jane and Julie, both married and living in the Indianapolis area, along with five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mike on his retirement and thank him for his dedication to our community.

CELEBRATING OUR INCREDIBLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Communist Government of

Cuba announced that it is launching widespread rationing of food due to the grave economic crisis in their country.

Unlike citizens of Cuba, Venezuela, North Korea, and countless other nations, Americans know their grocery store shelves will be filled every day with an abundant supply of quality products at affordable prices, and that is thanks to the ingenuity and hard work of America's farmers and agribusinesses.

For Americans who lack the means to put food on the table, our taxpayers generously provide hundreds of billions of dollars for food stamps and other welfare benefits. Private entities such as churches and nonprofit food banks rely on the voluntary generosity of their members.

Yet it all starts with the supply of food. We could have fistfuls of \$100 bills and EBT cards, but that wouldn't matter if the grocery store shelves were bare.

As Americans, we must always celebrate our system of free enterprise and our incredible agricultural producers. We are, indeed, the envy of the world.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(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 recognize National Police Week.

Thousands of police officers from around the country are in Washington, D.C., this week, and I want to welcome them with the recognition and appreciation they deserve and that they don't always receive these days.

I thank the Capitol Police officers, Officers David Bailey and Crystal Griner, who saved many of my colleagues' lives less than 2 years ago when they took down an armed gunman at that baseball practice that we so famously heard about.

I am very thankful for our officers that we have in northern California, many who have had to work around the clock with some of the disasters we have had in recent years with the dam and the fires, who really helped make an orderly situation out of a lot of chaos.

Nationally, I hate to have to relate these statistics, but 163 police officers died in the line of duty last year, 52 from gunfire. Any number greater than zero is unacceptable.

In California, we lost 11 officers in 2018. This year, we tragically lost 22-year-old Davis Police Officer Natalie Corona, one of the most heartbreaking ones you might ever see. She was following in her father's footsteps, who was an officer for a long time in Colusa County.

Indeed, these men and women know it is a higher calling, a higher, 24-hour duty that they answer to for all of our safety. We appreciate them. We love

them, and let's always be sure we remember to show them that.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 13, 2019.

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

Dear MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on May 13, 2019, at 3:16 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President regarding the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Yemen.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk of the House.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-34)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2019.

The actions and policies of certain former members of the Government of Yemen and others continue to threaten Yemen's peace, security, and stability, including by obstructing the political process in Yemen and the implementation of the agreement of November 23, 2011, between the Government of Yemen and those in opposition to it, which provided for a peaceful transition of power that meets the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Yemeni people. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 13, 2019.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1500

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT) at 3 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT OF 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 299, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (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, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 299

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF PRESUMPTIONS OF EXPOSURE FOR VETERANS WHO SERVED IN VICINITY OF REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1116 the following new section:

“§ 1116A. Presumptions of service connection for veterans who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam

“(a) SERVICE CONNECTION.—For the purposes of section 1110 of this title, and subject to section 1113 of this title, a disease covered by section 1116 of this title becoming manifest as specified in that section in a veteran who, during active military, naval, or air service, served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, shall be considered to have been incurred in or aggravated by such service, notwithstanding that there is no record of evidence of such disease during the period of such service.

“(b) EXPOSURE.—A veteran who, during active military, naval, or air service, served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, shall be presumed to

have been exposed during such service to an herbicide agent unless there is affirmative evidence to establish that the veteran was not exposed to any such agent during that service.

“(c) EFFECTIVE DATE OF AWARD.—(1) Except as provided by paragraph (2), the effective date of an award under this section shall be determined in accordance with section 5110 of this title.

“(2)(A) Notwithstanding subsection (g) of section 5110 of this title, the Secretary shall determine the effective date of an award based on a claim under this section for an individual described in subparagraph (B) by treating the date on which the individual filed the prior claim specified in clause (i) of such subparagraph as the date on which the individual filed the claim so awarded under this section.

“(B) An individual described in this subparagraph is a veteran, or a survivor of a veteran, who meets the following criteria:

“(i) The veteran or survivor submitted a claim for disability compensation on or after September 25, 1985, and before January 1, 2020, for a disease covered by this section, and the claim was denied by reason of the claim not establishing that the disease was incurred or aggravated by the service of the veteran.

“(ii) The veteran or survivor submits a claim for disability compensation on or after January 1, 2020, for the same condition covered by the prior claim under clause (i), and the claim is approved pursuant to this section.

“(d) DETERMINATION OF OFFSHORE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of this section, the Secretary shall treat a location as being offshore of Vietnam if the location is not more than 12 nautical miles seaward of a line commencing on the southwestern demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia and intersecting the following points:

“Points Geographic Names	Latitude North	Longitude East
At Hon Nhan Island, Tho Chu Archipelago Kien Giang Province	9°15.0’	103°27.0’
At Hon Da Island southeast of Hon Khoai Island Minh Hai Province	8°22.8’	104°52.4’
At Tai Lon Islet, Con Dao Islet in Con Dao-Vung Toa Special Sector	8°37.8’	106°37.5’
At Bong Lai Islet, Con Dao Islet	8°38.9’	106°40.3’
At Bay Canh Islet, Con Dao Islet	8°39.7’	106°42.1’
At Hon Hai Islet (Phu Qui group of islands) Thuan Hai Province	9°58.0’	109°5.0’
At Hon Doi Islet, Thuan Hai Province	12°39.0’	109°28.0’
At Dai Lanh point, Phu Khanh Province	12°53.8’	109°27.2’
At Ong Can Islet, Phu Khanh Province	13°54.0’	109°21.0’
At Ly Son Islet, Nghia Binh Province	15°23.1’	109° 9.0’
At Con Co Island, Binh Tri Thien Province	17°10.0’	107°20.6’

“(e) HERBICIDE AGENT.—In this section, the term ‘herbicide agent’ has the meaning given that term in section 1116(a)(3) of this title.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1116 the following new item:

“1116A. Presumptions of service connection for veterans who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam.”.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) GUIDANCE.—Notwithstanding section 501 of such title, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may issue guidance to implement section 1116A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), before prescribing new regulations under such section.

(2) UPDATES.—(A) Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate regarding the plans of the Secretary—

(i) to conduct outreach under subsection (d); and

(ii) to respond to inquiries from veterans regarding claims for disability compensation under section 1116A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(B) On a quarterly basis during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which regulations are prescribed to carry out such section 1116A, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the

House of Representatives and the Senate updates on the status of such regulations.

(3) PENDING CASES.—

(A) AUTHORITY TO STAY.—The Secretary may stay a claim described in subparagraph (B) until the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of such section 1116A.

(B) CLAIMS DESCRIBED.—A claim described in this subparagraph is a claim for disability compensation—

(i) relating to the service and diseases covered by such section 1116A; and

(ii) that is pending at the Veterans Benefits Administration or the Board of Veterans' Appeals on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and before the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of such section 1116A.

(d) OUTREACH.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall conduct outreach to inform veterans described in paragraph (2) of the ability to submit a claim for disability compensation under section 1116A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a). Such outreach shall include the following:

(A) The Secretary shall publish on the website of the Department a notice that a veterans described in paragraph (2) may submit or resubmit a claim for disability compensation under such section 1116A.

(B) The Secretary shall notify in writing the veteran service organization community of the ability of veterans described in paragraph (2) to submit or resubmit claims for disability compensation under such section 1116A.

(2) VETERAN DESCRIBED.—A veteran described in this paragraph is a veteran who, during active military, naval, or air service, served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975.

(e) REPORTS.—Not later than January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter for two years, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report regarding claims for disability compensation under section 1116A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a). Each report shall include, with respect to the calendar year preceding the report, disaggregated by the regional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the following:

(1) The number of claims filed under such section.

(2) The number of such claims granted.

(3) The number of such claims denied.

(f) HEALTH CARE.—Section 1710(e)(4) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting “(including offshore of such Republic as described in section 1116A(d) of this title)” after “served on active duty in the Republic of Vietnam”.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 3. PRESUMPTION OF HERBICIDE EXPOSURE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS WHO SERVED IN KOREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1116A, as added by section 2, the following new section:

“§ 1116B. Presumption of herbicide exposure for certain veterans who served in Korea

“(a) PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE-CONNECTION.—(1) For the purposes of section 1110 of this title, and subject to section 1113 of this title, a disease specified in subsection (b) that becomes manifest as specified in that subsection in a veteran described in paragraph (2) shall be considered to have been in-

curred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service, notwithstanding that there is no record of evidence of such disease during the period of such service.

“(2) A veteran described in this paragraph is a veteran who, during active military, naval, or air service, served in or near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), during the period beginning on September 1, 1967, and ending on August 31, 1971.

“(b) DISEASES.—A disease specified in this subsection is—

“(1) a disease specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of section 1116 of this title that becomes manifest as specified in that paragraph; or

“(2) any additional disease that—

“(A) the Secretary determines in regulations warrants a presumption of service-connection by reason of having positive association with exposure to an herbicide agent; and

“(B) becomes manifest within any period prescribed in such regulations.

“(c) HERBICIDE AGENT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘herbicide agent’ has the meaning given such term in section 1821(d) of this title.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1116A, as added by section 2, the following new item:

“1116B. Presumption of herbicide exposure for certain veterans who served in Korea.”

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) GUIDANCE.—Notwithstanding section 501 of such title, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may issue guidance to implement section 1116B of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), before prescribing new regulations under such section.

(2) UPDATES.—(A) Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate regarding the plans of the Secretary to respond to inquiries from veterans regarding claims for disability compensation under section 1116B of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(B) On a quarterly basis during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which regulations are prescribed to carry out such section 1116B, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate updates on the status of such regulations.

(3) PENDING CASES.—

(A) AUTHORITY TO STAY.—The Secretary may stay a claim described in subparagraph (B) until the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of section 1116B of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(B) CLAIMS DESCRIBED.—A claim described in this subparagraph is a claim for disability compensation—

(i) relating to the service and diseases covered by such section 1116B; and

(ii) that is pending at the Veterans Benefits Administration or the Board of Veterans' Appeals on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and before the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of such section 1116B.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 4. BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN OF CERTAIN THAILAND SERVICE VETERANS BORN WITH SPINA BIFIDA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 18 of title 38, United States Code, is amended

by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 1822. Benefits for children of certain Thailand service veterans born with spina bifida

“(a) BENEFITS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may provide to any child of a veteran of covered service in Thailand who is suffering from spina bifida the health care, vocational training and rehabilitation, and monetary allowance required to be paid to a child of a Vietnam veteran who is suffering from spina bifida under subchapter I of this chapter as if such child of a veteran of covered service in Thailand were a child of a Vietnam veteran who is suffering from spina bifida under such subchapter.

“(b) SPINA BIFIDA CONDITIONS COVERED.—This section applies with respect to all forms and manifestations of spina bifida, except spina bifida occulta.

“(c) VETERAN OF COVERED SERVICE IN THAILAND.—For purposes of this section, a veteran of covered service in Thailand is any individual, without regard to the characterization of that individual's service, who—

“(1) served in the active military, naval, or air service in Thailand, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975; and

“(2) is determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, to have been exposed to a herbicide agent during such service in Thailand.

“(d) HERBICIDE AGENT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘herbicide agent’ means a chemical in a herbicide used in support of United States and allied military operations in Thailand, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO DEFINITION OF “CHILD”.—Section 1831(1) of such title is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking “subchapter III of this chapter” and inserting “section 1821 of this title”; and

(B) in clause (i), by striking “section 1821 of this title” and inserting “that section”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) For purposes of section 1822 of this title, an individual, regardless of age or marital status, who—

“(i) is the natural child of a veteran of covered service in Thailand (as determined for purposes of that section); and

“(ii) was conceived after the date on which that veteran first entered service described in subsection (c) of that section.”

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SUBCHAPTER HEADING.—The heading for subchapter III of chapter 18 of such title is amended by inserting “AND THAILAND” after “KOREA”.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 18 of such title is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to subchapter III and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER III—CHILDREN OF CERTAIN KOREA AND THAILAND SERVICE VETERANS BORN WITH SPINA BIFIDA”;

and

(B) by inserting after the item relating to section 1821 the following new item:

“1822. Benefits for children of certain Thailand service veterans born with spina bifida.”

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) **GUIDANCE.**—Notwithstanding section 501 of such title, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may issue guidance to implement section 1822 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), before prescribing new regulations under such section.

(2) **UPDATES.**—(A) Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate regarding the plans of the Secretary to respond to inquiries from veterans regarding claims for disability compensation under section 1822 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(B) On a quarterly basis during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which regulations are prescribed to carry out such section 1822, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate updates on the status of such regulations.

(3) **PENDING CASES.**—

(A) **AUTHORITY TO STAY.**—The Secretary may stay a claim described in subparagraph (B) until the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of section 1822 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(B) **CLAIMS DESCRIBED.**—A claim described in this subparagraph is a claim for benefits—

(i) relating to the spina bifida and service covered by such section 1822; and

(ii) that is pending at the Veterans Benefits Administration or the Board of Veterans' Appeals on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and before the date on which the Secretary commences the implementation of such section 1822.

(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs

of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report identifying—

(1) the military installations of the United States located in Thailand during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, at which an herbicide agent (as defined in section 1822 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)) was actively used; and

(2) the period of such use.

(f) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 5. UPDATED REPORT ON CERTAIN GULF WAR ILLNESS STUDY.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate an updated report on the findings, as of the date of the updated report, of the Follow-up Study of a National Cohort of Gulf War and Gulf Era Veterans under the epidemiology program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 6. LOANS GUARANTEED UNDER HOME LOAN PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) **ADJUSTMENT OF LOAN LIMIT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3703(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (i)(IV), by striking “the lesser of the maximum guaranty amount (as defined in subparagraph (C)) or”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “subparagraph (B) of this paragraph” and inserting “subparagraph (B) or (C)”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “The maximum” and inserting “With respect to loans described in subclauses (I), (II), or (III) of subparagraph (A)(i), the maximum”; and

(ii) by striking “or in the case” and all that follows through “subparagraph (C).”; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following new subparagraph (C):

“(C)(i) With respect to loans described in subclause (IV) of subparagraph (A)(i) made to a veteran not covered by clause (ii), the maximum amount of guaranty entitlement available to the veteran shall be 25 percent of the loan.

“(ii) With respect to loans described in subclause (IV) of subparagraph (A)(i) made to a covered veteran, the maximum amount of guaranty entitlement available to the veteran shall be 25 percent of the Freddie Mac conforming loan limit, reduced by the amount of entitlement previously used by the veteran under this chapter and not restored as a result of the exclusion in section 3702(b) of this title.

“(iii) In this subparagraph:

“(I) The term ‘covered veteran’ means a veteran who has previously used entitlement under this chapter and for whom the full amount of entitlement so used has not been restored as a result of the exclusion in section 3702(b) of this title.

“(II) The term ‘Freddie Mac conforming loan limit’ means the limit determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) for a single-family residence, as adjusted for the year involved.”.

(2) **LOANS TO NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS.**—Section 3762(c) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (1); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

(3) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 3710(d)(4) of such title is amended by striking “section 3703(a)(1)(B) of this title” and inserting “subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 3703(a)(1) of this title”.

(b) **ADJUSTMENT OF LOAN FEES.**—Section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking the loan fee table and inserting the following:

“Type of loan	Active duty veteran	Reservist	Other obligor
(A)(i) Initial loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other initial loan described in section 3710(a) other than with 5-down or 10-down (closed on or after October 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2020)	2.15	2.40	NA
(A)(ii) Initial loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other initial loan described in section 3710(a) other than with 5-down or 10-down (closed on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2022)	2.30	2.30	NA
(A)(iii) Initial loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other initial loan described in section 3710(a) other than with 5-down or 10-down (closed on or after January 1, 2022, and before October 1, 2029)	2.15	2.15	NA
(A)(iv) Initial loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other initial loan described in section 3710(a) other than with 5-down or 10-down (closed on or after October 1, 2029)	1.40	1.40	NA
(B)(i) Subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) (closed on or after October 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2020)	3.30	3.30	NA
(B)(ii) Subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) (closed on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2022)	3.60	3.60	NA
(B)(iii) Subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) (closed on or after January 1, 2022, and before October 1, 2029)	3.30	3.30	NA
(B)(iv) Subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 0-down, or any other subsequent loan described in section 3710(a) (closed on or after October 1, 2029)	1.25	1.25	NA
(C)(i) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 5-down (closed before January 1, 2020)	1.50	1.75	NA
(C)(ii) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 5-down (closed on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2022)	1.65	1.65	NA

“Type of loan	Active duty veteran	Reservist	Other obligor
(C)(iii) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 5-down (closed on or after January 1, 2022, and before October 1, 2029)	1.50	1.50	NA
(C)(iv) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 5-down (closed on or after October 1, 2029)	0.75	0.75	NA
(D)(i) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 10-down (closed before January 1, 2020)	1.25	1.50	NA
(D)(ii) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 10-down (closed on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2022)	1.40	1.40	NA
(D)(iii) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 10-down (closed on or after January 1, 2022, and before October 1, 2029)	1.25	1.25	NA
(D)(iv) Loan described in section 3710(a) to purchase or construct a dwelling with 10-down (closed on or after October 1, 2029)	0.50	0.50	NA
(E) Interest rate reduction refinancing loan	0.50	0.50	NA
(F) Direct loan under section 3711	1.00	1.00	NA
(G) Manufactured home loan under section 3712 (other than an interest rate reduction refinancing loan)	1.00	1.00	NA
(H) Loan to Native American veteran under section 3762 (other than an interest rate reduction refinancing loan)	1.25	1.25	NA
(I) Loan assumption under section 3714	0.50	0.50	0.50
(J) Loan under section 3733(a)	2.25	2.25	2.25”.

(c) **WAIVER OF FEES FOR PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS.**—Section 3729(c)(1) of such title is amended—

(1) by striking “or from a surviving spouse” and inserting “, from a surviving spouse”; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, or from a member of the Armed Forces who is serving on active duty and who provides, on or before the date of loan closing, evidence of having been awarded the Purple Heart”.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to a loan guaranteed under section 3710 of title 38, United States Code, on or after January 1, 2020.

(e) **GUIDANCE.**—Notwithstanding section 501 of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may issue guidance to implement this section before prescribing new regulations under sections 3703, 3729, and 3762 of such title, as amended by this section.

SEC. 7. INFORMATION GATHERING FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HOME LOAN APPRAISALS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3731(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) The Secretary shall permit an appraiser on a list developed and maintained under subsection (a)(3) to make an appraisal for the purposes of this chapter based solely on information gathered by a person with whom the appraiser has entered into an agreement for such services.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to an appraisal under section 3731 of such title, on or after January 1, 2020.

(c) **GUIDANCE.**—Notwithstanding section 501 of such title, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may issue guidance to implement this section before prescribing new regulations under sections 3731 of such title, as amended by subsection (a).

SEC. 8. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. **TAKANO**) and the gen-

tleman from Tennessee (Mr. **DAVID P. ROE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

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

Mr. Speaker, for the second time in 2 years, this House has arrived at a turning point in the journey to adjust VA compensation policy and finally recognize U.S. Navy sailors who were exposed to toxic herbicides during the Vietnam war.

Congress has failed our blue water Navy veterans, plain and simple. Those who have advocated for and participated in the process to bring this legislation to the House floor know this history is deeply tragic. By not granting the benefits these veterans earned more than 40 years ago, these veterans and their survivors continue to experience immeasurable pain, death, and grief caused by the spraying of 12.1 million gallons of highly toxic Agent Orange during the Vietnam war. It was unjust then, and it is unjust now. But today, we have an opportunity to right this wrong.

For Members of Congress, this fraught history comes with a responsibility to provide compensation and care for the injury Agent Orange exposure has caused. Though the exposures occurred primarily in the 1960s, Congress didn’t find the resolve to act until 1991, and it left out key groups of veterans exposed to Agent Orange, effectively denying their suffering that was a direct result of their military service.

Today, we will right this wrong by including three additional categories of veterans injured by Agent Orange: the blue water Navy Vietnam veterans; the veterans who served in the Korean DMZ; and children with spina bifida born to parents exposed during their service in Thailand.

The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 is the quickest and surest way to deliver benefits to these veterans. It is the direct result of bipartisan efforts by Ranking Member

PHIL ROE and myself to bring this to the House floor for consideration.

The 2019 version of H.R. 299 is an updated version of the act this House passed unanimously last Congress. It follows the Federal circuit court decision in Procopio. That case reversed VA’s 1997 decision to deny the presumption of Agent Orange exposure to veterans that served off the shores of Vietnam.

The Procopio decision was a huge step forward, but we need more. We need to ensure blue water Navy veterans are protected in the event Procopio is appealed to the Supreme Court and overturned.

That is why we have worked together with veteran service organizations to establish, without doubt, that blue water Navy veterans are entitled to this presumption.

Our current proposal is very similar to the bill passed in the last Congress. It includes crucial geo-coordinates that require VA to recognize service off the shore of Vietnam when deciding claims for disability compensation for herbicide-related diseases.

Let me repeat: This proposal is the quickest and clearest route to delivering benefits to those deserving veterans. They have waited long enough.

H.R. 299 has the full support of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and many other veteran service organizations.

I have two letters signed by 25 of these organizations, and I included them in the **RECORD**.

MAY 13, 2019.

Hon. **MARK TAKANO**,
Chairman, House Veterans’ Affairs Committee,
Washington, DC.

Hon. **PHIL ROE**,
Ranking Member, House Veterans’ Affairs Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN **TAKANO** AND RANKING MEMBER **DR. ROE**: As leaders of major veterans’ organizations, and on behalf of our more than 5 million combined members, we write to offer our strongest support for H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans

Act and to encourage all Members of Congress to vote to approve this legislation.

As you know, during the 115th Congress, Blue Water Navy legislation passed the House by a vote of 382 to 0; however, the bill was not successful in the Senate. We thank you both for reintroducing Blue Water Navy veteran legislation in the 116th Congress and we are grateful that with your leadership H.R. 299 was unanimously reported out of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee on May 8, 2019.

When VA implemented the Agent Orange Act of 1991, it determined that veterans who received the Vietnam Service Medal, to include those who served in the waters offshore, were exposed to Agent Orange. In 1993, a VA General Counsel opinion held that veterans with service in the waters offshore were exposed to Agent Orange. However, in 1997, VA General Counsel opined that the 1996 Veterans Benefits Improvements Act determined only veterans who physically served in Vietnam were exposed to Agent Orange, although that was not stated in the law.

To clarify, from 1991 to 1997 veterans with service in the waters offshore of Vietnam were considered to have been exposed to Agent Orange, as Congress intended. The 1997 decision to exclude Blue Water Navy veterans was not based on medical or scientific evidence, law, or Congressional intent; it was based on a misinterpretation.

On January 29th, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in *Procopio v. Wilkie*, overruled VA's previous misinterpretations and determined that service in the Republic of Vietnam includes the territorial waters within 12 nautical miles of the baseline.

H.R. 299 would fully protect Procopio's holdings that service in the Republic of Vietnam includes the territorial waters. The bill would use the same grid coordinates in the legislation approved by the House last year, which would extend beyond 12 nautical miles in some locations, particularly the Mekong Delta.

H.R. 299 will also expand benefits for Korean DMZ veterans who suffer from diseases and illnesses directly linked to Agent Orange. The bill would provide an earlier date of exposure for Vietnam Era veterans who served on the DMZ.

This legislation would also expand coverage for those children suffering from spina bifida because of their parents' exposure to Agent Orange while serving in Thailand during the Vietnam War. This change would provide these children benefits on par with those received by children of Vietnam veterans.

For decades, tens of thousands of veterans, their families, and survivors have been denied their earned benefits. While it is long past due, it is time that we correct the injustice done to Blue Water Navy veterans and provide protection of the Procopio decision by passing H.R. 299.

We thank you for your unwavering commitment and dedication to Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans. We look forward to the day when we will finally pay a long overdue debt to tens of thousands of Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans, their families and survivors.

Respectfully,

EDWARD R. REESE, JR.,
Executive Director,
Washington Headquarters, DAV (Disabled American Veterans).

LOUIS CELLI, JR.,
Executive Director,
Government & Veterans Affairs, The American Legion.

RICK WEIDMAN,
Executive Director for Policy, Vietnam Veterans of America.

DANA T. ATKINS,
Lieutenant General, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), President, Military Officers Association of America.

ROBERT E. WALLACE,
Executive Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

CARL BLAKE,
Executive Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America.

JOSEPH R. CHENELLY,
Executive Director, AMVETS.

DOUGLAS GREENLAW,
National Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart.

NATIONAL MILITARY & VETERANS ALLIANCE,
May 11, 2019.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Veterans Affairs Committee, Washington, DC.

Hon. PHIL ROE,
Ranking Member, House Veterans Affairs Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER ROE: The National Military and Veterans Alliance (NMVA), a non-partisan advocacy group comprised of the undersigned military and veteran service organizations, is pleased to offer our support for H.R. 299. H.R. 299—The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. H.R. 299 recognizes and brings relief to veterans who, during active military, naval, or air service, served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975 by amending Title 38 to recognize the presumption that these veterans have been exposed to the herbicide Agent Orange, notwithstanding that there is no record of evidence of such disease during the period of such service.

Our organizations are all familiar with the history of Agent Orange and its use in Vietnam. The United States spread over 20,000,000 gallons of the potent chemical-laced herbicide over southern Vietnam throughout the 1960's and first part of the 1970's. These areas included coastal regions and the areas around rivers and streams that emptied into the South China Sea where our Blue Water Navy service members operated.

U.S. Government-initiated studies have proven that Agent Orange causes cancer and birth defects and there are now numerous documented ways that "Blue Water" sailors, like their "Brown Water" shipmates, were exposed to Agent Orange while serving aboard ships in these contaminated areas.

One of the benefits of military service, whether in peace or in a time of war, is the peace of mind that comes with knowing that veterans and their families will be cared for. Politics should, under no circumstances, ever interfere with that peace of mind. The enactment of H.R. 299 will ensure that the veterans and their families who have suffered from the use of Agent Orange by the United States in Vietnam will finally receive the care and relief they need.

NMVA is also pleased that H.R. 299 solves another inequity by finally extending the VA Home Loan funding fee waiver to active duty Purple Heart recipients. Currently, this waiver is granted only to veterans with VA

service-connected disabilities, and we see absolutely no reason why combat-wounded service members, the vast majority of whom will almost certainly qualify for VA disability compensation upon discharge, should be denied this significant benefit, simply because they continue to serve in uniform.

NMVA thanks you for your leadership on these issues and your commitment to service members, veterans, retirees and their families. We look forward to working with you to ensure the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

TED PAINTER,
Co-Director, National Military & Veterans Alliance, Executive Director, Armed Forces Retirees Association.

ALEKS MOROSK,
Co-Director, National Military & Veterans Alliance, National Legislative Director, Military Order of the Purple Heart.

NATIONAL MILITARY AND VETERANS ALLIANCE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THIS LETTER

American Military Society, American Retirees Association, AMVETS, Armed Forces Retirees Association, Army and Navy Union, Association of the United States Navy, Military Order of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Military Order of the World Wars, Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Reserve Officers Association, Sea Service Family Foundation, Society of Military Widows, The Independence Fund, The Retired Enlisted Association, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, VetsFirst, Vietnam Veterans of America.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I also want to mention the efforts we made to pay for this bill, so it can pass the Senate this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Congressional Budget Office scores.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, May 13, 2019.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Logan Smith.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

[By fiscal year, millions of dollars]

	2019	2019–2024	2019–2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	135	–75
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	135	–75
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	70	191

Pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes.
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030? \$5 billion.

Mandate Effects:
Contains intergovernmental mandate? No.
Contains private-sector mandate? No.

The bill would:
Modify home loan programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
Increase disability compensation and expand health care for more veterans who

served in the seas near Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

Provide disability compensation to certain veterans who served near the Korea Demilitarized Zone.

Provide payments, vocational training, rehabilitation services, and health care to the biological children of certain veterans who served in Thailand during the Vietnam War if those children have been diagnosed with Spina Bifida.

Estimated budgetary effects would primarily stem from:

Changes to VA's home loan programs.
Increased disability compensation and health care benefits for certain veterans.

Areas of significant uncertainty include:
The number of veterans affected by the bill and the change in their disability ratings.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, the decision in Procopio removed much of the cost issues both Chambers struggled with in the last Congress. Because we are covering more veterans than the Procopio decision, the ranking member and I included a mechanism in the bill to cover both the mandatory and discretionary costs. As was the case with the bill that passed last Congress, the pay-for results from raising the current rate of the filing fee veterans pay when applying for a home loan under the VA mortgage guarantee program.

We are running out of time to do what is right for the blue water Navy veterans and the survivors of those veterans we have already lost. It is time for Congress to make our intention clear. The evidence supports granting this presumption in favor of these veterans.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 which would extend the presumption of exposure to herbicides to veterans who served in the offshore waters of Vietnam.

I want to thank Chairman TAKANO for reintroducing this legislation and for working with me to get this bill to the House floor.

It is no surprise that the fight for our blue water Navy Vietnam veterans to receive the benefits they deserve is near and dear to me. Last Congress, I was heartened by the overwhelming support for these veterans when the House passed H.R. 299 by a vote of 382-0.

To say the least, I was very disappointed that last year's bill stalled in the Senate, and never made it to the President's desk. However, with 333 cosponsors, it is my hope this legislation passes the House with the same bipartisan support as last year's package, and the Senate takes it up quickly. I know that is an oxymoron in the Senate, but quickly.

As many of you know, Agent Orange was used in Vietnam to defoliate areas in the jungle where enemy forces would ambush our troops. When Vietnam veterans began developing diseases as a result of their contact with Agent Or-

ange, Congress legislated the Agent Orange presumption to streamline benefits for affected veterans.

Unfortunately, the Department of Veterans Affairs' longstanding practice was to limit the presumption to veterans who set foot, boots on the ground, in Vietnam or served in inland waterways or brown water.

The blue water Navy Vietnam veterans were excluded from the presumption because VA claims there was not enough information to determine whether they came into contact with herbicides. As a result, blue water Navy Vietnam veterans must provide evidence that they were actually harmed by herbicides.

I understand how incredibly difficult this must be for veterans who try to find any records for potential exposure. I served in the United States 2nd Infantry Division in Korea near the DMZ, and I have no way to prove where I walked there 40-something years ago. There is just no way to prove that.

But right now, these veterans are suffering from conditions that are known to be associated with exposure to Agent Orange, and I believe Congress must act to resolve this issue definitively.

The recent court decision in Procopio was a huge victory for our blue water Navy Vietnam veterans. However, it is unclear how VA plans to implement the court's holdings. Congress should not wait for this issue to work itself out by VA or the courts.

These veterans have waited long enough to receive acknowledgment from VA that their illnesses may have been caused by their military service.

Mr. Speaker, 523 Vietnam veterans are dying each day. So, if the VA and this government waits long enough, we will all die. We need to get this done.

We must pass H.R. 299, as amended, so that our blue water Navy Vietnam veterans can qualify for the same benefits as their boots-on-the-ground and brown-water Navy comrades.

Moreover, H.R. 299 not only addresses the concerns of blue water Navy Vietnam veterans, but also includes provisions that would: one, extend the presumption to veterans who served in or near the Korean DMZ on September 1, 1967; provide benefits to certain children of Thailand veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange; and require VA to identify the U.S. military bases located in Thailand where Agent Orange was used and when it was used.

Mr. Speaker, one of my best friends I will ever have in my life who served on one of those air bases died of a very rare lymphoma. The perimeter was sprayed with Agent Orange, and he died about 4 years ago.

H.R. 299 also provides an update on current research on their potential or in-service toxic exposures of the Gulf War veterans.

Finally, this bill would make several improvements to the VA home loan program, including: changing VA's home appraisal system so that vet-

erans can close on their homes quicker and more seamlessly; eliminating the conforming home loan limit to allow veterans to use their earned VA loan benefits in more expensive areas; extending the waiver of home loan funding fees to recipients of the Purple Heart who are still serving on Active Duty; and temporarily increasing VA's home loan funding fees for nondisabled veterans, which would offset the cost of the bill.

I would be remiss if I did not thank veteran service organizations for their unwavering support on this issue. I am particularly grateful to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, The American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Military Officers Association of America, AMVETS, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart for their hard work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I just read a study that was published yesterday that the United States is going into Vietnam and providing some benefits for some of the people there whose offspring were damaged. We are also doing megasite cleanups. We are spending tens of millions of dollars to clean up Da Nang and Bien Hoa, the two major air bases where this Agent Orange was used.

It is time we did the same thing for America's veterans here in the United States. That is the right thing to do there. It is the right thing to do here.

I think I can speak for all of us today when I say that H.R. 299, as amended, does the right thing for our veterans.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to support H.R. 299, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA). She is my good friend and the chairwoman of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee and also a cosponsor of H.R. 299.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. As a Navy veteran myself, this issue hits close to home, specifically in coastal Virginia, the district that I have the honor of representing.

At my first townhall after taking office, the wife of a Virginia Beach Vietnam veteran posed a deeply personal question. She said to me: Where is the blue water Navy sailor bill? I have a dying vet at home from Agent Orange who wants his country to respond to his service during Vietnam.

After the townhall, I talked with her more in depth on the issue, and with tears in her eyes, she asked me again for help and to make sure Congress did not forget her husband's service and what he sacrificed for our country.

I stand today to speak on behalf of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act so that my constituent and

so many others across the Nation will know that we have not forsaken their service.

I am thankful to the House of Representatives for stepping up to the plate and fulfilling our responsibility to our veterans and their service to America. I am proud to support their cause today.

This bipartisan bill on the floor would finally correct an injustice for veterans who are suffering and dying from conditions related to Agent Orange exposure and who have been unfairly denied VA disability and health benefits for more than four decades.

For those who may not know, blue water Navy Vietnam veterans are servicemembers who served at sea off the shore of Vietnam during the Vietnam war.

A Federal Court, in January, ruled that the VA was wrong in denying disability and health benefits to blue water Navy Vietnam veterans who were exposed to the toxin Agent Orange; however, the administration has not yet committed to implementing this decision. As a result, the blue water Navy veterans are still in limbo, and Congress must act to secure their benefits.

Mr. Speaker, I urge quick House passage of our bipartisan legislation so our Senate colleagues can do the same and get this to the White House and pass it into law.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST), who was the previous chairman of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee and is now ranking member.

Mr. MIKE BOST is a marine veteran who also led a bill that we passed 2 years ago, the appeals modernization bill, a bill that has helped so many disabled veterans get their claims adjudicated more quickly.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act.

I am a marine and a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Caring for our Nation's men and women who have served is a top priority for me and for my staff and, I know, for the members of this committee. They should have peace of mind knowing that they will be cared for by this grateful Nation.

I have had many veterans come into my office with health problems. Sometimes they can't pinpoint the problem at all, but all too often they can if they served in Vietnam: It is exposure to Agent Orange.

We now have 100,000 Navy veterans who served on ships during the Vietnam war and later became ill from their service due to exposure to Agent Orange. Unfortunately, without this legislation, they do not qualify for the same benefits as their fellow veterans who served on the ground.

We must do better. Today's legislation is a step forward in the right di-

rection. This critical legislation ensures they receive benefits for any condition they may have developed as a result of exposure to Agent Orange. It is a bipartisan bill, and it puts our veterans first.

As has been mentioned before, we passed this bill to the Senate last Congress. Unfortunately, the Senate did not, and was not, able to take it up. My hope and my prayer is that we pass this quickly, that it goes to the Senate, that they quickly do their job, and that, with that, we can get it to this President's desk, get it signed, and take care of these veterans who deserve it and have waited so long.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say that my good friend, Congressman COURTNEY from Connecticut, is, unfortunately, unable to join us to speak in support of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act due to an illness. The gentleman from Connecticut has been a steadfast advocate for the blue water Navy veterans and the veterans in his district, and I want to express my gratitude to him for pushing the Veterans' Affairs Committee and the House to right this wrong and ensure veterans receive the benefits they are owed.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER). DAN MEUSER is a new and very dedicated member of our committee.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. ROE for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as well in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, an important bipartisan bill that will finally guarantee equality for the blue water Navy Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange.

Agent Orange was used by the U.S. military to strategically clear terrain and deforest areas during the Vietnam war. This tactical chemical has been linked, however, to prostate cancer, Parkinson's disease, and many other diseases.

For far too long, only veterans who served on Vietnam's landmass or inland waterways were entitled to the service-connected presumption of exposure to Agent Orange. This legislation ensures that the same automatic presumption is provided to those who served in the territorial seas of Vietnam. H.R. 299 addresses and permanently fixes this by properly defining those who will be eligible for VA benefits related to Agent Orange.

With this bill, we ensure that blue water Navy veterans will be treated fairly and will receive the benefits and care they deserve. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important bill, and I will continue to work for our Nation's veterans, providing them the care and benefits they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to pay tribute to the late Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr., from North Carolina, who cosponsored H.R. 299 at the very beginning of this Congress. It saddens me that we weren't able to pass this bipartisan bill into law before his passing. As a former member of the North Carolina National Guard, he would be proud to know that this bill was being considered on the House floor today and that we will continue to push to get this legislation passed into law.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the chairman. I know Walter's family appreciates that. He served this House, this Chamber, honorably for so many years and was an incredible supporter of our Nation's veterans. I know his family and I certainly appreciate the chairman's acknowledging his service and his dedication to our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN). I have been to his district, and there is no better and more fervent supporter of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member, and I thank the chairman for bringing this bill to the entire committee in a bipartisan fashion again. This is the second time that the House has taken action to pass this legislation. It is incredibly important for the Senate to do their part to help make this actually become law. I am looking forward to that bill signing, and it is decades overdue.

I rise today in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, of which I am a proud cosponsor. This bill expands treatment coverage for those affected by Agent Orange from not only those who served on the ground, but to those servicemembers who are known as blue water Navy vets who were affected while serving our Nation at sea.

I live in a county called Suffolk in the State of New York. We have the largest veterans population of any county in the entire State. Thousands of Vietnam veterans and their families would now be able to receive benefits that they have earned. These brave servicemembers have put their lives on the line for our great Nation, and they have earned nothing less than the highest quality care.

Additionally, this legislation includes my bill, the Flexible VA Loan Guarantee Act, which expands veterans' opportunity for homeownership by eliminating the loan limit the VA can guarantee. This is especially critical in districts like mine.

I thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member ROE for bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge all my colleagues in the Chamber to vote for it.

As I mentioned, this is the second time this legislation is passing the House. It is incredibly important that

all those in the Capitol on the other side in the Senate do the same. I urge them to immediately take up the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act and care for all of our Nation's servicemembers.

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

I want to take a moment on this historic day to recognize the effort of former Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member Tim Walz. He was a primary mover of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act for 12 years while he was in Congress, and I know this effort was very important to him.

He said many times that compensating and providing care for toxic exposures is one of the greatest challenges the Veterans' Affairs Committee faces but that no veteran should ever have to wait more than 40 years again.

When he left, he challenged us to make sure that this pattern of denying benefits does not continue. As chairman of this committee, I will do what I can to meet Tim Walz's challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I know that Tim has a big smile on his face in the Governor's mansion back in Minnesota, and I just want him to know that he has had a big part in today's victory.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we all know why dioxin, or Agent Orange, was sprayed in Vietnam. At the time we thought, our government thought, that we were protecting our troops by spraying this defoliant to expose the hiding places where they were being ambushed. We understand that. I get that.

Mr. Speaker, if you were at an air base in Thailand and you were being attacked on the perimeter, I understand why it was being done. It turns out it was a horrific mistake, and it is costing lives now.

It is time to do the right thing, and the right thing with 523 of us dying each day is to pass this bill, H.R. 299, and get it to the Senate. I believe the chairman and I would like to challenge the Senate to start hearing this and perhaps even vote on it before Memorial Day. That would be the right thing to do.

Also, I want to thank Congressman David Valadao, who is no longer here, along with my good friend Mr. Walz, who is now the Governor of Minnesota. Congressman Valadao was very helpful. There was not a day on the House floor that I was down here that David was not asking me: When are we going to get the Blue Water Navy bill passed? When are we going to pass this bill?

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stop talking about it, and it is time to do something about it. The reason that it is important to not let the courts decide is another court may decide just like 1997, when they changed what the VA was doing. So it is time to put this in the footprint of the law so that there is no question about what we do.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman. I want to thank him for when he was a member of the committee when I was chairman of the last Congress, how hard we all worked in a bipartisan way to get this done.

Just so the public knows, last week, we passed 18 bills—this is one of them—out of our committee in a bipartisan way on a voice vote. Congress can work. This is one of the ways it does work very well. Again, I want to thank my staff and the majority staff for their help with this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, passage of this legislation is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to right an injustice. I urge all my colleagues to champion this legislation, H.R. 299, as amended, so we can finally pass it into law and get justice for these veterans.

I associate myself with the challenge that the ranking member has made to the Senate. I would have rather they got it done by the end of the week, but I would be perfectly happy if we get the Blue Water Navy bill done by Memorial Day.

□ 1530

I, too, want to congratulate the hard work of my staff and your staff, for their working together. The solidarity that our staffs had in getting this bill to the floor, done, and tied with a ribbon and bow was really important. I appreciate the bipartisan spirit that not only exists between me and the gentleman, and the members of our committee, but also the spirit of cooperation that exists with our respective staffs.

Mr. Speaker, the Veterans' Affairs Committee is that corner of Congress that still works. It is with great pride today that I close out these remarks and urge my colleagues to support H.R. 299, as amended.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019.

During the Vietnam War, the United States Military sprayed approximately 20 million gallons of Agent Orange, across the southern half of Vietnam to destroy jungle foliage that concealed enemy personnel and supply routes. The Agent Orange was carried into rivers by soil and plant run-off. The hydraulic plumes from where the rivers met the coast mixed hundreds of miles of coastal water with contaminated river water. To make matters worse, rivers and harbors were also sprayed, contaminating the ocean water even further.

Due to the constant churning of the seabed from U.S. Navy Vessels moving up and down the coast, the Agent Orange would rise to the surface where it would be picked up every time Navy ships converted the salt water into potable water. A University of Queensland study on the Australian distillation system, which is the identical system used in U.S.

ships, determined that the conversion process enriched the toxic chemical ingredient Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin (TCDD) in Agent Orange to an even higher concentration in the filtered water. The contaminated water was then used by a ship's crew for cooking, cleaning, showering, laundry, and drinking, effectively giving our sailors a heavy exposure to Agent Orange during their deployment.

Medical research concluded that exposure to the dioxin found in Agent Orange causes numerous health issues including respiratory and blood cancers, prostate cancer, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. According to a report from the Institute of Medicine, individuals with exposure to Agent Orange at an increased risk of developing serious heart problems and Parkinson's disease.

Until 2002, presumptive coverage for accessing health care for these side effects was provided to our Blue Water Navy Veterans. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs, failed to recognize the territorial seas as a part of the sovereign territory of Vietnam. The VA unilaterally decided that it would only provide presumptive coverage to those Veterans who served on land or on inland waterways.

Veterans that were exposed to these toxic chemicals, while serving their country have been neglected for too long. Congress must act on this pressing issue by passing this important piece of legislation that is supported by 333 co-sponsors. H.R. 299 extends the presumption of exposure for service connection for diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange to U.S. Navy Veterans who served offshore during wartime missions and also lengthens eligibility for VA benefits to certain children with spina bifida who were born to Veterans who served in Thailand and were exposed to Agent Orange.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill. Those Veterans who sacrificed their lives on behalf of America's freedom truly deserve better.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 (H.R. 299).

When our brave men and women sign up to serve, the American people make a promise to them. We assure them of clearly defined benefits that are guaranteed upon completion of their service. Unfortunately, for many veterans of the Vietnam era who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam, our government fell short of this solemn duty.

In 1991, Congress passed the Agent Orange Act, legislation that instituted the presumption of service connection for certain diseases linked to exposure to defoliants and herbicides like Agent Orange. This law built upon the Veterans' Dioxin and Radiation Exposure Compensation Standards Act of 1984 that directed the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop a system of disability compensation for Vietnam era veterans who had been exposed to Agent Orange.

However, these laws failed to acknowledge that veterans who served in the territorial seas during the Vietnam War, known as Blue Water Navy Veterans, were also exposed to Agent Orange. In addition to handling toxic chemicals onboard naval vessels, many of these chemicals polluted rivers and streams in Vietnam that ran into the territorial seas. This contaminated water was then used by the U.S. Navy for drinking, bathing, and other purposes.

H.R. 299 finally acknowledges that our Blue Water Navy Veterans were exposed to these toxic chemicals. It remedies the inequity among veterans of the Vietnam era by extending the presumption of service connection for certain conditions to those who served offshore, and it is a long overdue step towards making these veterans whole. I hope that the Senate will swiftly take up this legislation once the House passes it today.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation and finally welcome back home our Blue Water Navy Veterans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 299, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

REAUTHORIZING BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2379) to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2379

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

SECTION 1. BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1001(a)(23) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10261(a)(23)) is amended by striking “part Y” and all that follows and inserting “part Y, \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.”.

(b) PROGRAM NAME.—Part Y of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10531 et seq.) is amended by inserting before section 2501 the following:

“SEC. 2500. PATRICK LEAHY BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.

“The program under this part shall be known as the ‘Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program’.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program stands as a shining example of the public safety collaboration between Congress and local governments to improve public safety and protect the officers who protect us.

In the 20 years that the program has been in existence, Congress has allocated funds that have enabled local law enforcement agencies to purchase more than 1.3 million bulletproof vests. Through this program, thousands of officers have survived what would otherwise have been deadly shootings.

Without the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, local jurisdictions that lack the financial means to purchase vests would simply be unable to do so.

As reauthorized under H.R. 2379, the program would give priority to small jurisdictions that apply for assistance. Those that most need the Federal support will continue to have priority.

An often-overlooked element of the program is the supporting role the National Institute of Justice plays in providing expert analysis on the quality and life expectancy of bulletproof vests, ensuring that officers who patrol our streets every day and every night wear vests that will give them the measure of safety that they deserve. Importantly, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program has worked in recent years to ensure the vests that female officers are issued fit properly and provide the same protection as the vests that male officers are issued.

With H.R. 2379, the House today takes a crucial step toward ending an uncertainty concerning the future of the program by permanently authorizing its funding at \$30 million per year.

It is fitting that we consider this important legislation at the start of National Police Week, which honors those who serve and have paid the ultimate price and sacrifice in protecting our communities.

Since President John F. Kennedy first signed the proclamation designating National Peace Officers Memorial Day in 1962, officers and citizens assemble in our Nation’s Capital during Police Week to thank law enforcement officers for their service, dedication, and commitment.

It is in that spirit that we seek to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program. It is also fitting that this bill names the program in honor of the distinguished Senator from Vermont, PATRICK LEAHY, who played a critical role in conceiving it and who has been a consistent champion of its continuation and, now, its permanent reauthorization.

I thank Senator LEAHY for his leadership.

I would be remiss if I were not to recognize the tireless efforts of the author of H.R. 2379, my good friend Congressman BILL PASCRELL, who has worked diligently to bring this bipartisan bill to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill that will help protect those who put their lives on the line to protect us. I urge my colleagues to support it today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2379, a bill to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, and I would also like to thank Mr. PASCRELL for his work on this. This is something that we have seen over many years, and I appreciate the chairman and my friend from Georgia on the committee for bringing this forward as well.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership, or the BVP, created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998, is a unique U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide a critical resource to State and local law enforcement. The goal of the BVP is to support the purchase of body armor that has been tested and found to comply with applicable ballistic and stab standards promulgated by the National Institute of Justice.

For the past 20 years, the BVP has awarded more than 13,000 jurisdictions a total of \$467 million in Federal funds for the purchase of over 1.3 million vests.

From fiscal year 2015 through 2017, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 129 law enforcement and corrections officers. BVP funds helped purchase 21 of those vests.

In short, body armor saves lives. For 30 years, bullet-resistant body armor has protected law enforcement officers from ballistic and nonballistic incidents. As recorded by the IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors’ Club, more than 3,100 officers have survived potentially fatal or disabling injuries because they were wearing their body armor.

The bill before us today permanently reauthorizes this vitally important program. It will ensure our local heroes are protected from those who try to do them harm.

When a law enforcement officer leaves home in the morning, there is no guarantee he or she will return home safely that evening. This program makes it more likely, though, that these heroes will see their families again.

That is why I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 2379. As the son of a Georgia State trooper, I know what that means.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the brave

men and women who place their lives on the line to protect our communities. They deserve every ounce of support from their government.

I introduced H.R. 2379 to permanently authorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program at \$30 million every year. Our bill will help struggling law enforcement agencies maintain the necessary lifesaving bulletproof vests for each of their officers.

Making this important grant program permanent is one of the most sensible policies Congress can pursue. According to the Government Accountability Office, more than 3,000 law enforcement lives have been saved by armored vests since 1987.

But vests are costly, and they wear out. Thankfully, this Federal program has ensured our Nation's police officers are equipped with the latest technology to keep them safe.

For the last two decades, the program has awarded more than 13,000 jurisdictions a total of \$467 million in matching Federal funds to help purchase more than 1.3 million vests.

Mr. Speaker, we know that having well-staffed, well-trained, and properly equipped public safety departments is critical to ensuring our communities are safe. The importance of sustained Federal funding on this front cannot be overstated.

I am proud the House of Representatives is considering this legislation during National Police Week, as was just mentioned. We mourned the loss of 158 law enforcement officers in 2018 who died in the line of duty, three of whom served in New Jersey. At 53, this was the deadliest year for law enforcement officers being shot.

Ensuring more vests are in the field, which can help reduce the statistics, is our goal.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the three officers from New Jersey who died while serving in the line of duty.

First was my friend from New Jersey, Tamby Yagan of the Paterson Police Department. With 13 years of service in his hometown, Officer Yagan died in an automobile crash while on duty on April 22, 2018.

Lieutenant Christopher Robateau from Jersey City passed on January 5, 2018, after being struck by a vehicle.

New Jersey State Police Trooper Robert Emmet Nagle passed on November 26, 2018, because of 9/11-related illness.

Mr. Speaker, I grieve for their families, as do you, and their loved ones. I know this House does, too.

Our Nation's local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers constitute both the first and last lines of protection for the American people. These officers deserve our support, and I am committed to ensuring that they have the resources needed to protect the public's safety.

Congress has renewed the program five times, most recently in 2016. The current authorization expires next year.

I especially thank Congressman PETER KING from New York, who is always there on the firing line for our police officers. On every bill, on every piece of legislation, he is there.

I also thank LINDSEY GRAHAM from South Carolina and, of course, the bill's namesake, PATRICK LEAHY.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from New Jersey an additional 1 minute.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, this bill has strong support from several law enforcement groups, including the National Sheriffs' Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Sergeants Benevolent Association, and the Major County Sheriffs' Association.

I thank Chairman NADLER for allowing our bill to be released.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in strongly supporting H.R. 2379.

□ 1545

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do appreciate this time. This is a special week for me personally because it is recognizing something that I grew up with. It recognizes something that I am that I can't get a part of who I am. And I appreciate Mr. PASCRELL, my friend from New Jersey, talking about this and what that actually means.

But for what I will just term as a trooper's kid, this week means a lot. And it would mean even more when we come here if really, we had had more to do this week. I say that with respect, and I say that with love, because this is a good bill, and I urge everyone to support it, and I want to.

But just this past week, in Georgia, just as was recommended and said in New Jersey, just in the past few days in Savannah, Georgia, we lost another officer, Sergeant Kelvin Ansari, in an incident. He went to work and did not come home.

For the past few years, I have been in this body, and we have worked during Police Week, even beforehand, to bring up bills and to bring up issues that involve our law enforcement community because I recognize, and I know others in this body do as well, that on those mornings when they get up to go to work, the ladies and gentlemen who serve us in our law enforcement community, all of us, they are giving a gift of life to go serve others.

And on many days, unfortunately, the headlines will show to us that they don't return home; some through violence; some through activity; some, as we have seen this past year in this country, ambushed in front of their own police departments; cruelly murdered by those anarchists in this country who believe that the police are the enemy; and sometimes, fed by others

who want a different version of what upholding the law means. And that is sad.

My heart breaks, because when those officers don't come home, there is a space left at the table. There is a void left in the hearts of families and communities.

One of my earliest remembrances of my dad as a trooper, and one of the biggest things that made an impression on me, was years ago there was a trooper who had made a stop on 129 South out of Gainesville, Georgia, T.C. Dillard. As he made that stop, a young man who was not in his right mind through drugs, came over a hill and hit him.

I remember hearing about it. I was young at the time, and I remember him being taken to the hospital. And I can remember my dad and other officers all going to the hospital, and they were giving blood and doing whatever they could. It was one of the first times I remember of my earliest remembrances of watching my dad cry.

To a scrawny kid from north Georgia, who had a dad, and has a dad who is 6 feet 2 inches, 250 pounds, carried a .357 on his hip, and wore the badge of the Georgia State Patrol, he was and is my hero. To see him cry was something I had not experienced. To watch him love another officer and do anything for that officer is something that has impacted me today.

As we move forward, and we look at the things today, I guess my only thing—and I wanted to spend just a few more moments on this, because this is our only chance. This is the only bill that we have dealing with Law Enforcement Week this week.

I know that we are busy in the Judiciary Committee. I know that we have got a lot of other things going on. I know that we have so many things that we need to investigate, and I get that.

I am not—for once, I am just honestly speaking as much as a Congressman as I am as a trooper's kid.

Thirty thousand officers will be coming to Washington, D.C. over the next few days to honor those who have fallen, and to remember this week. And this bill, which is a good bill, is it. It is all we are offering. It is all we are discussing.

In years past, in 2018, we had six bills, including one rule bill. In 2017, nine bills, including two rule bills. 2016, eight bills, including two rule bills. Protect and Serve, Thin Blue Line, Probation Officer Protection Act of 2017, the Comprehensive Opioid and Abuse Act, which gave our officers training in how they can actually help in an opioid crisis.

I understand that we have a lot going on, but in our committee right now we have H.R. 816, which would ensure certain law enforcement officers on college campuses and their families are eligible for death and disability benefits under the Public Safety Officers Benefit Program.

H.R. 816 is named in honor of Sean Collier, a police officer at MIT who was

murdered by one of the Tsarnaev brothers after the attack at the Boston Marathon. This is to make sure their family has security.

Another bill from my committee colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCENTHALER), is his aim to prevent law enforcement suicides. Other bills that we have pending for law enforcement by helping them provide resources to combat opioid crisis or curb sex trafficking. In years past, we have considered numerous bills, not all of them, in fact, most of them non-controversial. But we didn't seem to have time to mark them up this year or to bring them forward.

I understand, and I am trying my best to just bring an honest concern, because when you look at these officers—and I used to ride with them; as I got older and I went to seminary and I was a chaplain for the Gainesville Police Department—it never leaves you.

As I came here today, and I appreciate my friend from Georgia, we have shared so many things together, we have done this, and Mr. PASCRELL and others who have talked about this.

But this is it. This is our only chance to actually say to these people—instead of just saying we appreciate you; we love you; and we are glad that you do what you do and offer them help in the things that they do, we offer them bulletproof vests, which is good; but it is all we are offering right now.

And I want to make sure, on this floor, for those kids whose dads and moms didn't come home this past year, just a reminder that it is not about what we say to those officers, it is also what we do.

I live each day, as best as I possibly can, to do as best as I possibly can for the ones who have given me so much; my mom, who I lost last June, my dad, who I still have, who taught me how to grow up; how to love; how to care; taught me to serve my country in the military and to serve my country here.

But when I come to a discussion today, and I heard my friend from New Jersey so eloquently discuss those who lost their lives in New Jersey and here in Savannah, the one thing that gets me up every morning, and if I have had a bad day, or if I am thinking about it, and when I hear all the discussion in this country about officers who are bad, or officers who are not doing it right, and officers—I understand the discussion that we need to have in our communities, and how we need to come together as communities to help each other and to lift each other up, from the poorest communities to the richest; the police are there to take the law. And if there are bad ones, they need to be got out. But they are 99.99 percent good, who honestly just want to do a good job, and we need to honor that.

But when we talk about bulletproof vests, when we talk about other issues of how we care for officers, just remember those this week, especially those who didn't come home because, Mr.

Speaker, except by the grace of God, I would have not known my father, because on a traffic stop, when I was still a small child, he walked up to a car. He caught a glint of a gun laying on the shoulder of the driver. He, fortunately, was able to pull his gun, and they stood there for many minutes in a standoff until the gentleman threw the gun out of the car window. That incident almost deprived me of knowing my hero.

When we talk about police, when we talk about law enforcement and the other first responders on all sides, but the police we are talking about today, I just humbly believe that there is more that we can do, and I look forward to working with our committee to do more throughout this year.

But on this week, it is worth pointing out that these folks stand in the line, many of them not sleeping while we sleep, and they are worth protecting, and they are worth more, frankly, than this one bill; and I look forward to working with my Democratic colleagues to make sure that we see more come across this floor.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This could not be a more solemn moment than what my friend from Georgia just expressed to the Nation about our State and local law enforcement personnel, male, female, Black, White, Latino, Asian, this legislation is an effort to protect them.

And I will note that there have not been just one, but actually three deaths of law enforcement officers already this year in the State of Georgia. The numbers are up. It is very concerning, and this is something that we can do to help protect the lives of our law enforcement officers.

I know that my friend from Georgia, Representative COLLINS, has a long and storied history of support for State and local law enforcement, and I stand with him in his concern, and I stand with him in his support for this very important legislation that my friend, BILL PASCRELL, has introduced.

I will note that a lot of little boys and girls who first go into law enforcement, they go into local and State law enforcement, and then they are able to attain their ultimate dream, which is to become an FBI agent.

FBI agents are Federal law enforcement agents. They are sworn to protect and serve; they wear a gun, and they wake up every morning not knowing what they will face during that day. Some have given their lives in the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation.

So, in addition to our State and local law enforcement agents, we, today, uphold our Federal law enforcement agents who work for the various Federal law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, with its storied history of integrity.

So, it is not about what we say; it is about what we do. It is about what we

say also, because what we say has an impact on those who serve us. And we cannot, because of one or two outliers, indict the entire State or local law enforcement agency for the imperfections of the few; nor can we do so with our Federal law enforcement agencies, particularly our premier Federal law enforcement agency, the FBI.

I support the FBI. I support our State and local law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY).

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2379, which will permanently reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program.

I want to particularly thank Mr. PASCRELL, as well as Mr. KING, for taking the lead on this very important legislation.

In 1997, I co-authored the original legislation to create the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program with the gentleman who originated the idea for this legislation, and who was the original cosponsor, our good friend, former colleague, Representative Frank LoBiondo, from the State of New Jersey; he had been active over the last 22 years in having the act reauthorized, which is why I strongly support this bill to add permanence to it.

As has been mentioned during the debate, there have been over 13,000 jurisdictions who have been helped. I represent the First Congressional District in Indiana, and in Fiscal Year 2018 the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program provided \$80,738 to local law enforcement in Northwest Indiana. This assisted in the purchase of about 200 new vests for officers who are protecting our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here to reiterate my strong support for this legislation, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am almost at the end, but as I was finishing up—and I appreciate the gentleman from Georgia's words, and I agree that we can—but I would be remiss if I didn't share what I just got in my inbox. I just got this in my inbox.

It is a letter signed by my chairman of my committee and four other members of our committee on Police Week. After I just talked about how we can do more, this is what we are doing more.

“As you know, the House Judiciary Committee exercises legislative and oversight jurisdiction in the areas of civil rights and criminal law enforcement. These areas continue to be subjects of intense national concern in the wake of high-profile incidents involving the fatal use of force by law enforcement against unarmed people in cities such as Ferguson, Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, Falcon Heights, Tulsa, Pittsburgh, and Dallas. In 2018, 992 people were shot and killed by police. In the first 2 months of this year, at least 265 people have suffered the same fate.”

Mr. Speaker, I include the May 14, 2019, letter in the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, May 14, 2019.

Hon. WILLIAM P. BARR,
Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR: As you know, the House Judiciary Committee exercises legislative and oversight jurisdiction in areas of civil rights and criminal law enforcement. These areas continue to be subjects of intense national concern in the wake of high-profile incidents involving the fatal use of force by law enforcement against unarmed people in cities such as Ferguson, Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, Falcon Heights, Tulsa, Pittsburgh, and Dallas. In 2018, 992 people were shot and killed by police. “In the first two months of this year, at least 265 people have suffered the same fate.”

Despite continuing concerns from civil rights and community-based organizations, the Department has sharply curtailed its statutory role in identifying and eradicating civil rights abuses by law enforcement. Excessive force in police-civilian encounters presents a crisis of trust throughout our nation. Changes to Department policy and failure to uphold the law run the risk of undermining federal oversight authority in this space.

Congress identified the need for the Department and community stakeholders to play a role in eliminating unjust and discriminatory practices by law enforcement. With that goal in mind, Congress has provided the Department with the authority to identify and eliminate patterns and practices of unconstitutional conduct in law enforcement agencies through civil action and administrative authority. Additionally, it provided the Department the ability to encourage communities to have a voice in how they are policed through programs offered by the Community Oriented Policing Services or “COPS Office.” These tools must be used to promote Constitutional policing practices that support public safety and respect civil rights and civil liberties.

Accordingly, we write to request information related to the manner in which the Department of Justice is currently carrying out its statutory responsibilities to eliminate patterns and practices of unconstitutional conduct in law enforcement agencies. We respectfully request you provide complete responses and produce the relevant documents and communications listed below by no later than June 5, 2019:

1. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017, relating to Attorney General Sessions’s March 31, 2017 Memorandum, “Supporting Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement.” This should include any prior drafts of the memorandum. Please include a list identifying all individuals involved in the decision to conduct the review of “existing or contemplated consent decrees.”

2. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2017 to November 7, 2018, relating to Attorney General Sessions’s November 7, 2018 Memorandum “Principles and Procedures for Civil Consent Decrees and Settlement Agreements with State and Local Government Entities.” This should include any prior drafts of the memorandum. Please include a list identifying all individuals involved in the decision to identify issues arising from the Department’s “civil action[s] against a state or local government . . . by consent decree or settlement agreement.”

3. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2017 to November 21, 2018,

from or to the Acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and Deputy Associate Attorney General Stephen Cox concerning the Department’s recession or withdrawal of policies, procedures, and guidance issued by the Civil Rights Division, the Office of Justice Programs, the COPS Office, and the Office of Violence Against Women.

4. Please provide copies of any standards or guidelines, by which the Department identifies potential patterns or practices of conduct by law enforcement agencies that deprive persons of rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

5. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2017 to the date of this letter, identifying any Department-negotiated consent decree, authorized under 34 U.S.C. Section 12601 (b), that has “deprived the elected representatives of the people of any affected jurisdiction of control over their government.”

6. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2017 to the date of this letter, identifying any Department-negotiated consent decree, authorized under 34 U.S.C. Section 12601 (b), that has subjected a law enforcement agency to ongoing court oversight after the Department determined that the purpose of the consent decree had been achieved.

7. Documents and Communications dated from January 1, 2017 to the date of this letter, from non-government organizations relating to the Department’s review of existing or proposed consent decrees or reform agreements pursuant to the Attorney General’s March 31, 2017 Memorandum.

8. Documents and communications dated from November 7, 2018 to the date of this letter, relating to updating standards or guidelines used to identify patterns and practices of discriminations by state or local law enforcement agencies. This response should include how complaints against recipients of federal financial assistance from the Office of Justice Programs, other grant making agencies, and participants in the Asset Forfeiture Program are centrally accounted for or tabulated and considered in opening investigations into alleged discriminatory patterns and practices by law enforcement agency.

9. Copies of standards or guidelines in force as of January 1, 2017, that the Department uses to determine whether the Attorney General has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of 34 U.S.C. Section 12601(a) has occurred.

10. Documents and communications dated from November 7, 2018 to the date of this letter, relating to updating guidelines or standards used to determine whether the Attorney General has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of 34 U.S.C. Section 12601(a) has occurred.

11. Copies of any evidence-based study, analysis, or report supporting the decision to adopt the general statement of principles as memorialized in the Attorney General’s November 7, 2018 Memorandum.

12. Documents and communications dated from January 1, 2018 to the date of this letter, relating to proposed changes to the existing memorandums of understanding or agreement, resolution agreements, or consent decrees, including but not limited to the matters open in Baltimore, Chicago, and Ferguson.

13. Total number of preliminary inquiries and investigations of law enforcement agencies opened, initiated, or given a case or other tracking number by the Civil Rights Division or civil rights matters opened by the Office of Justice Programs after January 1, 2017. Please include a list identifying each law enforcement agency subject to a prelimi-

nary investigation or inquiry after January 1, 2017, and a brief description of the basis for the preliminary investigation or inquiry.

14. Total number of preliminary inquiries or investigations of law enforcement agencies closed after March 31, 2017. Please include a list identifying the date each case was closed, the identity of the law enforcement agency subject of the preliminary inquiry or investigation, and a brief description of the basis for closing the preliminary investigation or inquiry.

15. Total number of complaints, referrals, or multi-party complaints received by the Department after January 1, 2017, from a federal, state, or local public official relating to potential pattern or practice violations by a law enforcement agency. Please provide brief descriptions of each referral or complaint.

16. Documents and communications dated from February 9, 2017 to the date of this letter, relating to modifications of existing agreements for technical assistance with law enforcement agencies, COPS Office proposed budget, or changes to existing Department guidelines or standards relating to the administration of the Collaborative Reform Initiative for Technical Assistance.

17. Total number of requests, including any memorandums or communications dated after January 1, 2017 to the date of this letter, to open investigations of law enforcement agency officers or agencies from the Special Litigation Section to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights under section 12601.

18. Documents or Communications dated from January 1, 2017 to the date of this letter, related to the review and decision to retreat from the agreement in principle with the Chicago Police Department and Chicago, including any review or analysis of the findings by the AG and his office of evidence of constitutional violations presented in the findings letter dated January 3, 2017.

19. An account of open investigations alleging an unlawful pattern and practice or disparate impact involving law enforcement agencies and explanation of what steps the Department has taken to withdraw federal funding of law enforcement agencies that are subject to the grant conditions pursuant to Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. In your response, please address the Department’s investigations of the Springfield, Massachusetts Police Department, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, and the Orange County District Attorney’s Office and Sheriff’s Department.

Thank you for your prompt attention on this matter. We look forward to working more closely with your office in the 116th Congress.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary.

KAREN BASS,
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, House Committee on the Judiciary.

MARY GAY SCANLON,
Vice Chair, House Committee on the Judiciary.

STEVE COHEN,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, House Committee on the Judiciary.

SHEILA JACKSON LEE,
Member of Congress.

□ 1600

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Are you kidding me? We couldn't wait a week?

Look, vote for this bill. This bill is a good bill. But this shows the dedication of the majority to Police Week right here. It is about what my chairman of the committee did. It is about what we say and what we do. This is what we did.

On the first part of Police Week, we sent to the Attorney General a discussion about people who are shot by police, many of which in no context here of how the accidents occurred or how it occurred or what was actually happening; it is just that we need to go investigate, a 4-, 5-page letter.

Vote for the bill. The bill is a good bill.

This letter is embarrassing.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining for both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) has 6½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) has 6½ minutes remaining.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am ready to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Again, I will come back to the issue. This bulletproof vest bill is a great bill. It needs to be permanent. In fact, if we can do better, it would be great. We need to do more.

I made my point about this letter, and, unfortunately, this is a stain on Police Week, and hopefully we can do better, and I know we will.

I trust my friend from Georgia. I trust my friend from New Jersey. We can do this, and we can do this better. I am sorry that this is the way it has had to start, but actions do speak louder than anything else, than words, like I said, and this is an action on Police Week that, frankly, is unbelievable.

Support this underlying bill. Support this bill for bulletproof vests. Support our officers not just with words, but with actions as well, and I know the Members here on this floor are doing that. It is just a shame that this had to come out with that.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The top law enforcement individual in the country is the Attorney General, and our Attorney General has declared war on the FBI by ordering a third investigation into the origins of the Mueller investigation. This is nothing more than an attack on our own premier law enforcement agency. It is politics reduced to its lowest level at the same time as Police Week is occurring.

What does it say to those down the line, to those aspiring boys and girls who aspire to be FBI agents?

What does it say to the men and women who are currently in law enforcement and looking to move into Federal law enforcement?

Well, it doesn't tell them to not aspire to that height. I think most look beyond the politics of the day, and when they consider the legislation that is at hand, they support it without regard to political persuasion. They support the fact that H.R. 2379, introduced by my friend BILL PASCRELL, is a testament to the important role that Congress plays in promoting officer safety today and for decades to come.

In passing this bill during Police Week, we acknowledge the many contributions that law enforcement officers make to public safety, and we thank them for their service. We also recognize that there are challenges within law enforcement that we must weed out and that are an affront to the ideals that law enforcement officers are taught to adhere to, and we must do that, as well.

But today it is not about that. Today it is about bulletproof vests for our law enforcement officers on the State and local level. We will make sure that our Federal officers are always protected, but today it is about State and local law enforcement agents and agencies, particularly those that cannot afford to purchase these bulletproof vests or to keep current in terms of these vests when they wear out.

They do wear out, and they have to be replaced, and they have to have money to do that. This bill will enable \$30 million per year to be permanently authorized. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2379, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

FIRST RESPONDER ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1594) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1594

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act".

SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking "If an applicant" and inserting the following:

"(1) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—If an applicant"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(2) REVIEW PROCESS.—The Administrator shall implement a uniform process for reviewing applications that, in accordance with paragraph (1), contain explanations to use grants provided under section 2003 or 2004 to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards developed under section 647 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 747).

"(3) FACTORS.—In carrying out the review process under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall consider the following:

"(A) Current or past use of proposed equipment or systems by Federal agencies or the Armed Forces.

"(B) The absence of a national voluntary consensus standard for such equipment or systems.

"(C) The existence of an international consensus standard for such equipment or systems, and whether such equipment or systems meets such standard.

"(D) The nature of the capability gap identified by the applicant and how such equipment or systems will address such gap.

"(E) The degree to which such equipment or systems will serve the needs of the applicant better than equipment or systems that meet or exceed existing consensus standards.

"(F) Any other factor determined appropriate by the Administrator."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(g) REVIEW PROCESS.—The Administrator shall implement a uniform process for reviewing applications to use grants provided under section 2003 or 2004 to purchase equipment or systems not included on the Authorized Equipment List maintained by the Administrator."

(b) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report assessing the implementation of the review process established under paragraph (2) of subsection (f) of section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by subsection (a) of this section), including information on the following:

(1) The number of requests to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable consensus standard evaluated under such review process.

(2) The capability gaps identified by applicants and the number of such requests granted or denied.

(3) The processing time for the review of such requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1594, the First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act.

Our Nation's first responders put their lives on the line to ensure all of us are safe. These brave women and men should have access to the equipment they need to protect lives and property around the country.

One of the Department of Homeland Security's most important missions is to help ensure the effectiveness of our Nation's emergency services sector. Key avenues for such support are the Department's counterterrorism grant programs: the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program.

Unfortunately, the grant guidance for these grant programs sometimes hinders first responders' ability to acquire innovative counterterrorism equipment. Today, each piece of equipment must meet or exceed national voluntary consensus standards.

Although FEMA will review requests to purchase equipment that does not meet consensus standards, the Committee on Homeland Security has learned from stakeholders that the process lacks uniformity, predictability, and transparency. The process for developing voluntary consensus standards for first responder equipment has not kept pace with the evolution of technology or the demands of first responders.

H.R. 1594 would direct FEMA to implement a standard process for reviewing applications to purchase equipment that do not meet consensus standards or for equipment not included on FEMA's authorized equipment list. H.R. 1594 seeks to ensure that the safety of our first responders remains a top priority.

As today's threats faced by first responders are constantly evolving, it is important that our technology evolve, too. Enactment of H.R. 1594 will help ensure first responders can do their job more safely and effectively.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1594, the First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act.

With threats to our communities constantly evolving, it is reassuring to see the emergence of new technologies ready to meet the new challenges. However, emerging technology is frequently developed faster than voluntary consensus standards can be implemented.

Recipients of grants under FEMA's State Homeland Security Grant Program and Urban Area Security Initiative must procure equipment that meets these standards. This can be problematic when first responders seek to use grant funds to acquire new and innovative technology that does not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standard.

Unfortunately, if a grant recipient would like to use grant funds to purchase such equipment, FEMA does not maintain a uniform process for reviewing these applications. H.R. 1594 requires FEMA to develop such a process for reviewing these requests.

This legislation also directs FEMA to implement a uniform process for reviewing applications to purchase equipment not included on the authorized equipment list maintained by FEMA.

It is imperative that we listen to those in the emergency services sector and help enable them to acquire the tools that they need to save American lives and keep us safe. We must empower them to acquire the equipment they need for their jobs and provide them with a uniform process to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill and I support our first responders. These brave men and women run into danger as everyone else runs away from it. We owe it to them to create processes that make their jobs and their lives easier. They have our backs on our worst days. We should have their backs on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, by passing this bill today, we can ensure first responders have a reliable and uniform process for acquiring technologies and equipment that will keep them and our communities safe. The House unanimously passed previous versions of this bill in the prior two Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support me in passing this legislation today. As the gentleman from Pennsylvania said, they have our backs, we should have their backs.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1594.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1615

TRANSIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM FLEXIBILITY ACT

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1313) to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1313

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act".

SEC. 2. ALLOWABLE USES OF FUNDS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 1406(b)(2) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135(b)(2); Public Law 110-53) is amended by inserting "and associated backfill" after "security training".

SEC. 3. PERIODS OF PERFORMANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

Section 1406 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135; Public Law 110-53) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (m) as subsection (n); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (l) the following new subsection:

“(m) PERIODS OF PERFORMANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), funds provided pursuant to a grant awarded under this section for a use specified in subsection (b) shall remain available for use by a grant recipient for a period of not fewer than 36 months.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Funds provided pursuant to a grant awarded under this section for a use specified in subparagraph (M) or (N) of subsection (b)(1) shall remain available for use by a grant recipient for a period of not fewer than 55 months.”.

SEC. 4. GAO REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the public transportation security assistance grant program under section 1406 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135; Public Law 110-53).

(b) SCOPE.—The review required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the type of projects funded under the public transportation security grant program referred to in such paragraph.

(2) An assessment of the manner in which such projects address threats to public transportation infrastructure.

(3) An assessment of the impact, if any, of this Act (including the amendments made by this Act) on types of projects funded under the public transportation security assistance grant program.

(4) An assessment of the management and administration of public transportation security assistance grant program funds by grantees.

(5) Recommendations to improve the manner in which public transportation security

assistance grant program funds address vulnerabilities in public transportation infrastructure.

(6) Recommendations to improve the management and administration of the public transportation security assistance grant program.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and again not later than five years after such date of enactment, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the review required under this section.

SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1313, the Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act.

Securing our Nation's transit systems is critical to keeping our country safe. Transportation systems are vital to the economic and social lives of everyday people all around the country. The emergence of so-called “lone wolf” domestic terrorists pose a threat to these critical systems and the people that use them.

In response to this and other threats to our surface transportation systems, Congress established the Transportation Security Grant Program to help State and local authorities enhance the security of their systems. By all accounts, the Transportation Security Grant Program is making a difference.

However, increasingly, we have heard that some of the aspects of this program need refinement for it to live up to its full potential. Specifically, the Committee on Homeland Security has received testimony from grant recipients that the period of performance is too short, especially when they are trying to undertake long-term security projects.

H.R. 1313 addresses these concerns and makes the program more flexible

by lengthening the period of performance for these grants. With flexibility in mind, the bill also allows for the funding in this program to be used for backfilling officers to allow for security training.

Finally, it mandates a report by the Government Accountability Office on the Transportation Security Grant Program, including recommendations to improve the grant program. These commonsense fixes will increase the efficacy of the Transportation Security Grant Program to help bolster preparedness and response within our transportation systems.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1313, the Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act.

The Transit Security Grant Program directly supports transportation infrastructure security activities by providing funds to owners and operators of transit systems. Whether they be bus systems, ferries, or passenger rail, this grant program aims to protect and increase the resilience of critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism.

H.R. 1313 codifies the performance period for use of grant funds and allows additional time for large-scale capital security projects. This bill also allows grant recipients to use their awards to pay for the cost of backfilling personnel attending necessary security training.

This important legislation, introduced by my colleague on the Homeland Security Committee, Congressman PETE KING, will further assist in keeping our communities safe against the threat of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

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

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Pennsylvania closes.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING).

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. JOYCE for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my legislation, H.R. 1313, the Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act.

The Transit Security Grant Program provides needed funds to transit agencies to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism. With billions of riders using surface transportation annually, and limited security screening, it should come as no surprise that surface transportation

has been, and continues to be, a terror target.

We have witnessed multiple attacks overseas: the bombings of commuter trains in Madrid, the metro station bombing in Brussels, the bombing of the tube in London.

In New York, we saw, in 2019, there was an attempted liquid explosive attack, which, if successful, would have killed many, many hundreds.

And then, soon after that, there was a planned attack against the Long Island Railroad, in my own district, carried out by Bryant Neal Vinas, who was then in Afghanistan plotting the attack.

And more recently and much closer to home, we witnessed the 2017 New York Port Authority bombing, which the Speaker is well aware of, involving our city.

With the continual calls from ISIS and other extremist groups for lone-wolf attacks to target crowded areas, we must ensure the first responders and transit agencies have the tools needed to secure our transit systems.

Based on previous work done by the subcommittee under the leadership of my good friend Congressman Dan Donovan, we learned of the challenges associated with the fluctuating period of performance for Transit Security Grant Program projects, especially for completing vital large-scale capital security projects.

The Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act addresses this challenge by codifying the period of performance for this grant program at 36 months for the majority of eligible projects. It also extends the period of performance for large-scale projects to 55 months. This ensures that these major projects can be successfully completed in the allotted time.

Transit security grant program awards can be used to provide personnel with essential security training. However, recipients of these awards are not currently permitted to use the grant program funds to pay for backfilling personnel attending such training, which may, in turn, inhibit some transit agencies from sending their staff to vital security training.

H.R. 1313 will permit Transit Security Grant Program funds to be used for this purpose, consistent with other homeland security grant programs.

Given the evolving threat landscape, it is imperative that the Transit Security Grant Program provide flexible solutions for grant recipients. It is of the utmost importance that transit agencies have the ability to enhance the protection of these soft targets and crowded places to keep everyday commuters safe.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my staff, particularly, Diana Bergwin, for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join in supporting H.R. 1313.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today, the Transportation Security Grant Program is a meaningful tool to help communities improve the safety of our surface infrastructure, but, as discussed, there are areas where it could be improved. H.R. 1313 seeks to do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KING for his bipartisan work on this legislation.

Before I yield back, I would like to note that this legislation is identical to a measure that the House approved last Congress by a voice vote on January 31, 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1313, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1313, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECURING DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FIREARMS ACT OF 2019

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1437) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to achieve security of sensitive assets among the components of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1437

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securing Department of Homeland Security Firearms Act of 2019” or the “Securing DHS Firearms Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Homeland Security.

(2) LOST.—The term “lost” includes loss by theft.

(3) SENSITIVE ASSETS.—The term “sensitive assets” means any asset, regardless of value—

(A) that the Department of Homeland Security issues to a Department employee; and
(B) that either the Under Secretary for Management of the Department or a component head determines requires special control and accounting.

(4) UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT.—The term “Under Secretary for Management” means the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF SECURING FIREARMS AND OTHER SENSITIVE ASSETS IN RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT.

Section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(6), by inserting “(including firearms and other sensitive assets)” after “equipment”;

(2) by redesignating the second subsection (e) (relating to the definition of interoperable communications) as subsection (f); and

(3) by amending such redesignated subsection (f) to read as follows:

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS.—The term ‘interoperable communications’ has the meaning given such term in section 7303(g) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 194(g)).

“(2) SENSITIVE ASSETS.—The term ‘sensitive assets’ means any asset, regardless of value—

“(A) that the Department issues to a Department employee; and

“(B) that either the Under Secretary for Management of the Department or a component head determines requires special control and accounting.”.

SEC. 4. MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE.

(a) SAFEGUARDING FIREARMS AND SENSITIVE ASSETS DIRECTIVE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary for Management shall develop and disseminate a Department-wide directive for achieving adequate security over firearms and other sensitive assets across the Department.

(2) CONTENTS.—The directive required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(A) Descriptions of what equipment, in addition to firearms, is classified as a sensitive asset for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

(B) Requirements for securing Department-issued firearms and other sensitive assets.

(C) A classification system for all categories of Department-issued badges and corresponding requirements for safeguarding such assets.

(D) Reporting requirements for lost firearms and other sensitive assets, including timelines for such reporting, to supervisors, local law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center, and Department headquarters.

(E) Recordkeeping requirements for lost firearms and other sensitive assets in inventory systems, including a timeline for recording such losses.

(3) REVIEW AND UPDATE OF DIRECTIVE.—Not later than one year after the issuance of the directive required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Management shall review and update, as necessary, such directive, including adding a requirement relating to recording in the inventory systems maintained by each component of the Department the acceptance or transfer of a firearm or other sensitive asset by such component.

(b) PERSONAL PROPERTY ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM MANUAL.—Together with the issuance of the directive pursuant to subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Management shall disseminate a revised version of the Personal Property Asset Management Program Manual that includes the following:

(1) Requirements for component heads to develop procedures to safeguard firearms and other sensitive assets during on and off-duty time.

(2) Requirements for the issuance of safety locking devices and policies on the use of such assets, as applicable.

(3) Requirements for initial, recurrent, and remedial training on safeguarding such assets.

(4) Examples, with detail, of how to report and record lost sensitive assets across components of the Department, and an enforcement mechanism to ensure supervisors maintain such records.

(5) A requirement that the file maintained on a lost firearm or other sensitive asset contains both the corresponding police report and the Department report detailing the circumstances surrounding such loss, including information on adherence to safeguarding procedures.

SEC. 5. COMPONENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

Department component heads shall—

(1) comply with Federal law, Federal regulations, executive branch guidance, and Department policy, including directives required by this Act, relating to the management and oversight of securing firearms and other sensitive assets;

(2) review the need for non-law enforcement badges;

(3) require component personnel to safeguard firearms and other sensitive assets in accordance with the directive issued by the Under Secretary for Management under section 4;

(4) require that component personnel adhere to the procedures and timelines for properly reporting to supervisors lost firearms and other sensitive assets;

(5) require that lost firearms and other sensitive assets are reported to local law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center, and Department headquarters in the timeframe established in such directive; and

(6) require that lost firearms and other sensitive assets are recorded in inventory systems in the timeframe established by such directive.

SEC. 6. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall, on an ongoing basis, review implementation of this Act and, not later than 180 days after issuance of the directive under section 4, submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a review of the progress and effectiveness of such directive, including an assessment of the adequacy of such directive, as well as the level of compliance among the components of the Department to achieve adequate security of sensitive assets across Department components.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1437, the Securing DHS Firearms Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, authored by Mr. CORREA of California, would require the Department of Homeland Security to take action to safeguard sensitive assets, such as firearms, badges, and immigration stamps.

According to the DHS Office of Inspector General, during a 3-year period between fiscal years 2014 and 2016, the Department lost track of more than 2,000 highly sensitive assets. Failing to safeguard these assets puts the public at risk.

This legislation, if enacted, would require the DHS under secretary for management to issue a department-wide directive for securing firearms, immigration stamps, badges, and other sensitive assets with reporting requirements for any assets that are lost or stolen.

It is a commonsense measure the House passed by voice vote a little over 1 year ago.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage this Chamber to again support this legislation and help safeguard the Department's most sensitive assets.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1437, the Securing DHS Firearms Act of 2019. This bill makes some much-needed improvements to address the security of firearms at the Department of Homeland Security.

A DHS Office of Inspector General report from October of 2017 found that the DHS and component personnel misplaced over 2,100 highly sensitive assets, including 228 firearms, and 1,889 badges between the fiscal years of 2014 and 2016.

The statistics from the OIG report and the lack of accountability for DHS personnel that fail to safeguard sensitive assets is startling. DHS performs a critical national security mission. It is unacceptable that DHS has deficiencies in the training personnel receive on how to properly safeguard and track sensitive assets like firearms.

H.R. 1437 follows the recommendations made by the OIG in its report and requires the under secretary of management at DHS to issue a directive to ensure the Department and its components adequately safeguard sensitive assets.

H.R. 1437 also mandates DHS to revise its Personal Property Asset Management Program Manual to require recurrent training and appropriate procedures to secure assets in accordance with the DHS directive.

The Securing DHS Firearms Act of 2019 puts into place important steps to ensure that DHS is appropriately safeguarding sensitive assets while conducting its critical mission. This much-needed bill is identical to legislation passed in the 115th Congress by a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative CORREA for introducing this legis-

lation, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill.

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

□ 1630

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security has grown into the Nation's largest Federal law enforcement agency. More than 60,000 law enforcement officers within DHS are entrusted with securing our country as well as maintaining and safeguarding sensitive law enforcement equipment, such as firearms, ammunition, and badges.

In 2010, DHS' Office of Inspector General reported 289 firearms issued to DHS officers were lost between 2006 and 2008. By 2017, when the inspector general did a follow-up review, it found that 228 firearms, 1,900 badges, and 2,100 sensitive assets were either lost or stolen between 2014 and 2016.

Just last winter, ICE realized that it had more ammunition than it was tracking. CNN reported on 70 cases where Federal air marshals lost or misplaced their weapons, including leaving firearms in airport bathrooms.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, a constituent from my home State of California, Antonio Ramos, 27 years old, was fatally shot with a 9-millimeter pistol stolen from a DHS officer. This is tragic and unacceptable, and we can do better.

The inspector general identified the absence of a Department-wide directive or policy of securing sensitive assets as a major reason for the Department's mismanagement of firearms and other equipment. Insufficient tracking and recording mechanisms and poor oversight were also factors identified.

This bill, Securing DHS Firearms Act, seeks to fix these issues by ensuring the Department has effective controls over firearms and other sensitive assets. Additionally, it requires DHS to develop reporting and record-keeping requirements for lost firearms and other assets that law enforcement personnel can adhere to.

Enactment of the Securing DHS Firearms Act of 2019 is necessary to ensure that the highly sensitive assets that help DHS officers protect our country don't fall into the wrong hands.

I first introduced this bill in the 115th Congress where it received bipartisan support and passed this House unanimously on January 9, 2018. I urge my colleagues to once again pass this commonsense legislation.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, a robust and standardized policy on safeguarding DHS assets and

other law enforcement equipment is not just an administrative matter. It is a matter of public safety and homeland security.

Additionally, clear requirements on the reporting of lost equipment are just as important. Official badges, immigration stamps, firearms, and other sensitive assets are issued by the Department to properly equip the front-line personnel of DHS who defend our homeland security every day. We must ensure that such equipment is well-protected and maintained and not accessible to bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1437, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1437.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS ACQUISITION DOCUMENTATION INTEGRITY ACT OF 2019

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1912) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for requirements relating to documentation for major acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1912

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "DHS Acquisition Documentation Integrity Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION DOCUMENTATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 711. ACQUISITION DOCUMENTATION.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—For each major acquisition program, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Management, shall require the head of a relevant component or office to—

"(1) maintain acquisition documentation that is complete, accurate, timely, and valid, and that includes, at a minimum—

"(A) operational requirements that are validated consistent with departmental policy and changes to such requirements, as appropriate;

"(B) a complete lifecycle cost estimate with supporting documentation;

"(C) verification of such lifecycle cost estimate against independent cost estimates, and reconciliation of any differences;

"(D) a cost-benefit analysis with supporting documentation; and

"(E) a schedule, including, as appropriate, an integrated master schedule;

"(2) prepare cost estimates and schedules for major acquisition programs, as required

under subparagraphs (B) and (E), in a manner consistent with best practices as identified by the Comptroller General of the United States; and

“(3) submit certain acquisition documentation to the Secretary to produce for submission to Congress an annual comprehensive report on the status of departmental acquisitions.

“(b) WAIVER.—On a case-by-case basis with respect to any major acquisition program under this section, the Secretary may waive the requirement under paragraph (3) of subsection (a) for a fiscal year if either—

“(1) such program has not—

“(A) entered the full rate production phase in the acquisition lifecycle;

“(B) had a reasonable cost estimate established; and

“(C) had a system configuration defined fully; or

“(2) such program does not meet the definition of capital asset, as such term is defined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

“(c) CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.—At the same time the President's budget is submitted for a fiscal year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary shall make information available, as applicable, to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate regarding the requirement described in subsection (a) in the prior fiscal year that includes the following specific information regarding each major acquisition program for which the Secretary has issued a waiver under subsection (b):

“(1) The grounds for granting a waiver for such program.

“(2) The projected cost of such program.

“(3) The proportion of a component's or office's annual acquisition budget attributed to such program, as available.

“(4) Information on the significance of such program with respect to the component's or office's operations and execution of its mission.

“(d) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘major acquisition program’ means a Department acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of at least \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2019 constant dollars) over its lifecycle cost.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by adding after the item related to section 707 the following new item:

“Sec. 711. Acquisition documentation.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this matter.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1912, a measure I introduced with the support of Congressman DAN CRENSHAW to ensure the Department of Homeland Security effectively manages its largest acquisitions, those with an estimated lifecycle cost of \$300 million or more.

Each year, DHS invests billions of dollars in its acquisition programs to help execute its many critical missions. However, since the Department was created, DHS has struggled to keep some of its largest programs on schedule and on budget.

For example, the Department's attempts to modernize and integrate its various financial management systems has been in the works for 15 years with little to show for its multimillion expenditures.

A plan to deliver a DHS-wide human resources IT system has faced similar delays, as has a decade-long attempt to consolidate the Department's headquarters at the St. Elizabeths campus in southeast Washington, D.C.

The Department's acquisition management challenges have been on the Government Accountability Office's high-risk list since 2005. GAO has identified shortfalls, including acquisition programs lacking key analyses and schedules.

H.R. 1912, the DHS Acquisition Documentation Integrity Act of 2019, would attempt to address some of these concerns by requiring DHS to maintain complete, accurate, timely, and valid documentation for all its major acquisitions. This includes documentation such as lifecycle cost estimates, cost-benefit analyses, and project schedules. Codifying these acquisition documentation requirements, which are already embodied in DHS acquisition policy, is necessary to safeguard against future cost overruns and schedule delays.

A previous version of this bill passed the House unanimously in the 115th Congress, and I urge my colleagues to pass it again today.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1912, the DHS Acquisition Documentation Integrity Act of 2019. This legislation requires the Department of Homeland Security to better document its major acquisition programs that are essential to keeping America safe.

While every Member of Congress will agree that protecting our Nation and its citizens is vitally important, we must also agree that protecting taxpayer dollars and ensuring accountability for the government agencies is also essential.

The Government Accountability Office assists Congress in its efforts to ensure accountability by producing a report every 2 years that identifies areas in the Federal Government that are at high risk of waste, fraud, and

abuse. Major acquisitions by DHS have consistently been identified by the GAO as high risk.

This legislation requires DHS to improve management of its major purchases of systems to secure the border, provide screening for travelers, and protect our shores, and for our other vital missions.

Too often, DHS has failed to document what these programs will cost, when they will be completed, and what they will deliver. It is unacceptable to spend billions of taxpayer dollars and not document this important information.

To address these issues, DHS has updated its acquisition policy to follow corporate best practices. However, it must take additional steps to ensure its components adhere to these policies.

H.R. 1912 provides important tools to ensure that these policies are being followed. It will improve visibility into DHS major acquisition programs and promote better management of DHS acquisitions of items that are expected to cost more than \$300 million.

Under the bill, the Undersecretary for Management must require the relevant component or office to maintain documentation that provides validated operational requirements, a complete lifecycle cost estimate, an independent verification of that cost estimate, a cost-benefit analysis of the program, and a complete schedule for the acquisition program.

With this documentation, Congress and other government watchdogs will be able to conduct necessary oversight to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being spent efficiently and effectively.

This bill passed the House of Representatives by voice vote in both the 114th and 115th Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative TORRES SMALL for reintroducing this language, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, it is not enough for the Department of Homeland Security to simply analyze the upfront costs of acquiring systems to fulfill capability gaps. DHS must also budget for the long-term operation and maintenance costs of a system.

Given the criticality and budgetary risks associated with major acquisitions, it is critical that requirements are created, alternatives are considered, a cost estimate is completed, and a schedule is developed.

It falls to us, the Congress, to ensure that the Department has reliable acquisition documentation in place. Enactment of H.R. 1912 will ensure that DHS does its homework and is a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico

(Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1912.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2019

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1892) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1892

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 707 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 347) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

“(C) representatives from appropriate advisory committees established pursuant to section 871, including the Homeland Security Advisory Council and the Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee, or otherwise established, including the Aviation Security Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 44946 of title 49, United States Code; and”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “based on the risk assessment required pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(B)”;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting “, to the extent practicable,” after “describe”; and

(ii) by striking “budget plan” and inserting “resources required”;

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by inserting “, to the extent practicable,” after “identify”;

(ii) by striking “budget plan required to provide sufficient resources to successfully” and inserting “resources required to”; and

(iii) by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, including any resources identified from redundant, wasteful, or unnecessary capabilities or capacities that may be redirected to better support other existing capabilities or capacities, as the case may be; and”;

(D) in paragraph (5), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(E) by striking paragraph (6);

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “December 31 of the year” and inserting “60 days

after the date of the submission of the President’s budget for the fiscal year after the fiscal year”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “description of the threats to” and inserting “risk assessment of”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, as required under subsection (b)(2)” before the semicolon at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) by inserting “to the extent practicable,” before “a description”; and

(II) by striking “budget plan” and inserting “resources required”;

(iv) in subparagraph (F)—

(I) by inserting “to the extent practicable,” before “a discussion”; and

(II) by striking “the status of”;

(v) in subparagraph (G)—

(I) by inserting “to the extent practicable,” before “a discussion”;

(II) by striking “the status of”;

(III) by inserting “and risks” before “to national homeland”; and

(IV) by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(vi) by striking subparagraph (H); and

(vii) by redesignating subparagraph (I) as subparagraph (H);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary shall retain and, upon request, provide to Congress the following documentation regarding each quadrennial homeland security review:

“(A) Records regarding the consultation carried out pursuant to subsection (a)(3), including the following:

“(i) All written communications, including communications sent out by the Secretary and feedback submitted to the Secretary through technology, online communications tools, in-person discussions, and the inter-agency process.

“(ii) Information on how feedback received by the Secretary informed each such quadrennial homeland security review.

“(B) Information regarding the risk assessment required pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(B), including the following:

“(i) The risk model utilized to generate such risk assessment.

“(ii) Information, including data used in the risk model, utilized to generate such risk assessment.

“(iii) Sources of information, including other risk assessments, utilized to generate such risk assessment.

“(iv) Information on assumptions, weighing factors, and subjective judgments utilized to generate such risk assessment, together with information on the rationale or basis thereof.”;

(4) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(5) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

“(d) REVIEW.—Not later than 90 days after the submission of each report required under subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate information on the degree to which the findings and recommendations developed in the quadrennial homeland security review that is the subject of such report were integrated into the acquisition strategy and expenditure plans for the Department.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to a quadrennial homeland security review conducted after December 31, 2021.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1829, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act. This bill, authored by Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey, will ensure that the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, or QHSR, is a driving vision for the Department of Homeland Security.

Given the importance of DHS’ mission, it is vital that the Department continually review its policy positions so that they, with Congress’ help, can continue to stay ahead of the constantly changing threats facing our country.

By enacting this legislation, Congress can see that DHS carries out its long-overdue third QHSR and stays focused on the mission.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1892, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2019.

□ 1645

In the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, Congress required the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a security review every 4 years. As the threats to the United States change and evolve, it is more important than ever for DHS to produce a robust strategy to protect the American public.

The Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, or QHSR, is intended to outline DHS’ strategic outlook in its plan to successfully carry out its mission to protect our homeland. Thus far, DHS has produced two QHSRs since the requirement was established: one in 2010 and its most recent one in 2014. We are currently awaiting the release of the 2018 QHSR, which is quite a bit behind schedule.

The Government Accountability Office has reviewed both reports and made recommendations on how DHS could improve its efforts for future quadrennial reviews. In its 2016 review of the most recent QHSR, the GAO

made several recommendations to strengthen the QHSR process, which are the basis of this legislation.

H.R. 1892 requires DHS to perform a risk assessment to shape the direction and the focus of QHSR. Second, the Department would be required to collect and maintain communications related to the QHSR to allow for better congressional oversight. Finally, DHS would be required to enhance its stakeholder engagement throughout the development of QHSR.

The result of these changes would be a more robust strategy that provides a roadmap for DHS to address future threats as they emerge and allows Congress to better execute its oversight responsibilities.

This language passed the House with wide support last Congress but, unfortunately, was not taken up by the Senate.

I continue to believe that this is an important piece of legislation, and I thank the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for reintroducing it.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this commonsense bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

The Department of Homeland Security's mission is complex and diverse. Not only is DHS charged with preventing terrorism, but it is the lead Federal agency for emergency management, cybersecurity, and border, maritime, and transportation security.

Given the breadth of DHS' responsibilities, it is essential that its limited resources be aligned with its missions to meet the ever-challenging threat landscape. As such, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, or QHSR, which DHS is mandated to carry out every 4 years, is critical to ensuring that the Department is positioned to effectively carry out its multifaceted mission.

To date, DHS has issued two such reviews, as we have heard. Unfortunately, the Department's third is 16 months overdue. This legislation seeks to make refinements to the law to address weaknesses identified by the Government Accountability Office in the prior two reviews.

GAO, for example, emphasized that documentation of the review process is essential to ensuring the repeatability of the review process. Accordingly, H.R. 1892 requires that DHS retain and, when requested, provide to Congress certain documentation related to the QHSR.

H.R. 1892 also seeks to ensure more robust consultation with Homeland Security stakeholders, including State and local governments and academic institutions. H.R. 1892 ensures that DHS undertakes and documents a risk analysis to inform its policy positions.

This House unanimously approved this measure in both the 115th Congress and the 114th Congress; however, the Senate has, indeed, failed to act on the bill on both occasions.

Enactment of this bill will help chart a thoughtful path on how to align its resources with its mission and make the Nation more secure. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 1892.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will see that the Department of Homeland Security remains focused on its primary mission.

It is important that the Department complete this review so that it, in partnership with Congress, can continue to evolve with the threats that face our homeland.

I would also add that this measure passed the House last Congress by a vote of 415-0, and I would hope my colleagues would do the same today.

Finally, I urge DHS to deliver the long-overdue 2018 QHSR to Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1892, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1892.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

DHS INTELLIGENCE ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM ACT OF 2019

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2066) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2066

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. INTELLIGENCE ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM.

Section 844 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 414) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) INTELLIGENCE ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish an Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program as part of the Rotation Program under subsection (a).

"(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Chief Human Capital Officer, in conjunction with the Chief Intelligence Officer, shall administer the Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program established pursuant to paragraph (1).

"(3) ELIGIBILITY.—The Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program shall be open to employees serving in existing analyst positions within the Department's Intelligence Enterprise and other Department employees as determined appropriate by the Chief Human Capital Officer and the Chief Intelligence Officer.

"(4) COORDINATION.—The responsibilities specified in paragraph (3)(B) of subsection (a) that apply to the Rotation Program under such subsection shall, as applicable, also apply to the Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program under this subsection."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, almost 18 years ago, Americans were horrified by the devastating September 11 attacks. While the perpetrator sought to bring us to our knees, we emerged more determined to protect our Nation.

In the years since the attacks, efforts to improve information sharing, interoperability, and coordination across all levels of government have been redoubled. H.R. 2066, the DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program Act, continues in the same vein by providing DHS employees with the opportunity to complete a rotational assignment within DHS' Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

By establishing this program, officers and analysts across DHS who have a passion for keeping our Nation secure would be provided the opportunity to develop and broaden their intelligence and counterterrorism skills. Organizations with such programs find that they yield benefits far beyond what the individuals who participate learn.

As the threat landscape continues to rapidly change, ensuring that those charged with keeping us safe have ample opportunities to enhance their analytical skills must remain a priority. Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this bipartisan

legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2066, the DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program Act of 2019.

I want to commend the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER) for introducing this legislation.

The goal of H.R. 2066 is to establish a robust rotation program for intelligence analysts across the Department of Homeland Security. As a former intelligence officer, Representative GALLAGHER certainly understands the value of robust, interagency intelligence cooperation.

This legislation addresses specific shortfalls within the Department of Homeland Security where the different component intelligence offices do not reliably coordinate and analysts from one agency are rarely detailed to another.

This bill was originally introduced last Congress and received overwhelming bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, establishing a rotation program for intelligence analysts from individual DHS component intelligence offices is essential for building a robust DHS intelligence enterprise.

I applaud Congressman GALLAGHER for his work on this issue, and I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member MIKE ROGERS for bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, last year, H.R. 2066 passed the House of Representatives under a suspension of the rules. Authorizing this program will help to improve the effectiveness of DHS' intelligence analysis operations for years to come. As such, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 2066, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill H.R. 2066, the DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program Act of 2019.

Having spent nearly a decade working on intelligence issues for the military and the Intelligence Community, I know first-hand the importance of collaboration between different intelligence offices. Understanding the mission sets and key intelligence questions of partner agencies not only makes the entire Intelligence Community better, but keeps our nation safer. We must do all we can to strengthen participation in programs that seek to encourage this type of cross pollination.

The Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program, or TRAP, was established to provide the Department's intelligence analysts with the opportunity to gain experience in the different mission areas across the DHS intelligence enterprise.

While the establishment of IRAP was an important step for improving intra-agency communication, the program has seen low levels of participation due to the fact that most DHS

intelligence offices are unaware of the program's existence, and there are no incentives for analysts to partake.

H.R. 2066 seeks to reverse this trend by authorizing IRAP within the larger "Homeland Security Rotation Program," or HSRP. Operated by the Under Secretary of Management, the HSRP encourages rotations for senior level employees throughout the Department to broaden their knowledge of various component operations.

Establishing a specific intelligence rotation program through this framework will raise the program's profile within the Department and encourage new incentives. Further, by creating a more robust and transparent rotation program, this bill encourages DHS intelligence analysts to gain the skills and competencies that elevate the Department's Intelligence Enterprise above its individual program missions while ensuring the program's existence in the future.

I want to thank Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Rogers for bringing this bill to the Floor, and my colleagues for supporting its passage. I urge the Senate to swiftly adopt this important legislation, and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2066.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM EXTENSION ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2578) to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2578

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) FINANCING.—Section 1309(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a)) is amended by striking "May 31, 2019" and inserting "September 30, 2019".

(b) PROGRAM EXPIRATION.—Section 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4026) is amended by striking "May 31, 2019" and inserting "September 30, 2019".

(c) RETROACTIVE EFFECTIVE DATE.—If this Act is enacted after May 31, 2019, the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect as if enacted on May 31, 2019.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2578, the National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act of 2019.

Since the National Flood Insurance Programs' multiyear authorization expired on September 30, 2017, ideological differences have led Congress to pass 10 short-term extensions and even allowed the program to briefly lapse twice during government shutdowns.

Unfortunately, the National Flood Insurance Program is currently set to expire May 31. My bill, which I have co-authored with Ranking Member MCHENRY, would extend the program to September 30 because we recognize that the NFIP is critical to ensuring access to flood insurance coverage across this country. This extension will afford the ranking member and me time to complete our work on a long-term, bipartisan compromise.

Mr. Speaker, the NFIP is much more than just an insurance program. The NFIP plays an important role in disaster preparedness and resiliency by providing flood maps, setting standards for floodplain management, and investing in mitigation for our homes, businesses, and infrastructure.

□ 1700

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, everyone is at risk of flooding. That means that this is not just a coastal issue. We all have an interest in ensuring a strong National Flood Insurance Program. We need a long-term reauthorization to provide certainty to homeowners and businesses, and we also need critical reforms to the program.

First and foremost, we must do more to address unaffordable premium costs for low-income households; address the program's debt, which is unfairly burdening policyholders with millions of dollars in interest; and lower costs and fees on policyholders.

Secondly, we need to invest more heavily in mapping, floodplain management, and mitigation, which will save taxpayer dollars in the long run by helping to reduce the damage that occurs when floods hit.

Finally, Superstorm Sandy exposed numerous issues related to claims processing, including findings of outright fraud. Going forward, we must work to ensure that we have safeguards in place and mechanisms for greater accountability and oversight to ensure that claims are handled fairly and efficiently to provide relief for policyholders.

Mr. Speaker, passing H.R. 2578 is not just a stopgap measure to kick the can down the road. I have every confidence that, with this extension, Democrats and Republicans will finally break the cycle of haphazard extensions. I intend to work in a bipartisan manner with Mr. MCHENRY to provide a long-term reauthorization to restore stability and confidence in the market. Through a thoughtful, bipartisan process, Congress can provide real relief to families, communities, and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2578, a bill to enact a short-term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program. This program has over 5 million policyholders who have come to rely upon it, but it is also a flawed program that is in need of a customer-based set of reforms.

Flooding is the most common, destructive, and expensive of the natural disasters we face. I am confident in saying what worked in the Lyndon Johnson administration on disasters doesn't really work this year, in 2019.

The Financial Services Committee has held numerous hearings on this matter over the last decade, hearing from dozens and dozens of witnesses from all points of view, including consumers, local communities, and the insurance industry. The data we have accumulated from those hearings, or lack thereof, suggests that there is great need for programmatic reforms, reforms that include better data, increased transparency, better technology, and more innovation. These can be bipartisan reforms.

Moreover, the NFIP owes more than \$20 billion in debt to the American taxpayer. This is a major issue, despite the fact that last Congress \$16 billion of that debt was canceled. So it is a program in need of systemic reforms.

So what kind of National Flood Insurance Program do we want to have for Americans going forward? An insurance program that is equipped with the tools it needs to perform its insurance functions, pay claims, incentivize mitigation, and ultimately reduce our Nation's flood risk, or should the NFIP continue the current system of distributing benefits as needed, ultimately requiring annual appropriations as flood risk grows?

I hope that Members of this House will choose to support important reforms to modernize an outdated program. There are reasonable steps that we can take to reform and innovate in a bipartisan fashion. Strengthening the NFIP and giving policyholders 21st century options to match their 21st century expectations, I think, should be our outcome.

Private insurance, better technology, more mapping data, faster claims processing, and rethinking old underwriting models are just a few of the

tools readily available for modernizing the NFIP.

At the same time, we must also consider how we can use risk sharing to offload some of the NFIP burdens and the cost savings that come from spreading risk to others who are qualified, capable, and willing to manage it off the backs of the taxpayers and more broadly distributed to those who are willing to take that risk.

Building a more resilient and cost-effective NFIP are goals that will benefit all consumers and the American people, but these are long-term goals to which we can only aspire by passing this short-term extension today.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Chairwoman WATERS' engaging and reaching out to committee Republicans to work together on this measure to give us space and time so that we can have the bipartisan reforms that I think we can come to terms on later this year. But I also want to thank Chairwoman WATERS for agreeing to sit down with me as the ranking Republican on the committee and committee Republicans, roll up our sleeves, and get to work over the next few weeks and really collaborate on a full reauthorization bill that addresses her concerns, my concerns, committee Democrat and Republican concerns, and the needs of the public. I think we can come to that conclusion.

I think we can bring a bipartisan bill to the floor, and I appreciate that Chairwoman WATERS has had that appropriate outreach to committee Republicans. That is a hopeful sign for our opportunity to legislate this Congress.

The American people deserve an effective and efficient Flood Insurance Program that they can rely on. By working together in a bipartisan way, this Congress can ensure that that continues to happen, and I am sure we can meet that expectation.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage my colleagues to support this short-term extension with the hope and the goal of our bringing a bipartisan bill back before the House that can get the wide support of this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I also commend the engagement of Chairwoman WATERS on this matter and a number of other matters where we have been able to work together in a bipartisan way. I am hopeful and it is my expectation that we will be able to work together on this matter over the coming weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with the millions of families across the country who rely on the National Flood Insurance Program by offering H.R. 2578 here today.

My bill will provide continuity for the NFIP without which these families would be left unprotected in the face of increasing flood risk. What is more,

without the NFIP, the stability of the housing market would be put at risk.

My coauthor, Mr. MCHENRY, and I offer this bill today not as a permanent solution, but as a step towards a broader plan that will reauthorize the program for the long term and make reforms to ensure continued availability, affordability, and fairness in flood insurance.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased for the coming together of Mr. MCHENRY and myself to present a bipartisan bill on behalf of all of our citizens. I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2578, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2578.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KLEPTOCRACY ASSET RECOVERY REWARDS ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 389) to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to pay rewards under an asset recovery rewards program to help identify and recover stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption hidden behind complex financial structures in the United States and abroad, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 389

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

The Act may be cited as the "Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR), a World Bank and United Nations anti-money-laundering effort, estimates that between \$20 billion to \$40 billion has been lost to developing countries annually through corruption.

(2) In 2014, more than \$480 million in corruption proceeds hidden in bank accounts around the world by former Nigerian dictator Sani Abacha and his co-conspirators was forfeited through efforts by the Department of Justice.

(3) In 2010, the Department of Justice established the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, to work in partnership with Federal law enforcement agencies to forfeit the proceeds of foreign official corruption and, where appropriate, return those proceeds to benefit the people harmed by these acts of corruption and abuse of office.

(4) Of the \$20 billion to \$40 billion lost by developing countries annually through corruption, only about \$5 billion has been repatriated in the last 15 years.

(5) Governments weakened by corruption and loss of assets due to corruption have

fewer resources to devote to the fight against terrorism and fewer resources to devote to building strong financial, law enforcement, and judicial institutions to aid in the fight against the financing of terrorism.

(6) The United States has a number of effective programs to reward individuals who provide valuable information that assist in the identification, arrest, and conviction of criminal actors and their associates, as well as seizure and forfeiture of illicitly derived assets and the proceeds of criminal activity.

(7) The Internal Revenue Service has the Whistleblower Program, which pays awards to individuals who provide specific and credible information to the IRS if the information results in the collection of taxes, penalties, interest or other amounts from non-compliant taxpayers.

(8) The Department of State administers rewards programs on international terrorism, illegal narcotics, and transnational organized crime with the goal of bringing perpetrators to justice.

(9) None of these existing rewards programs specifically provide monetary incentives for identifying and recovering stolen assets linked solely to foreign government corruption, as opposed to criminal prosecutions or civil or criminal forfeitures.

(10) The recovery of stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption may not always involve a BSA violation or lead to a forfeiture action. In such cases there would be no ability to pay rewards under existing Treasury Department authorities.

(11) Foreign government corruption can take many forms but typically entails government officials stealing, misappropriating, or illegally diverting assets and funds from their own government treasuries to enrich their personal wealth directly through embezzlement or bribes to allow government resources to be expended in ways that are not transparent and may not either be necessary or be the result of open competition. Corruption also includes situations where public officials take bribes to allow government resources to be expended in ways which are not transparent and may not be necessary or the result of open competition. These corrupt officials often use the United States and international financial system to hide their stolen assets and the proceeds of corruption.

(12) The individuals who come forward to expose foreign governmental corruption and kleptocracy often do so at great risk to their own safety and that of their immediate family members and face retaliation from persons who exercise foreign political or governmental power. Monetary rewards can provide a necessary incentive to expose such corruption and provide a financial means to provide for their well-being and avoid retribution.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that a Department of the Treasury stolen asset recovery rewards program to help identify and recover stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption hidden behind complex financial structures is needed in order to—

(1) intensify the global fight against corruption; and

(2) serve United States efforts to identify and recover such stolen assets, forfeit proceeds of such corruption, and, where appropriate and feasible, return the stolen assets or proceeds thereof to the country harmed by the acts of corruption.

SEC. 3. IN GENERAL.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY KLEPTOCRACY ASSET RECOVERY REWARDS PROGRAM.—Chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§9706. Department of the Treasury Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Program

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Department of the Treasury a program to be known as the ‘Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Program’ for the payment of rewards to carry out the purposes of this section.

“(2) PURPOSE.—The rewards program shall be designed to support U.S. Government programs and investigations aimed at restraining, seizing, forfeiting, or repatriating stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption.

“(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—The rewards program shall be administered by, and at the sole discretion of, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation, as appropriate, with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the heads of such other departments and agencies as the Secretary may find appropriate.

“(b) REWARDS AUTHORIZED.—In the sole discretion of the Secretary and in consultation, as appropriate, with the heads of other relevant Federal departments or agencies, the Secretary may pay a reward to any individual, or to any nonprofit humanitarian organization designated by such individual, if that individual furnishes information leading to—

“(1) the restraining or seizure of stolen assets in an account at a U.S. financial institution (including a U.S. branch of a foreign financial institution), that come within the United States, or that come within the possession or control of any United States person;

“(2) the forfeiture of stolen assets in an account at a U.S. financial institution (including a U.S. branch of a foreign financial institution), that come within the United States, or that come within the possession or control of any United States person; or

“(3) where appropriate, the repatriation of stolen assets in an account at a U.S. financial institution (including a U.S. branch of a foreign financial institution), that come within the United States, or that come within the possession or control of any United States person.

“(c) COORDINATION.—

“(1) PROCEDURES.—To ensure that the payment of rewards pursuant to this section does not duplicate or interfere with any other payment authorized by the Department of Justice or other Federal law enforcement agencies for the obtaining of information or other evidence, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the heads of such other agencies as the Secretary may find appropriate, shall establish procedures for the offering, administration, and payment of rewards under this section, including procedures for—

“(A) identifying actions with respect to which rewards will be offered;

“(B) the receipt and analysis of data; and

“(C) the payment of rewards and approval of such payments.

“(2) PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REQUIRED.—Before making a reward under this section in a matter over which there is Federal criminal jurisdiction, the Secretary of the Treasury shall obtain the written concurrence of the Attorney General.

“(d) PAYMENT OF REWARDS.—

“(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of paying rewards pursuant to this section, there is authorized to be appropriated—

“(A) \$450,000 for fiscal year 2020; and

“(B) for each fiscal year, any amount recovered in stolen assets described under sub-

section (b) that the Secretary determines is necessary to carry out this program consistent with this section.

“(2) LIMITATION ON ANNUAL PAYMENTS.—Except as provided under paragraph (3), the total amount of rewards paid pursuant to this section may not exceed \$25,000,000 in any calendar year.

“(3) PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY.—The President may waive the limitation under paragraph (2) with respect to a calendar year if the President provides written notice of such waiver to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before any payment in excess of such limitation is made pursuant to this section.

“(4) PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FIRST FROM STOLEN ASSET AMOUNTS.—In paying any reward under this section, the Secretary shall, to the extent possible, make such reward payment—

“(A) first, from appropriated funds authorized under paragraph (1)(B); and

“(B) second, from appropriated funds authorized under paragraph (1)(A).

“(e) LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—No award may be made under this section based on information submitted to the Secretary unless such information is submitted under penalty of perjury.

“(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—No reward paid under this section may exceed \$5,000,000, unless the Secretary—

“(A) personally authorizes such greater amount in writing;

“(B) determines that offer or payment of a reward of a greater amount is necessary due to the exceptional nature of the case; and

“(C) notifies the appropriate committees of the Congress of such determination.

“(3) APPROVAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No reward amount may be paid under this section without the written approval of the Secretary.

“(B) DELEGATION.—The Secretary may not delegate the approval required under subparagraph (A) to anyone other than an Under Secretary of the Department of the Treasury.

“(4) PROTECTION MEASURES.—If the Secretary determines that the identity of the recipient of a reward or of the members of the recipient's immediate family must be protected, the Secretary shall take such measures in connection with the payment of the reward as the Secretary considers necessary to effect such protection.

“(5) FORMS OF REWARD PAYMENT.—The Secretary may make a reward under this section in the form of a monetary payment.

“(f) INELIGIBILITY, REDUCTION IN, OR DENIAL OF REWARD.—

“(1) OFFICER AND EMPLOYEES.—An officer or employee of any entity of Federal, State, or local government or of a foreign government who, while in the performance of official duties, furnishes information described under subsection (b) shall not be eligible for a reward under this section.

“(2) PARTICIPATING INDIVIDUALS.—If the claim for a reward is brought by an individual who the Secretary has a reasonable basis to believe knowingly planned, initiated, directly participated in, or facilitated the actions that led to assets of a foreign state or governmental entity being stolen, misappropriated, or illegally diverted or to the payment of bribes or other foreign governmental corruption, the Secretary shall appropriately reduce, and may deny, such award. If such individual is convicted of criminal conduct arising from the role described in the preceding sentence, the Secretary shall deny or may seek to recover any reward, as the case may be.

“(g) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Within 180 days of the enactment of this section, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall issue a report to the appropriate committees of the Congress—

“(A) detailing to the greatest extent possible the amount, location, and ownership or beneficial ownership of any stolen assets that, on or after the date of the enactment of this section, come within the United States or that come within the possession or control of any United States person;

“(B) discussing efforts being undertaken to identify more such stolen assets and their owners or beneficial owners; and

“(C) including a discussion of the interactions of the Department of the Treasury with the international financial institutions (as defined in section 1701(c)(2) of the International Financial Institutions Act) to identify the amount, location, and ownership, or beneficial ownership, of stolen assets held in financial institutions outside the United States.

“(2) EXCEPTION FOR ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS.—The report issued under paragraph (1) shall not include information related to ongoing investigations.

“(h) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

“(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of the Congress’ means the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

“(2) FINANCIAL ASSET.—The term ‘financial asset’ means any funds, investments, or ownership interests, as defined by the Secretary, that on or after the date of the enactment of this section come within the United States or that come within the possession or control of any United States person.

“(3) FOREIGN GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION.—The term ‘foreign government corruption’ includes bribery of a foreign public official, or the misappropriation, theft, or embezzlement of public funds or property by or for the benefit of a foreign public official.

“(4) FOREIGN PUBLIC OFFICIAL.—The term ‘foreign public official’ includes any person who occupies a public office by virtue of having been elected, appointed, or employed, including any military, civilian, special, honorary, temporary, or uncompensated official.

“(5) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—The term ‘immediate family member’, with respect to an individual, has the meaning given the term ‘member of the immediate family’ under section 36(k) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(k)).

“(6) REWARDS PROGRAM.—The term ‘rewards program’ means the program established in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

“(7) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(8) STOLEN ASSETS.—The term ‘stolen assets’ means financial assets within the jurisdiction of the United States, constituting, derived from, or traceable to, any proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from foreign government corruption.”.

(b) REPORT ON DISPOSITION OF RECOVERED ASSETS.—Within 360 days of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a report to the appropriate committees of Congress (as defined under section 9706(h) of title 31, United States Code) describing policy choices and recommendations for disposition of stolen assets recovered pursuant to section 9706 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“9706. Department of the Treasury Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Program.”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 389, the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Act offered by Representatives Lynch and Budd, will help the United States Government identify and recover assets that corrupt foreign government officials have stolen from their countries. The act does this through a Treasury-based rewards program that incentivizes individuals to notify the U.S. Government of the location of stolen assets that are linked to foreign government corruption. These assets may be bank accounts as well as luxury items, such as mansions, jewelry, jet planes, and artwork.

Law enforcement already works hard to find these stolen assets. Since 2010, the United States has fought in courts to freeze, forfeit, and ultimately recover more than \$3.2 billion in assets linked to foreign corruption to be returned to the victims of these financial crimes.

There are several recent examples of corrupt foreign funds making their way to the United States. The multibillion-dollar 1MDB scandal involving Goldman Sachs defrauded the people of Malaysia. To date, the FBI has identified \$1.7 billion of the proceeds of that crime, which went to purchase a yacht, museum-quality paintings, and real estate. In fact, the government returned \$57 million of recovered stolen funds to Malaysia following a settlement over the rights to the 2013 film, “The Wolf of Wall Street,” which was financed using corrupt 1MDB funds.

Similarly, the United States helped to recover over \$30 million from the sale of real estate, a Ferrari, and rare music memorabilia, which were purchased by Equatorial Guinea’s President Obiang and his son with corrupt funds.

H.R. 389 would direct the Treasury to pay whistleblowers rewards from the recovered assets for helping to uncover assets like these. Encouraging and incentivizing whistleblowers would strip the bad actors of the ill-gotten gains and help victims and their countries recover from the devastating effects of corruption.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. LYNCH and Mr. BUDD for introducing this bill to help the U.S. punish kleptocrats. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 389.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 389, the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Act, and I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) as well as the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) for their hard work on this important piece of bipartisan legislation.

H.R. 389 would authorize the Treasury Department to offer rewards for information leading to the recovery of assets stolen through foreign government corruption.

Mr. Speaker, in the past, the United States has focused on fighting such corruption with traditional tools such as sanctions, technical assistance, and oversight of international financial institutions, but the bill gives Treasury an additional tool to expose corrupt foreign officials.

I, again, would like to thank my colleagues across the aisle, especially Chairwoman WATERS, for her hard work on this bill and allowing us to work together in a bipartisan fashion to refine this legislation as it made its way to the floor.

One piece of the bill that has gotten better that I still think could use an additional tweak is the bill does not allow anyone to receive a payment if they are part of the corrupt activity, but it does not require Treasury to fully investigate every potential claimant to make sure that they are not. So while that has gotten better—there is better language in the bill now—I think that, hopefully, this can continue to be perfected as we move forward. I support the bill, but I do think that provision could get better.

The minority did make several proposals to strengthen the bill, which were accepted by the majority. I am grateful to the gentleman from Massachusetts for partnering with us, as well as the gentleman from North Carolina, and for their hard work on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to voting for H.R. 389. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

(1715)

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH), the sponsor of this legislation and a member of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership on the committee and on this issue and for yielding me this time.

The opportunity that we have today here to present the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Act is a very important moment.

I also want to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and also the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), who have also contributed hard work in developing and cosponsoring this legislation.

Foreign dictators who rob the treasuries of developing nations, where independent judiciaries are rare, and the rule of law is often weak, is not a new problem; but, unfortunately, it is a growing problem.

It is now estimated that more than \$1 trillion is lost to bribes and official corruption around the world each year. A significant portion of those illicit proceeds are used to support organized crime and terrorist organizations, further destabilizing the social institutions where this corruption occurs, often in developing countries who can least afford it.

This undermines the local rule of law and contributes to the regional insecurity and instabilities in neighboring countries.

Governments that are weakened by corruption have fewer resources to provide basic services, to establish a stable business climate, and to create jobs. They also have fewer resources to devote to building strong law enforcement and judicial institutions to combat exploitation by terrorists and criminal organizations.

It is a sad fact that today much of this stolen money ends up here, in bank accounts right here in the United States.

H.R. 389 fights back against the spreading influence of this corruption. The Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Act establishes a rewards program to incentivize individuals to notify law enforcement and authorities of assets stolen from foreign treasuries and illegally transferred to the United States.

Now, I appreciate the gentleman's concerns about making sure that bad actors don't participate in this incentive program.

This program replicates the incentives that have been utilized by the United States Department of Justice and the FBI for decades to take down criminal drug cartels with the help of paid informants.

While the United States has many effective programs to reward individuals who provide valuable information toward curbing criminal behavior, none of our programs currently have been designed to take aim at recovering stolen assets linked to foreign government kleptocracy.

Kleptocracy by foreign leaders can drain the hope and faith of struggling peoples around the globe who strive for social justice and equal rights.

This bill recognizes that foreign corruption takes many forms and that individuals who come forward to expose corruption often do so at great personal peril to themselves and to their families.

So, as transnational criminal enterprises persist, and terrorists adapt to

the different mechanisms that we use, we must provide law enforcement with fresh tools to address these emerging threats.

H.R. 389 does exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank, again, the chairwoman for her cooperation and leadership. I thank my colleagues on the other side, especially Mr. BUDD, for his work on this bill as well. I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working with me on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 389 will give the Treasury an additional tool to fight corrupt foreign governments. There has been a lot of work done on this bill. It is a good bill. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that Mr. LYNCH and Mr. BUDD have presented this bipartisan bill to the House. We must not allow the United States financial system to be a haven for stolen assets that rightly belong to others.

By incentivizing individuals to come forward with information about where these stolen assets are hidden, we ensure the financial security of our system and can help send back recovered assets to where they belong.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 389, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BUILDING UP INDEPENDENT LIVES AND DREAMS ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1060) to provide regulatory relief to charitable organizations that provide housing assistance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1060

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams Act" or the "BUILD Act".

SEC. 2. MORTGAGE LOAN TRANSACTION DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) TILA AMENDMENT.—Section 105 of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

"(e) DISCLOSURE FOR CHARITABLE MORTGAGE LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—With respect to a

mortgage loan transaction involving a residential mortgage loan offered at 0 percent interest primarily for charitable purposes by an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code, forms HUD-1 and GFE (as defined under section 1024.2(b) of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations) together with a disclosure substantially in the form of the Loan Model Form H-2 (as depicted in Appendix H to part 1026 of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations) shall, collectively, be an appropriate model form for purposes of subsection (b) of this section."

(b) RESPA AMENDMENT.—Section 4 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2603) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) DISCLOSURE FOR CHARITABLE MORTGAGE LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—With respect to a mortgage loan transaction involving a residential mortgage loan offered at 0 percent interest primarily for charitable purposes, an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code may use forms HUD-1 and GFE (as defined under section 1024.2(b) of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations) together with a disclosure substantially in the form of the Loan Model Form H-2 (as depicted in Appendix H to part 1026 of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations), collectively, in lieu of the disclosure published under subsection (a) of this section."

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to implement the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 1060, the BUILD Act, which is bipartisan legislation authored by Representatives LOUDERMILK and SHERMAN that will allow nonprofit organizations like Habitat for Humanity, offering mortgage loans for charitable purposes

to use alternative forms to satisfy disclosure requirements.

Specifically, this bill would allow bona fide nonprofits which are eligible for tax-exempt charitable donations to have the option to use the Truth in Lending, Good Faith Estimate, and HUD-1 forms instead of TRID forms required by the TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure Rule. They may only do so in limited circumstances where they offer a zero percent interest loan.

Currently, financial institutions that make five or fewer mortgage loans a year are allowed to use these alternative disclosure forms, including the HUD-1 form, instead of the TRID form.

This bill simply extends this flexibility to eligible nonprofit charities in very limited circumstances, even if they make more than five mortgage loans a year.

Passing this bipartisan legislation will help nonprofits do their important work in helping families in our communities build and improve places to call home.

For example, the vast majority of the more than 1,200 local Habitat organizations in all 50 States are small, community-based organizations with very small mortgage portfolios and few, if any, full-time staff and rely on volunteers for much of their operations.

The BUILD Act will help charities like Habitat help families get a home of their own, but still ensures the material terms and costs of mortgage loans are clearly disclosed to the borrower.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives LOUDERMILK and SHERMAN for their work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1060, the BUILD Act.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1060, the BUILD Act. This bipartisan legislation addresses an unintended consequence of the Know Before You Owe disclosure rule, better known as TRID.

The BUILD Act is a straightforward solution, and it allows bona fide nonprofits making zero percent interest loans to use whichever Truth in Lending form they feel is better. They can use the Truth in Lending, Good Faith Estimate, and the HUD-1 form instead of the TRID forms, or they can choose the TRID forms.

Currently, organizations making five or fewer mortgage loans are exempt from using the TRID forms. This extends that exemption to charities making zero percent interest loans, regardless of how many loans they make per year.

The costs and complexities associated with TRID have left charities like Habitat for Humanity struggling to provide mortgages. These nonprofits have limited resources. In fact, many of their 1,200 community-based affiliates have little or no full-time staff.

Despite their size, these organizations play a pivotal role in our communities. Today, the House will play a small part in helping them continue to serve our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK) and the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN). They have worked together diligently on this legislation for several years and should be commended for their efforts.

I want to thank the chairwoman, Ms. WATERS of California, for her efforts on this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this legislation to be supported, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), a senior member of the Financial Services Committee and lead cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK). It has been a pleasure working with him on this bill, the Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams Act, or BUILD Act. He has worked hard to get this over the goal line and has worked in a collaborative and bipartisan process.

We have heard from a number of Habitat for Humanity chapters across the Nation who make more than five loans a year and are having difficulty complying with the mandatory TILA/RESPA Integrated Disclosure form. They believe it has additional costs and complexity, especially when they had previously set up their systems to deal with the old forms.

The BUILD Act is straightforward and addresses those concerns. The bill allows a bona fide nonprofit that makes zero interest rate loans, like Habitat for Humanity, the flexibility in deciding which disclosure forms to use.

They can either use the relatively new TILA/RESPA Integrated Disclosure form, or they can use the three previously required forms: the Truth in Lending form, the Good Faith Estimate form, and the HUD-1 form.

This bill is supported by Habitat for Humanity International and the National Housing Conference.

It is a narrow tweak to ensure that nonprofits offering zero percent interest loans can focus on helping people get housing rather than focus on reprogramming their system to deal with the new TILA/RESPA Integrated Disclosure form.

This bill passed our committee 53 to 0 last year. It passed this House by voice vote last year. It went over to the Senate, where the Senate did what it all too frequently does, which is nothing.

I look forward to giving the Senate another opportunity by sending this bill back to them, since it has not only overwhelming but unanimous support here in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill.

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK). He is not only an Air Force veteran, but his wife came up with the acronym for this bill.

□ 1730

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS) not only for yielding time in support of my bill but giving the creative one in my family recognition for the pithy acronym that goes with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, as has been stated, my bill is the Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams Act, which is also known as the BUILD Act.

First, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have worked with me to make this a strong, bipartisan effort.

I appreciate the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for cosponsoring this bill and for his work, with our staffs working together, to make this is a bill as perfected as we can.

I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for recommending this bill to come to the floor for a vote.

I also thank the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) for her support and cosponsorship of this important legislation.

Last year, it was brought to my attention that certain regulations enacted by Dodd-Frank were placing a significant burden on charitable organizations that provide low-cost housing to needy families. These nonprofits were having to spend an excessive amount of time and resources complying with these new regulations, which were ultimately designed for large mortgage lenders.

The time and effort that they were spending on regulatory compliance was taking resources away from these nonprofits' core mission of providing affordable housing.

The problem, as I learned, was that the Dodd-Frank Act required the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to combine the TILA loan estimate and the RESPA closing disclosure forms into one integrated mortgage disclosure form called TRID.

While the intention of the new TRID forms was to ensure that home buyers received essential information about the costs and terms of their home loans, the unintended consequences of this one-size-fits-all approach significantly impacted nonprofit organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity.

The TRID rule is nearly 2,000 pages long, very complex, and includes disclosure forms for things such as balloon loans and adjustable rate mortgages. While these types of loans may be applicable to traditional mortgage lenders, they are not relevant to these nonprofits. These new rules and their associated forms have caused confusion

for home buyers, staff, and volunteers of these charitable organizations.

To further complicate the matter, the new TRID disclosures were designed to be completed by computer software. However, these software applications are much too costly for many local Habitat affiliates and other nonprofits.

The vast majority of more than 1,200 Habitat groups nationwide are small, community-based organizations with very small mortgage portfolios. Few, if any, have full-time staff. These organizations have experienced challenges with the costs and the complexity of the TRID mortgage disclosure forms.

To remedy these problems, and to provide regulatory relief to these nonprofits, the BUILD Act exempts charities from the cost and complexity of the new TRID rule but still ensures that the terms of these mortgage loans are disclosed.

Mortgage lenders that make five or fewer loans a year are already exempt from TRID and are allowed to use the much simpler forms that were in place prior to Dodd-Frank. The BUILD Act simply extends this same exemption to nonprofits that are eligible for tax-exempt charitable donations and are making zero-interest mortgage loans, regardless of how many mortgage loans they are making per year.

The BUILD Act will allow local Habitat facilities, and other similar nonprofits, to choose whether they use these older but simpler forms or the new, more complicated TRID forms.

In closing, I want to reiterate that the purpose of this bill is to help charitable organizations spend more time fulfilling their mission, which is providing low-cost housing to needy families, and less time sitting in an office doing regulatory paperwork.

The bill recognizes that one size does not fit all, especially when it comes to regulating these charities, and it gives them the flexibility to choose which mortgage disclosure forms work best for them and for those they help.

As my colleague Mr. SHERMAN has already brought up, this bill passed the Financial Services Committee and the House unanimously last Congress. I hope that we can repeat that again today here in a few moments.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this important bill.

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

I would close by saying that the gentleman from Georgia and the gentleman from California have worked very hard on a bill that passed our committee unanimously and that helps nonprofits accomplish their mission of building capacity in housing, and I urge adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate my thanks to the members of our committee, Representatives LOUDERMILK

and SHERMAN, for working together to craft a narrow piece of legislation that will help nonprofit organizations like Habitat for Humanity have flexibility on which disclosure forms they use when they provide a zero-interest mortgage loan to a family getting a home of their own.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1060, the BUILD Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1060, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BANKING TRANSPARENCY FOR SANCTIONED PERSONS ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1037) to increase transparency with respect to financial services benefiting state sponsors of terrorism, human rights abusers, and corrupt officials, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1037

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Banking Transparency for Sanctioned Persons Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. REPORT ON FINANCIAL SERVICES BENEFITTING STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM, HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSERS, AND CORRUPT OFFICIALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a report to the Committees on Financial Services and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and Foreign Relations of the Senate that includes—

(1) a copy of any license issued by the Secretary in the preceding 180 days that authorizes a financial institution to provide financial services benefitting a state sponsor of terrorism; and

(2) a list of any foreign financial institutions that, in the preceding 180 days, knowingly conducted a significant transaction or transactions, directly or indirectly, for a sanctioned person included on the Department of the Treasury’s Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List who—

(A) is owned or controlled by, or acts on behalf of, the government of a state sponsor of terrorism; or

(B) is designated pursuant to any of the following:

(i) Section 404 of the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal and Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–208).

(ii) Subtitle F of title XII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328, the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act).

(iii) Executive Order 13818.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 3. WAIVER.

The Secretary of the Treasury may waive the requirements of section 2 with respect to a foreign financial institution described in paragraph (2) of such section—

(1) upon receiving credible assurances that the foreign financial institution has ceased, or will imminently cease, to knowingly conduct any significant transaction or transactions, directly or indirectly, for a person described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of such paragraph (2); or

(2) upon certifying to the Committees on Financial Services and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and Foreign Relations of the Senate that the waiver is important to the national interest of the United States, with an explanation of the reasons therefor.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “financial institution” means a United States financial institution or a foreign financial institution.

(2) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “foreign financial institution” has the meaning given that term under section 561.308 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(4) UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “United States financial institution” has the meaning given the term “U.S. financial institution” under section 561.309 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 5. SUNSET.

The reporting requirement under this Act shall terminate on the date that is the end of the 7-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1037, the Banking Transparency for Sanctioned Persons Act.

This legislation requires the Secretary of the Treasury to report to Congress every 6 months a list of the licenses that it issues to financial institutions to provide services to countries and persons subject to certain U.S. sanctions. It also provides Congress with information about foreign financial firms that similarly provide

support to those same countries and persons.

I support this bill because I believe its disclosure requirements will serve as a useful oversight tool for Congress. Today, when the Office of Foreign Assets Control, or OFAC, issues a license to a company that allows them to engage in an activity that would otherwise be prohibited by U.S. sanctions, OFAC does not disclose those licenses.

I support the bill's other reporting requirement related to foreign financial firms. These lists of foreign financial institutions can provide a useful basis for Congress to review the administration's overall sanction strategy and to press the administration to impose restrictions on these institutions to change their behavior.

When a nearly identical version of this bill was considered by the Financial Services Committee last Congress, I supported the bill's disclosure requirements, but I thought it would be counterproductive to have the information revealed publicly.

For example, OFAC licenses often contain commercially sensitive information. If companies could no longer expect licenses to remain private, they would be less likely to apply for them, which would be detrimental to humanitarian efforts.

I didn't think the public identification of these foreign financial firms would serve a useful policy purpose and could otherwise move legal activity into a shade of gray. For these reasons, a Democratic amendment was adopted in committee by voice vote to allow for Congress to review the lists confidentially.

I believe H.R. 1037, which includes this critical change from last Congress, would increase congressional oversight of U.S. sanctions activity appropriately, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

I want to express my strong support for H.R. 1037, the Banking Transparency for Sanctioned Persons Act. The bill includes important provisions to strengthen our national security, and it passed unanimously last year in the full House.

I am pleased to see this legislation come to the floor under a new sponsor, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN). Although he is in his first term, Congressman RIGGLEMAN has already made significant contributions to the committee's work. His leadership on this bill is a case in point.

The gentleman's legislation would require the Treasury Department to provide Congress with a copy of licenses that authorize financial services for state sponsors of terrorism. These licenses are essentially waivers, and while sanctions laws often require congressional notification when formal waivers are issued, licenses can fall through the cracks.

To be clear, some licenses may be desirable, such as those allowing humanitarian relief or allowing for tailoring of sanctions in order to better advance our policy goals. In other cases, however, Congress may have legitimate concerns that a sanctioned entity is being licensed to carry out transactions with U.S. persons, including our country's financial institutions.

This bill simply ensures that Congress knows whether a license has been issued, which will allow us to have better oversight of the sanctions program.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, this bill requires Treasury to send Congress semi-annual reports that show which foreign financial institutions are providing support for sanctioned terrorists, corrupt officials, and human rights abusers. Although these bad actors are cut off from American banks, we should know whether they are evading our measures through the use of foreign entities. If Congress is made aware of these relationships, we can work to close those loopholes.

Again, the unanimous support these policies have garnered previously underscores their commonsense nature. Congressman RIGGLEMAN has spent much of his career before Congress devoted to protecting our national security, and his work on this bill, H.R. 1037, deserves our support.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), the sponsor of the bill. He has done great work here, and I will give him as much time as he may consume.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1037, the Banking Transparency for Sanctioned Persons Act of 2019.

I thank the chairwoman of the committee, Ms. WATERS, as well as Ranking Member MCHENRY for their support and willingness to bring this legislation to the House floor for a vote. I also thank my colleague JOSH GOTTHEIMER for cosponsoring this legislation.

This bill requires the Department of the Treasury to report on financial services provided to a state sponsor of terrorism or sanctioned person. This is a commonsense reporting requirement that will further assist Congress in its oversight functions, including financial sanctions against state sponsors of terrorism, human rights abusers, and other bad actors targeted with certain U.S. sanctions.

This legislation is simple yet essential. It requires the Secretary of the Treasury to submit to Congress every 180 days a report with two sets of information: first, a list of the licenses it issues to financial institutions to provide services to countries and persons subject to certain U.S. sanctions, and

this would include state sponsors of terrorism such as Iran, North Korea, or Syria; second, Treasury would have to provide a list of any foreign banks that conduct significant transactions for persons that have been sanctioned for human rights abuses or corruption. This report will support Congress by ensuring that sanctions are being legally and appropriately applied across the board.

The information in these reports will inform Congress about how sanctioned states and individuals engage in financial transactions. Additionally, the increased transparency will help us understand the impacts of sanctions on targeted individuals.

With a clear idea of how certain foreign countries are undermining U.S. efforts to combat corruption and human rights atrocities, we can adjust our sanctions policies so they have the intended effects.

Finally, this bill will aid Congress and the executive branch to tailor secondary sanctions on foreign financial institutions, as well as better determine how those sanctions should be effectively designed and what the unintended consequences might be, if any should exist.

This will be a useful oversight tool and a powerful disclosure requirement that can help Congress understand existing sanctions and design a more effective program for the future.

Mr. Speaker, this bill unanimously passed the House in the 115th Congress, and I invite all of my colleagues to join me today and pass H.R. 1037.

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bipartisan bill that passed unanimously in committee and in the House last year.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1037, the Banking Transparency for Sanctioned Persons Act of 2019, will help ensure that Members of Congress have the information they need to provide more effective oversight of the decisions made by Treasury and OFAC and the impact that those decisions have on sanctioned persons.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. RIGGLEMAN for bringing this bill forward, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1037.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETERS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 299, and

H.R. 2379.

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

BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 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, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 0, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 203]

YEAS—410

Adams	Beyer	Bustos
Aderholt	Biggs	Butterfield
Aguilar	Bilirakis	Byrne
Allen	Bishop (GA)	Calvert
Allred	Bishop (UT)	Carbajal
Amash	Blumenauer	Cárdenas
Amodei	Blunt Rochester	Carson (IN)
Armstrong	Bonamici	Carter (GA)
Arrington	Bost	Carter (TX)
Axne	Boyle, Brendan F.	Case
Babin	Brady	Casten (IL)
Bacon	Brindisi	Castor (FL)
Baird	Brooks (AL)	Castro (TX)
Balderson	Brown (MD)	Chabot
Banks	Brownley (CA)	Cheney
Barr	Buchanan	Chu, Judy
Barragán	Buck	Cicilline
Bass	Bucshon	Cisneros
Beatty	Burchett	Clark (MA)
Bera	Burgess	Clarke (NY)
Bergman		Clay

Cleaver	Heck	Meuser
Cline	Hern, Kevin	Miller
Cloud	Herrera Beutler	Mitchell
Clyburn	Hice (GA)	Moolenaar
Cohen	Higgins (NY)	Mooney (WV)
Cole	Hill (AR)	Moore
Collins (GA)	Hill (CA)	Morrelle
Collins (NY)	Himes	Moulton
Comer	Holding	Mucarsel-Powell
Conaway	Hollingsworth	Murphy
Connolly	Horn, Kendra S.	Nadler
Cook	Horsford	Napolitano
Cooper	Houlahan	Neal
Correa	Hoyer	Neguse
Courtney	Hudson	Newhouse
Cox (CA)	Huffman	Norcross
Craig	Huizenga	Norman
Crawford	Hunter	Nunes
Crenshaw	Hurd (TX)	O'Halleran
Crist	Jackson Lee	Ocasio-Cortez
Crow	Jayapal	Omar
Cuellar	Jeffries	Palazzo
Cunningham	Johnson (GA)	Pallone
Curtis	Johnson (OH)	Palmer
Davidson (KS)	Johnson (SD)	Panetta
Davidson (OH)	Johnson (TX)	Pappas
Davis (CA)	Jordan	Pascarell
Davis, Danny K.	Joyce (OH)	Payne
Davis, Rodney	Joyce (PA)	Pence
Dean	Kaptur	Perlmutter
DeFazio	Katko	Perry
DeGette	Keating	Peters
DeLauro	Kelly (IL)	Peterson
DelBene	Kelly (MS)	Phillips
Delgado	Kelly (PA)	Pingree
Demings	Kennedy	Pocan
DeSaulnier	Khanna	Porter
DesJarlais	Kildee	Posey
Deutch	Kilmer	Pressley
Diaz-Balart	Kim	Price (NC)
Doggett	Kind	Quigley
Doyle, Michael F.	King (IA)	Raskin
Duffy	King (NY)	Ratcliffe
Duncan	Kinzinger	Reed
Dunn	Kirkpatrick	Reschenthaler
Emmer	Krishnamoorthi	Rice (NY)
Engel	Kuster (NH)	Rice (SC)
Escobar	Kustoff (TN)	Richmond
Eshoo	LaHood	Riggleman
Espallat	LaMalfa	Rodgers (WA)
Estes	Lamb	Roe, David P.
Evans	Lamborn	Rogers (AL)
Ferguson	Langevin	Rogers (KY)
Finkenauer	Larsen (WA)	Rooney (FL)
Fitzpatrick	Larson (CT)	Rose (NY)
Fleischmann	Latta	Rose, John W.
Fletcher	Lawrence	Rouda
Flores	Lawson (FL)	Rouzer
Fortenberry	Lee (CA)	Roy
Foster	Lee (NV)	Roybal-Allard
Fox (NC)	Lesko	Ruiz
Frankel	Levin (CA)	Ruppersberger
Fudge	Levin (MI)	Rush
Fulcher	Lewis	Rutherford
Gabbard	Lieu, Ted	Ryan
Gaetz	Lipinski	Sánchez
Gallagher	Loebisack	Sarbanes
Gallego	Lofgren	Scanlon
Garamendi	Long	Schakowsky
Garcia (IL)	Loudermilk	Schiff
Garcia (TX)	Lowenthal	Schneider
Gianforte	Lowe	Schrader
Gibbs	Lucas	Schrier
Gohmert	Luetkemeyer	Schweikert
Golden	Luján	Scott, David
Gomez	Luria	Sensenbrenner
Gonzalez (OH)	Lynch	Serrano
Gonzalez (TX)	Malinowski	Sewell (AL)
Gooden	Maloney	Shalala
Gosar	Carolyn B. Maloney, Sean	Sherman
Gottheimer	Marchant	Sherrill
Granger	Marshall	Shimkus
Graves (GA)	Mast	Simpson
Graves (MO)	Matsui	Slotkin
Green (TN)	McAdams	Smith (MO)
Green (TX)	McBath	Smith (NE)
Griffith	McCarthy	Smith (NJ)
Grijalva	McCaul	Smith (WA)
Grothman	McClintock	Smucker
Guest	McCollum	Soto
Guthrie	McEachin	Spanberger
Haaland	McGovern	Spano
Hagedorn	McHenry	Speier
Hader (CA)	McKinley	Stanton
Harris	McNerney	Staubert
Hartzer	Meadows	Stefanik
Hastings	Meeks	Steil
Hayes	Meng	Steube
		Stevens

Stewart	Trone	Weber (TX)
Stivers	Turner	Webster (FL)
Suozzi	Underwood	Welch
Takano	Upton	Wenstrup
Taylor	Van Drew	Westerman
Thompson (CA)	Vargas	Wexton
Thompson (MS)	Veasey	Wild
Thompson (PA)	Velázquez	Williams
Thornberry	Visclosky	Wilson (FL)
Timmons	Wagner	Wilson (SC)
Tipton	Walberg	Wittman
Titus	Walden	Womack
Tlaib	Walker	Woodall
Tonko	Walorski	Wright
Torres (CA)	Waltz	Yarmuth
Torres Small (NM)	Waters	Yoho
Trahan	Watkins	Young
	Watson Coleman	Zeldin

NOT VOTING—21

Abraham	Higgins (LA)	Scott, Austin
Brooks (IN)	Johnson (LA)	Sires
Budd	Massie	Swalwell (CA)
Cartwright	Mullin	Vela
Costa	Olson	Wasserman
Cummings	Roby	Schultz
Dingell	Scalise	
Graves (LA)	Scott (VA)	

□ 1856

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REAUTHORIZING BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2379) to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 9, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 204]

YEAS—400

Adams	Boyle, Brendan F.	Chu, Judy
Aguilar	Brady	Cicilline
Allen	Brindisi	Cisneros
Allred	Brooks (AL)	Clark (MA)
Amodei	Brown (MD)	Clarke (NY)
Armstrong	Brownley (CA)	Clay
Axne	Buchanan	Cleaver
Babin	Buck	Cline
Bacon	Bucshon	Cloud
Baird	Burchett	Clyburn
Balderson	Burgess	Cohen
Banks	Bustos	Cole
Barr	Butterfield	Collins (GA)
Barragán	Byrne	Collins (NY)
Bass	Calvert	Comer
Beatty	Carbajal	Conaway
Bera	Cárdenas	Connolly
Bergman	Carson (IN)	Cook
Beyer	Carter (GA)	Cooper
Bilirakis	Carter (TX)	Correa
Bishop (GA)	Case	Courtney
Bishop (UT)	Casten (IL)	Cox (CA)
Blumenauer	Castor (FL)	Craig
Blunt Rochester	Castro (TX)	Crawford
Bonamici	Chabot	Crenshaw
Bost	Cheney	Crist
		Crow

Cuellar Johnson (TX)
 Cunningham Jordan
 Curtis Joyce (OH)
 Davids (KS) Joyce (PA)
 Davidson (OH) Kaptur
 Davis (CA) Katko
 Davis, Danny K. Keating
 Davis, Rodney Kelly (IL)
 Dean Kelly (MS)
 DeFazio Kelly (PA)
 DeGette Kennedy
 DeLauro Khanna
 DeBene Kildee
 Delgado Kilmer
 Demings Kim
 DeSaulnier Kind
 DesJarlais King (IA)
 Deutch King (NY)
 Diaz-Balart Kintzinger
 Doggett Kirkpatrick
 Doyle, Michael Krishnamoorthi
 F. Kuster (NH)
 Duffy Kustoff (TN)
 Dunn LaHood
 Emmer LaMalfa
 Engel Lamb
 Escobar Lamborn
 Eshoo Langevin
 Espallat Larsen (WA)
 Estes Larson (CT)
 Evans Latta
 Ferguson Lawrence
 Finkenauer Lawson (FL)
 Fitzpatrick Lee (CA)
 Fleischmann Lee (NV)
 Fletcher Lesko
 Flores Levin (CA)
 Fortenberry Levin (MI)
 Foster Lewis
 Foxx (NC) Lieu, Ted
 Frankel Lipinski
 Fudge Loebsock
 Fulcher Lofgren
 Gabbard Long
 Gaetz Loudermilk
 Gallagher Lowenthal
 Gallego Gallo
 Garamendi Lucas
 Garcia (IL) Luetkemeyer
 Garcia (TX) Lujan
 Gianforte Luria
 Gibbs Lynch
 Golden Malinowski
 Gomez Maloney,
 Gonzalez (OH) Carolyn B.
 Gonzalez (TX) Maloney, Sean
 Gooden Marchant
 Gosar Marshall
 Gottheimer Mast
 Granger Matsui
 Graves (GA) McAdams
 Graves (MO) McBath
 Green (TN) McCarthy
 Green (TX) McCaul
 Grijalva McCollum
 Grothman McEachin
 Guest McGovern
 Guthrie McHenry
 Haaland McKinley
 Hagedorn McNeerney
 Harder (CA) Meadows
 Hartzler Meeks
 Hastings Meng
 Hayes Meuser
 Heck Miller
 Hern, Kevin Mitchell
 Herrera Beutler Moolenaar
 Hice (GA) Mooney (WV)
 Higgins (NY) Moore
 Hill (AR) Morelle
 Hill (CA) Moulton
 Himes Mucarsel-Powell
 Holding Murphy
 Hollingsworth Nadler
 Horn, Kendra S. Napolitano
 Horsford Neal
 Houlahan Neguse
 Hoyer Newhouse
 Hudson Norcross
 Huffman Norman
 Huizenga Nunes
 Hunter O'Halleran
 Hurd (TX) Ocasio-Cortez
 Jackson Lee Omar
 Jayapal Palazzo
 Jeffries Pallone
 Johnson (GA) Palmer
 Johnson (OH) Panetta
 Johnson (SD) Pappas

Pascarell
 Payne
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Perry
 Peters
 Peterson
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Posey
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Ratcliffe
 Reed
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Richmond
 Rigglesman
 Rodgers (WA)
 Roe, David P.
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rooney (FL)
 Rose (NY)
 Rose, John W.
 Rouda
 Rouzer
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Rutherford
 Ryan
 Sanchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Schweikert
 Scott, David
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shalala
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Shimkus
 Simpson
 Slotkin
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spano
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Stevens
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Suozzi
 Takano
 Taylor
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Timmons
 Tipton
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small
 (NM)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Upton
 Van Drew
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Visclosky

Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Welch
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams
 Willson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yarmuth
 Yoho
 Young
 Zeldin

NAYS—9

Amash
 Arrington
 Biggs
 Duncan
 Gohmert
 Griffith
 Harris
 McClintock
 Roy

NOT VOTING—22

Abraham
 Aderholt
 Brooks (IN)
 Budd
 Cartwright
 Costa
 Cummings
 Dingell
 Graves (LA)
 Higgins (LA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Massie
 Mullin
 Olson
 Roby
 Scalise
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Sires
 Swalwell (CA)
 Vela
 Wasserman
 Schultz

□ 1905

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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

Mr. BIGGS. 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 I ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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. BIGGS. 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 so we can stand up and protect the sanctity of human life, and I ask others to join in that request.

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

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS OF FORMER MEMBERS PROGRAM

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings during the former Members program be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the proceedings have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a resolution designating this week as National Infrastructure Week.

With every day that passes, the need for Federal infrastructure investment grows more and more urgent. Our roads, our bridges, our canals, our tunnels, our drinking water, our sewage facilities—they are all suffering because the Federal Government has not invested in rebuilding America's infrastructure.

Lives are on the line because our infrastructure is crumbling, and our drinking water is not safe. Our constituents are begging us to rebuild America's infrastructure.

Instead of that, the President is still obsessed with building his wall. Well, Mr. Speaker, that is not going to work for the American people.

Americans want water infrastructure that is not tainted with lead. They want roads that aren't full of potholes. They want bridges that aren't falling down. They want airports and schools that are safe.

They deserve nothing less. Let's go to work for the American people.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. RONNIE FLOYD

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, the Reverend Dr. Ronnie Floyd, senior pastor of Cross Church in northwest Arkansas, will deliver his final sermon in a joint service of the many campuses at Bud Walton Arena in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Dr. Floyd has served as senior pastor at Cross Church for almost 33 years. He has presided over an unprecedented expansion of the church over four campuses in Arkansas and Missouri, with a combined membership of nearly 28,000.

Under his vision and leadership, just under 23,000 have come to know Christ as their personal savior, and Cross Church has an enviable reputation of bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to the Nation and the world.

Average weekly attendance has grown from 1,800 people in 1986 to nearly 10,000 today.

Dr. Floyd will become the president and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention's executive committee on May 20 in Nashville, Tennessee.

I speak for the entire congregation of Cross Church in wishing Dr. Floyd and his wife, Jeana, the Lord's blessings during this transition to a new and exciting ministry and thank him for 33 terrific years at Cross Church.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise during National Infrastructure Week to highlight the importance of investing in a skilled infrastructure workforce.

Rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure will require more than investments in bridges, roads, and waterways. It will require a workforce that can design, build, and maintain them.

The Brookings Institution estimates that 3 million more workers will be needed to support our infrastructure over the next decade.

This is a great opportunity for millions of Americans who are out of work or underemployed. However, without adequate training, these workers won't be prepared to fill open jobs and carry out high-priority infrastructure projects.

That is why my Career and Technical Education Caucus co-chair, Congressman G.T. THOMPSON, and I are urging congressional leadership to prioritize workforce development in any infrastructure investment package that comes to this House.

CTE and apprenticeships are absolutely proven strategies that provide workers with the skills and training that they need for in-demand jobs, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance them in the coming months.

□ 1915

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May 12 through 18 as National Police Week.

We are blessed to live in a country founded on the rule of law, and it could not be preserved without our Nation's courageous police.

This week, we show gratitude to the 800,000 sworn law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line daily for our safety.

We also honor those who have given their lives in the line of duty. This year, 371 fallen heroes were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, including Trooper Samuel Newton Bullard, who died serving Surry County in North Carolina's Fifth District.

These brave officers' sacrifices will not be forgotten, and their families are in my prayers. This Police Week, and every week, let's show our support for those who risk so much to keep us safe.

COMMEMORATING 54TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, 54 years ago, President Lyndon Johnson launched Head Start as part of the War on Pov-

erty, a historic effort to build a more just, equal America.

Today, Head Start serves children across my community, including more than 70 children in SafeStart, a program in my district designed for children of parents who struggle with substance abuse that has been recognized as a national model.

Across our country, over 30 million children have participated in Head Start since its founding. We have felt the benefits throughout our society. Study after study has shown how pivotal early childhood education is for positioning children to fulfill their potential later on.

Despite its record of success, Head Start is severely underfunded today. In my home State of Pennsylvania, only 27 percent of eligible children are able to get a slot in a Head Start program. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me in pledging to fight to get increased funding for Head Start signed into law so that we renew our commitment to its promise of a future where every child in every ZIP Code can live a life of opportunity.

RECOGNIZING MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL TROOPER WADE PALMER DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, during National Police Week, I rise to recognize police officers in Montana who protect and serve our communities. They put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Montana Highway Patrol Trooper Wade Palmer embodies this selfless service. A husband to Lindsey and a father to two young daughters, Trooper Palmer started with the patrol in 2012 and has received the patrol's highest honor, the Medal of Valor.

In March, Trooper Palmer located a suspicious vehicle near Missoula. As he sat in his cruiser, a callous coward approached Palmer and shot him repeatedly. Thankfully, Trooper Palmer regained consciousness and is recovering in the hospital.

As we mark National Police Week, let us remember all who died in the line of duty. Let us remember to pray every day for the men and women in blue, as well as their families. And let us say a special prayer for Trooper Palmer and his family.

REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO DECENCY

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, one rainy afternoon during my campaign last year, I was out knocking on doors. I met a man and asked what he cared

about. He paused as the rain poured down around us, and he uttered a single word, "Decency."

Mr. Speaker, over the last several years, we have watched as our democracy sinks to new and disturbing lows. We have seen national leaders dispense with civility and compassion and replace them with cruelty. We have witnessed a debasement of our traditions and a devaluation of goodwill.

But decency, that quiet virtue, has not disappeared. If anything, we have mourned its absence because we know that decency is essential for any democracy worth wanting. Decency is that basic commitment to treat each other charitably, to try understanding each other, and to value our common humanity more than our differences.

This is National Decency Day. Let us reaffirm that commitment to one another. Decency should be a starting point of all of our conversations. It should carry us through disagreements, even when things get contentious. It should guide us through the shoals of our biggest challenges, today and every day.

RECOGNIZING THE MCKINNEY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the McKinney Independent School District school resource officer program that was recently named a model agency by the National Association of School Resource Officers.

Every day, these officers go above and beyond their job description to educate and protect the youth of McKinney ISD. School resource officers are a vital part of our education system. For some students, this program provides a positive first interaction with law enforcement.

We could not ask for better role models or protectors.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in thanking the school resource officers of McKinney ISD as they continue to make a positive difference in the lives of students across Collin County.

PROTECTING LABOR IN NAFTA 2.0

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my grave concerns surrounding the new NAFTA whose new rebranding as the USMCA masks its real content.

The original NAFTA devastated the industrial Midwest and communities from coast to coast. Manufacturing communities were hollowed out. Factories closed. Jobs were outsourced to

Mexico for cheap labor. Mexico's peasants were uprooted. Plant shutdown after plant shutdown saw U.S. wages and benefits plummet.

President Trump hit a nerve with these communities with his lofty promises, promises of which we should all remain skeptical, especially in the trade arena.

We heard these hollow promises 25 years ago to pass the original NAFTA. Now NAFTA 2.0 stands to make many of the same mistakes based on false promises of returning quality jobs with life-sustaining wages.

This won't happen without true labor enforcement, but the current text of NAFTA 2.0 falls far short of that target. That is why I plan to introduce legislation to set the mark on labor enforcement on this continent under NAFTA 2.0 and any future agreement. The workers of this continent deserve no less. We respect their dignity.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week. More than 30,000 law enforcement officers from across the country are in Washington in honor of National Police Week.

Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

It is a time when we pause to remember officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives in the line of duty protecting and serving others.

National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community. It honors the men and women in blue who gave everything to protect their country and their communities.

Our officers put on their uniforms each day knowing that they can be in harm's way at any moment. National Police Week is a time to remember the sacrifices that many officers and their families have made.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of our officers who answer the call to serve.

ENACT NATIONAL STANDARDS TO PROTECT CHILDREN LIKE MALEAH DAVIS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story, very briefly, of little 4-year-old Maleah Davis, who has now been missing for almost 2 weeks.

Just a few days ago, it was said that her dad was taking her and her younger

brother to the airport. All of a sudden, he says she was kidnapped.

This is a little girl who was taken away from this family by CPS last year and, unfortunately, returned to that family by a judge at the beginning of this year. The little girl was abused and had brain surgery.

All of a sudden, after being kidnapped, the story that was told by the father was that he was unconscious from Friday to Saturday evening at 6 p.m.

My heart has gone out to that family and that little girl.

I thank law enforcement in Texas and in Houston, along with Texas EquuSearch and other volunteers who poured their hearts out to find this little girl.

We now know that this individual is under arrest. Blood has been found in the apartment. Other items or activity suggest that maybe that wasn't the true story.

I believe, as the chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, we must define how CPS returns children to their families, and there must be national standards.

I pray for the little girl, and I pray for those who love her.

SUPPORTING E-2 VISA HOLDERS

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

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the E-2 visa holders and their families who have been ignored by our Nation's immigration laws.

E-2 visa holders are required to be business owners, job creators, and risk takers. They are filled with the American spirit that makes this country great. And yet, their children are unfairly forced to leave this country on their 21st birthday.

The E-2 children have no protection, no leniency, and unlike DACA recipients, they receive no attention from the mainstream media.

We cannot continue to put the children of illegal aliens before the children of legal aliens. That is why I introduced the E-2 Visa Improvement Act, which will do two things: create a path to legal permanent residency after 10 years in the U.S., and allow children of E-2 visa holders to stay in the country until 26 years of age and to apply for work authorization.

I urge my colleagues to support these simple, commonsense reforms that will make a huge difference in the lives of law-abiding immigrants who are hiring and helping carry our economy forward.

HONORING FARMINGTON ROBOTICS TEAM

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

Mrs. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of the Farmington High School Rogue Robotics Team, a local robotics team that built a functioning power wheelchair for 2-year-old Cillian Jackson.

Cillian was born with a genetic disorder that makes it very difficult for him to get around. Buying a wheelchair would have been cost-prohibitive for his family, so his parents turned to the students of Farmington High School for their expertise and ingenuity.

The students of Farmington rose to the occasion and reimaged a Power Wheels into a power wheelchair by outfitting it with a new seat and a joystick that allow Cillian to move around on his own.

I congratulate the Farmington robotics team for their ingenuity and hard work in making this possible. They are an example of what is possible when communities come together and share their talents and ideas to help our neighbors.

□ 1930

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those brave men and women who selflessly serve our communities as sworn officers in our local police departments.

This week is National Police Week.

To say that police officers are heroes would simply be an understatement. Their work at times puts them in extremely dangerous circumstances where they are faced with life-or-death decisions. They, of course, know this and go back to work keeping us safe every day.

That was true late last year for three Lancaster City Police Officers—Andrew Williams, Matthew Caple, and Todd Dickinson—when a man visiting Lancaster fell short of breath and began leaning against a building. The officers performed CPR and used a defibrillator to stabilize him and save his life.

It is people like Detective Chris Jones of East Lampeter Township Police Department, who is working to end human trafficking, and Lower Windsor Township Patrolman Mark Jackson, working diligently to stop aggressive drivers.

One of the Lancaster City police officers who saved that man last year said: "We did what we had to do."

But we know they do not have to. They could choose any other profession. They choose to keep us safe, and for that, we are grateful.

NATIONAL DECENCY DAY

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

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a growing number of Americans in celebrating National Decency Day, a call to action to engage in civil discussion in the midst of bitter divisiveness.

As Americans, we cherish our freedom to dissent, but we must always bear in mind that these debates should be productive and substantive.

Lisa Cholnoky, a part-time resident of my district, has championed this belief in founding her Campaign for Decency. This campaign, which began on Shelter Island in my district, has now spread as far as Hawaii and Alaska.

This campaign sets an example for all of us to abide by across our country and here in Congress as we strive to reach across the aisle in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Cholnoky for championing this issue and empowering so many Americans to do the same.

HONORING SERGEANT KELVIN ANSARI

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Kelvin Ansari, who passed away in the line of duty on Saturday night at the age of 50.

On Saturday night, Sergeant Ansari and Officer Douglas Thomas arrived to investigate a robbery in downtown Savannah. Both officers returned to the scene later that night after receiving a description of the suspect's car, who they thought had left the scene. However, the individual was still inside the car and opened fire. Both police officers were struck, but Sergeant Ansari later succumbed to his injuries.

Joining the police department in Savannah in 2008, Sergeant Ansari had previously served in the United States Army for 21 years. He was a father of four, a husband, and a leader who dedicated so much of his life to protecting our country and our community.

It is unfortunate in times like these that we are reminded of the danger that our police officers face each day in keeping our communities safe.

Sergeant Ansari's family and friends, as well as the entire Savannah Police Department, are in our thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to recognize National Charter Schools Week, a week where we honor the opportunity to bring real educational choice to millions of families across America.

Georgia has a rich history of school choice and in charter schools. Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to visit Drew Charter School in Atlanta, Georgia.

Serving more than 1,800 students from pre-K through 12th grade, Drew Charter School has implemented a project-based learning approach that is helping all students reach their highest potential.

The numbers speak for themselves. Drew Charter School has a 100 percent graduation rate. No wonder there is a wait list to attend this wonderful school.

While speaking with administrators, touring the beautiful campus, and visiting a few classrooms, it was evident that Drew Charter School has excelled in their mission to provide a quality education.

As the senior Republican on the Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee, I look forward to sharing my support for charter schools and everything they do for our young students. By supporting charter schools, we are putting kids first in education, not politicians more concerned about power and money.

CHINA IS ONE OF THE LARGEST THREATS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues for being here, and I want to start tonight out.

We are going to spend an hour highlighting what many of us on Capitol Hill view as one of the largest threats in the 21st century, and that is a China that has grown wealthy in building their military might.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN), my good friend.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

To start off tonight, I just want to recognize that today is the 1-year anniversary of the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. I was honored to be there in person last year for this very special moment. Jerusalem should be recognized as the undivided, unquestionable capital of the Jewish state.

This was a bold move by this President not just to fulfill promises of Presidents past and to fulfill U.S. law; most importantly, it was the right thing to do.

In addition to its religious importance, Jerusalem is also the capital, the home, the location of the Israeli Knesset and offices and residences of the Israeli Prime Minister and President.

Moving our Embassy set an important precedent for other nations to follow as well.

I commend the President. I thank him for following through on his sup-

port and commitment. I thought it was important tonight to highlight that today is the 1-year anniversary of that important opening of the Embassy in Jerusalem.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida for hosting this important Special Order today.

The United States is currently facing a very real and dangerous threat from the People's Republic of China. The Chinese Government is not just using a whole-of-government approach but, rather, a whole-of-nation approach to achieve global influence.

Today, I would like to focus on two areas of concern: Chinese military development, and its influence operations targeting U.S. academia and research.

China is rapidly modernizing its military in order to improve its anti-access/area denial radius, power force projection, and nuclear capabilities, with the goal of complete military modernization by 2035. Investments in nuclear and power projection capabilities have expanded China's reach beyond the Pacific region and into other parts of the globe, demonstrating its desire to conduct offensive operations.

Here are a few facts about China's military capabilities:

China has the largest navy in the region, with more than 300 ships. To put this in perspective, the United States currently operates 289 ships.

China's first aircraft carrier will likely enter the fleet this year, and its second aircraft carrier is already under construction, paving the way for China to have a multicarrier force.

China operates the third largest aviation force in the world, with more than 2,700 total aircraft.

Its first fifth-generation stealth fighter entered service in February of last year.

China maintains a stockpile of nuclear weapons and continues to modernize its arsenal.

China has claimed to successfully test its first hypersonic aircraft.

China is using the S-400 missile defense system, strengthening its A2/AD radius.

These capabilities, coupled with territorial and maritime disputes in the South and East China Seas, pose serious concerns for the region. Not only do we have a commitment to our allies, such as Taiwan and Japan, but the Pacific is the most heavily trafficked region for trade and commerce. Aggressive maritime and military actions by China, such as building man-made islands, not only threaten regional stability, but also global stability.

China is also expanding its military operations beyond the Pacific. In August of 2017, China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti and is actively seeking other overseas military basing opportunities. According to a recently released Department of Defense report on China's military activities, China has sought to expand its

military basing access in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the Western Pacific. China's improving military capabilities, evolving focus towards expanding its operational reach, and establishment of overseas bases will increase China's ability to sustain operations abroad and enhance deterrence.

In order to combat China's military modernization aggression, the United States must continue to nurture our relationships with partner nations and protect our technological and military edge here at home. This brings me to the second area that I would like to discuss: China's influence operations that target and steal sensitive U.S. information.

One of China's largest targets in the United States is our Nation's academic institutions. According to the Department of Defense, almost a quarter of foreign efforts to steal sensitive information happen through academic institutions. China targets U.S. universities by exploiting our student visa program in order to gain access and steal sensitive, proprietary, and classified information. Many of these universities are conducting research on behalf of the Departments of Defense and Energy.

What is even more alarming is that, under Chinese law, citizens are required to provide data, information, and technological support or assistance to the Chinese Government upon request. This means that China can intimidate and coerce its citizens to provide information. This information is then funneled into China's military research and development.

The Chinese Government is also using members of its military to collaborate with researchers across the globe. The report entitled "Picking Flowers, Making Honey: The Chinese Military's Collaboration with Foreign Universities" revealed that, over the past 10 years, China's military, also known as the PLA, has sponsored more than 2,500 military scientists and engineers to study abroad in countries worldwide.

An analysis of peer-reviewed articles coauthored by PLA researchers found that they collaborate with researchers in the United States more than any other nation. These individuals often mask their PLA and Chinese Communist Party ties, allowing them to work at top universities without the schools' knowledge of military affiliation.

In addition to stealing sensitive U.S. research, China has established more than 100 Confucius Institutes across the United States. These educational institutions are funded and run by the Chinese Government and teach Chinese language, culture, and history to American students. FBI Director Christopher Wray testified before Congress that China is actively using nontraditional methods, such as Confucius Institutes, as outposts of Chinese overseas intelligence and influence operations.

Mr. Speaker, I have only highlighted two issues of concern. There are many

other concerns that I hope my colleagues will discuss today.

In order to address the challenges posed by China, we need a whole-of-nation approach. This is not just a military concern. We need our universities and constituents to be aware that China is active in all corners of the globe, including the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I thank these gentlemen for bringing us here today to shed light on this very important topic on the challenges we face from China.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Missouri for her comments. Those are very well pointed-out facts that the American people, if they knew this was going on, would stop buying "made in China."

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), my good friend.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and my colleague from Florida for leading this Special Order this evening because I am not quite sure that we talk enough about China here on the floor of the House.

If you look at any time horizon, short-term or long-term, China is the most serious challenge to our Nation's interests. There are other challenges, to be sure, but let's take a look at what China is about.

Geographically, it is similar in size to the United States.

It is economically enormous, with more than \$12 trillion GDP, which is second only to ours on an annual basis. And on this point, it is important to remember that they hold \$1.1 trillion worth of U.S. debt.

They are militarily mighty. The PLA, People's Liberation Army, is the largest force on Earth, with more than 2 million personnel.

Gigantically populous, with more than 1.4 billion people, it dwarfs the size of our own Nation's 325 million people.

□ 1945

Is it possible that those numbers indicate a stronger China than is actually the case? Perhaps. After all, hundreds of millions of Chinese citizens who don't live in the nation's most prosperous cities are still living in poverty and probably will continue to do so for some time to come.

It is also true that China's military today, while large in number, does not have the advanced capabilities of our own military. But these shortcomings are almost certainly temporary, and we should assume that China will continue to close these gaps relative to our own Nation's power.

So what should we do? I want to highlight four areas of concern, vis-à-vis China.

First of all, the South China Sea. Perhaps most, importantly, we need to push back on any Chinese efforts to turn the South China Sea into a Chinese lake. They have been doing this for decades now.

China is rapidly modernizing its naval capabilities and builds man-made

artificial islands near the Spratly archipelago.

Well over \$5 trillion worth of commerce passes through the South China Sea each year.

We must continue to unequivocally assert U.S. rights to fly, sail, and otherwise operate in these international waters, and we also must make sure that our allies do, as well.

Taiwan, we must continue to reject China's efforts to bully Taiwan into accepting a "one-China" policy.

Taiwan has been a great friend to the United States for the past 40 years that the Taiwan Relations Act has been in effect, and it is a key strategic partner.

It is uniquely positioned to buffer China's eastward expansion into the Pacific.

We need to continue to strengthen our critical relationship with Taiwan.

Huawei and other Chinese technology companies jeopardize the security of our Nation's telecommunications network. I strongly support the Trump administration's efforts to prevent Huawei from participating in U.S. 5G modernization efforts, and I hope that Secretary of State Pompeo will be able to convince our Western European allies to do likewise.

Finally, I will talk about trade. This subject is very much in the news today.

I am cautiously optimistic that the Trump administration's carrot-and-stick approach to trade negotiations will bear fruit, even if the tariffs are painful in the short term.

At the very least, I appreciate the fact that we finally have a President who is willing to confront the Chinese about decades' worth of bad behavior.

China has been a notorious currency manipulator ever since it began to modernize its economy in the late seventies. It also shamelessly rips off our Nation's intellectual property. We simply can't engage in mutually prosperous trade with China if that nation refuses to play by the rules.

My last remarks on trade are important because they highlight an important point that I hope does not get lost in this discussion: Our Nation can and should aim for a mutually beneficial relationship with China. In fact, our two nations can continue to grow rich together.

Just because China will be our geopolitical rivals in the coming years and decades does not mean that they will necessarily become our enemies. But having said that, we must not be under any illusions about China's great power ambition, and we must not give an inch when China challenges our own Nation's prosperity or our interests.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage our Members in this body and I encourage the administration to continue to do all we can to push back on China's unfair trade practices and attempt to turn the South China Sea into a lake controlled by China, thereby manipulating trillions of dollars worth of trade.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Arizona, who pointed

out some great things. We are going to talk about the South China Sea, or the East Sea, and what China has done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for hosting this Special Order tonight on China.

I was watching the news today like most other folks are, and part of the news says that the tariffs are the problem and the President is the problem. That is what they are literally saying in the United States of America today.

Ladies and gentlemen, the tariffs aren't the problem and the President isn't the problem. China is the problem. They have been the problem for a long time, but nobody in the United States has been willing to confront it.

For many years, China has pursued industrial policies and unfair trade practices that include dumping, discriminatory nontariff barriers, forced technology transfer, overcapacity, and industrial subsidies, all this to champion Chinese firms and make it literally impossible for American firms to compete. People say: Well, all these jobs went to China. All these jobs went overseas.

How do you think that happened? It happened because China is not a reasonable actor. They are not playing fair. They have not been playing fair, and they have been taking advantage of the United States and other countries for a very, very long time. Finally, there is a President who is willing to confront them.

Let's talk about China as the world's largest principal IP infringer, and their government actually encourages the theft of intellectual property.

People talk about the value of these tariffs. Nobody likes the tariffs in the United States. We don't want to have to do this, but we have limited options.

They said the cost of the tariffs. Well, how about the cost, annually, of IP theft, anywhere from \$225 billion to \$600 billion, including counterfeit goods, pirated software, and theft of trade secrets. That is every year, regardless of any tariff in the United States. That is just what the Chinese steal, sanctioned by the Chinese Government.

Our IP-intensive industries support at least 45 million U.S. jobs. Are we going to wait until all those head to China as well? For every high-tech job in the United States, five jobs are created indirectly in a local economy.

Actually, China accounts for 87 percent of counterfeit goods seized coming into the United States. It starts making you wonder why we allow any of their goods to come into the United States.

China conducts and supports cyber intrusions into the United States' computer networks to gain access to valuable research and business information so Chinese companies can just literally copy products and processes. What are some examples? Well, just things like a vacuum cleaner to solar panel technology.

Does anybody wonder why we buy so many solar panels from China? They stole them from us, and then they are selling them back to us. Who is the fool here?

And how about the blueprints to the Boeing C-17? Anybody deployed around the world lately in military uniform? It is good to know that China has the plans.

Hackers from China with ties to the government have been accused of breaking into gas companies, steel companies, and chemical companies. A Chinese Government company was indicted for stealing the secret chemical makeup of the color white from Dupont.

China developed its J-20 fighter plane, a plane similar to Lockheed-Martin's F-22 Raptor, shortly after a Chinese national was indicted for stealing technical data from Lockheed-Martin, including plans for the Raptor.

In 2010, Google went public in announcing that it had been hacked by the Chinese Government; and in December of 2018, two Chinese nationals were charged with hacking more than 45 companies in coordination with China's state security service.

These are just a few of the cases.

Just a couple of months ago, in *The Wall Street Journal*, it was reported that 27 universities located across the United States were targeted by Chinese hackers due to their involvement in research of military-use maritime technology. You heard some of the speakers just recently talk about China's newfound military and naval prowess.

Let's go into some of the CFIUS reports, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States. CFIUS ordered a Chinese health data analytics firm backed by Tencent to sell its majority stake in PatientsLikeMe, which helps connect people suffering from the same illness.

Why would China hack that, you wonder? Well, if you can think about any data that you have—your very, very personal data, including sicknesses that you might have—China actually wants that kind of stuff, and they don't have good intentions for it.

CFIUS blocked the \$1.2 billion purchase of MoneyGram, a money transfer firm, by Ant Financial, an Alibaba affiliate, on national security grounds.

In 2017, American officials warned that DJI, a leading drone maker, was probably sending data on critical infrastructure back to China's Government. The U.S. Army barred DJI drones from its bases. But if you don't know you have a DJI drone and you are operating on a military base, you can probably be self-assured that China is collecting the information and you are actually helping them.

How about this? In 2018, American Government agencies were banned from using cameras made by Hikvision, the world's biggest manufacturer of closed-circuit TV kits. We actually had to ban them, and the government was buying them. They are spying on us in

our own government buildings because we are buying their cameras, and we know it is happening.

It is incredible, ladies and gentlemen. China is the problem. It is not the President and it is not the tariff. It is what China does.

Then there is the race to 5G, which America must win. China is on pace to be the global leader in 5G technology. That is just how it is. They actually beat Ericsson, and now a spy state—a spy state—is on track to be the leader in 5G technology.

We simply must work with our allies to stop the introduction of Huawei equipment—that is who is making it—into foreign networks. It threatens the integrity of personal data, government secrets, military operations, and democratic principles.

When the United States military operates around the world, we use the backbone architecture oftentimes to communicate. If that backbone communications architecture has been made by Huawei, we might as well just be telling China exactly what we are doing. Our tactic, technique, procedures are all given up immediately to China.

Social media, medical services, gaming, location services, payment, and banking information, every single thing that happens over the internet, if it is happening over a Huawei 5G network, they are knowing about it.

The Pentagon, just last month, warned of "near persistent data transfer back to China." Near persistent, so just continuous data transfer. And they use this information to coerce and punish not only their own citizens, but people in countries around the world.

And again, the 2017 intelligence law in China requires any organization or citizen to support, assist, and cooperate with the security services of China's communist government.

Now, let's be clear here. We are not talking about the Chinese people, but we are talking about the Communist Party in China. We are talking about their leadership, and we are talking about their government. That is who we are talking about there.

Again, the Chinese dominance in 5G threatens future U.S. military operations. We will not be able to operate. We will have to set up our own network everywhere we go where Huawei is responsible for 5G networking. These are just national security risks that happen in Europe and across Africa.

You need to know, as well, that Huawei's equipment does not interoperate with any other vendor. So if you are using Huawei equipment, even if it is 4G, it doesn't interoperate with anything, so you are forced to buy Huawei for 5G if you want to advance.

Other people have talked about China's global influence—unrestricted warfare—in every single paradigm.

Ladies and gentlemen, the tariffs are not the problem. Unfortunately, China has been in an economic war with us for about four decades.

The President is not the problem. China and this malign behavior to us and democracies around the globe are the problem.

I am glad we are finally talking about it. I hope that the rest of our colleagues here in the House of Representatives will join us in researching and becoming aware and informed about China's activities and then supporting policies that deal with China's malign activities in our universities, technology transfer, and—you name it.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Pennsylvania, who is a brigadier general, and he has been on the front lines, for those remarks.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue on the rise of China and why it is important.

I think we have heard some great ideas today and some great dialogue, but this is something the American people need to pay attention to. This is something that our legislators need to pay attention to. This is something that we hear over and over again.

I have had the pleasure of being in Congress for 7 years, chairing the Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation Subcommittee in the last Congress, and I am the lead Republican in this Congress. The information we hear over and over again doesn't get better. In fact, what we find out is a more aggressive China that has raised all pretenses of the past, and I will talk about that.

Before I go into this too much, I want to start with this: China has an amazing history that spans thousands of years. Its culture has stayed, for the most part, intact until the 19th century.

□ 2000

At one point, China and most of Eurasia was under the control of Genghis Khan and the Mongolian Empire for over 100 years before the Khan dynasty lost to the prevailing emperors in the 19th century. I bring this up to counter China's nine dashed historical lines that they are making claim in the South China Sea and now their claim that they are now making near Arctic territory.

Later on in this dialogue, I want to talk about that because China predicated everything by saying: "Well, we historically have sailed in the South China Sea; therefore, it is ours." Now China is saying they are near the Arctic, so being near that, they want to claim that as theirs when international law says it is not so.

In fact, the Philippines took China to court over the South China Seas, and I will have some maps here that we will discuss later.

China went from a major economic power in the 18th century to a nation addicted to opium and taken over by European colonial powers and Japanese imperialism. During the 19th century, China's ruling class allowed their country to be taken over by European colonial powers while over 90 percent of their male population became addicted to opium.

And I want to highlight that because we are going to talk about the fentanyl and the opium that are coming into this country and what country they are coming from.

The cultural heritage and social fabric of China decayed, and China entered into a peasant state isolated from the world, for the most part, during the next 70 years. This truly was a century of shame.

The PLA, the People's Liberation Army, emerged in the twenties, in fact, in 1927. They will have a 100-year anniversary highlighting that in 2027.

Mao Zedong was a favored member of the PLA. He later became the Chairman of the Communist Party of China. He promised communism would be the savior of China, but, unfortunately, for the 70 to 80 million people who died under Mao's policy, for them, it was a disaster.

Mao did set a 100-year plan, though, for China to regain their stature lost. Maoism became a belief for many, which seems bizarre, knowing that history records millions of people's deaths were credited to his policies.

Then, a foreign policy by President Nixon and then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger invited China into the modern 20th century. Many today look back and realize that this was a massive misstep in foreign policy. The hope was that China would become a responsible partner in the modern world, but, unfortunately, China thrived at the expense of the United States and many other nations with heavily lopsided, one-way favored trade deals that favored China but nobody else. In the process, China became very strong and very wealthy.

Maoism gave way to the era of Deng Xiaoping, who realized at the time China could not compete with the U.S. or Japan in intellectual capacity or in manufacturing, but he had the foresight to corner the market in rare earth minerals. Deng Xiaoping's saying was: Bide your time and hide your strength. Today, China has virtually cornered the rare earth market that Deng Xiaoping spoke of in the 1980s.

In fact, the F-35s today, our highest tech fighters, the highest tech in the world, have been copied by China via intellectual theft. And the rare earth metals, the weight of an F-35 is approximately 10 percent. This is approximately 4,000 pounds.

Now, get this. Ninety percent of these metals come directly from China. The other 10 percent come from countries that get these metals from China. So Deng Xiaoping fulfilled a promise he made.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank the gentleman for conducting this Special Order. I appreciate the gentleman inviting me to come down here.

Just a few observations, if you will.

As I have watched the speeches tonight, there has been a litany of concerns about China's aggression, China's positioning, China's covert activities, China's willingness to engage in intellectual theft, China's pervasive influence all around the world.

I have been to China once. I found it to be highly engaging. I found the people that we were with to be very welcoming and warm. I am very grateful and try to be attentive to China's long-suffering and rich cultural history. And as China tells us, there is room enough in the Pacific for two superpowers, and I want to return to that point.

When I looked out of the window of the place where I was staying in Beijing, it looked as though fog had set in. But it wasn't fog; it was pollution. The air was so thick, you could hardly see maybe 20 feet. If you live in Beijing, it takes 5 years off your life because of the pollution.

In fact, I had one Chinese person whisper to me: "What is the point of all this economic development if it kills you?" And I really wanted to tell him: "Please, don't say that too loudly."

The point is that China has engaged in a series of unfair subsidies that create an unlevel playing field for trade. China's very system, a capitalistic-communist hybrid system is very different than ours. They are state players that receive direct subsidies that we don't have. The indirect cost of not having environmental regulation is a form of subsidy to industry. Low labor standards, the exploitation of persons, is another, and on and on.

So we can walk through the financial balance sheet as to who has what tariff and who doesn't, and who subsidized this and who doesn't, but, fundamentally, there are things in that equation that we, perhaps, haven't counted.

Another reality here is China has as their reason for being, it seems now, an economic nationalism. Now, we do, too, in America. Economics is important to us, but it stands alongside a spectrum of values of personal liberty, the exercise of opportunity, and the ability to engage in communal activity, free associations. We don't even think about these things.

These are very, very different propositions in China. One places himself at the service of the larger idea of the state. The person is subservient to the larger idea of the state.

Mr. YOHO. Exactly.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. And the person can operate within a certain band of liberties.

I saw it. People can move around. People can visit things.

But it is a certain band of liberties that, if you violate that, step beyond it, you contradict the nature of the system and could pay a very heavy price.

We see this in human rights violations, the lack of certain freedoms that we enjoy that we think are consistent with human dignity. And this is how it manifests itself.

I know you, Mr. YOHO, are very attentive to the issue of development, sustainable economic development, particularly for the world's poor, to conserve our resources, to use the best of the market systems for empowerment of space, for the flourishing of the individual. That then creates the opportunity for just governance and a healthy nationalism, and that is our ideal.

So, before the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, recently, Secretary Pompeo appeared, and I asked him a question. I said: Mr. Secretary, how much does China give in foreign assistance?

He had one of those moments where he didn't exactly know how to answer. I wasn't asking a question in order for him to give an answer, because we all know the answer: It is pretty minimal.

Mr. YOHO. It is.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. The United States gives away about \$25 billion a year, and that is in non-security assistance alone: trying to help the poor, to feed the poor, trying to create a space for food security, sustainable agriculture, conservation, medical care for the sickest around the world.

We do this because it is our impulse, our humanitarian impulse. We just don't sit around while other people die. We also do it because it facilitates relationships, economical and cultural. And, finally, when you have the factors that lead to stable societies, it is in our own security interest and the security of the world. So, for these reasons, we do these things.

So I asked the Secretary: How much does China give? It might be a sprinkling here or there. I don't exactly know the number. But for a country with this size of an economy, with this amount of power, with this amount of growth, with this amount of pervasive activity all around the world, particularly in the developing nations, there comes a set of responsibilities along with that.

I think that is really part of the attention here, underlying this current trade dispute. What are we both vying for?

I agree with the Chinese that there should be room enough for two superpowers in the Pacific, but you have got to come to some alignment about what it means to be in a fair, reciprocal relationship.

We have to do a better job of respecting the space of other people's history and tradition in the way they want to organize themselves around governance while, at the same time, upholding this

fundamental principle of human dignity, without which things just collapse into transactional relations that can come and go, or worse, when they are gone, lead to potential conflict.

We need a healthy relationship with China. We have gone through a litany of complaints about China tonight, but there are a couple other complaints I want to have, and it is looking inward at ourselves.

I think it is time for American businesses to do business in America.

Mr. YOHO. All right. You are singing a great song that I have shared with the AmChams, I have shared with other countries, and it is our philosophy of ABC. When you go to manufacture, it is anywhere but China.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. There is a small manufacturing facility in my district. They make a fairly generic, standardized product. I was a little surprised that they didn't have a relationship with the Chinese, and they said: "Oh, no. That R&D is rip-off and duplicate."

Mr. YOHO. That is exactly right.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. "That is why we won't deal with them."

That is a sad reality, because we ought to be able to deal, using a fair set of rules, with people who may be doing something better than we are and we do something better than they do, and we can benefit in reciprocal fashion.

But it has gotten so disordered because we shifted manufacturing there, and a lot of big businesses around this country make a lot of money off of poor environmental standards and poor labor standards imposed on other people.

Mr. YOHO. Exactly.

Can I get you to yield?

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Sure.

Mr. YOHO. You are leading into where I was going.

In 1990, President Clinton recommended China's entry into the WTO on a developing nation status. Yet today, they are the second largest economy in the world—second to the U.S.—and they are still a developing nation status. Yet they have a blue-water navy.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. So ask ourselves why. What are the incentives around here to change this?

Mr. YOHO. And they have a Moon program.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Well, why do we allow this to continue?

Mr. YOHO. Why do we allow it?

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Well, could it be that there are a lot of big-time transactions going on in our system itself that benefit a few big multinationals that have taken their manufacturing and planted it over there? They make the stuff, and we buy the stuff.

And this is the third point I want to make to you, which is, again, a little bit of self-reflection on our own role in this.

They make the stuff; we buy the stuff. We run up debt; they have the cash; they buy the debt.

So here we find ourselves in this very dysfunctional marriage of having shifted vast amounts of productive resources there because, supposedly, we can't make this more efficiently—supposedly. Really?

Mr. YOHO. Right. I don't buy into that either, and I am glad you brought that up.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. So we run up the debt, and they hold the debt.

And what is debt? Well, none of us around here really wants to face it—on our side of the aisle either, Republicans. It is a form of taxation.

Mr. YOHO. It is.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. It is just hidden from everyone. And the manifestation of it is a wealth shift of our country's assets into the hands of other people.

So we are talking about the military buildup. We are talking about the exploitation of resources, particularly in Africa, with no consideration of the environmental impact and no attacking of the subsequent problem of structural poverty that existed in a lot of places.

□ 2015

It is just taking things out and leaving not much behind, and that is not fair to the world's poor. The problem, again, is one of self-reflection that we have to have both in terms of the responsibility that America's business has because we have provided the infrastructure and the systems, through very large public subsidies, so they can thrive. It is incumbent upon them to take responsibility. Maybe it is time for American businesses to do business in America.

Secondly, is this issue of debt. Now, if this tension prolongs and the reality that China has a stick, and they start to refuse or dump treasuries, what is that going to do? Interest rates will go up.

Mr. YOHO. That is right.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, that is an impact on us, but it is one we are going to have to live with because we have done it to ourselves. There are a couple of lessons here: fair trade, mutual respect, smart trade, both people benefit.

Secondly, America's businesses will not get this public subsidy from us any longer through unfair trade practices that we allow.

The third lesson is: an honest confrontation about what debt really is. It is a hidden form of taxes, shifting the wealth assets of this country elsewhere into places like China, which we are complaining about are not using those assets in a way that we would like to see in a productive manner.

There is lots of blame to go around here, but I want to thank the gentleman for the opportunity to at least start to unpack this in an honest way.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman coming out.

I see this as a series of Special Orders on China, because the American people need to know this. When they go to a

shelf and buy something that is cheap, and they look at that and it says, "made in China," they are feeding this trade imbalance. So they are partly responsible for that.

As the gentleman well pointed out, if I fast forward to Xi Jinping, to the current era right now, the estimate is that there is a \$300-plus-billion—I heard it was \$400 billion—trade imbalance, I can't blame China for that. I blame our leaders since President Nixon.

For the last 40 or 50 years, somebody has dropped the ball or taken their eye off the ball. If you allow a trade imbalance of \$400-billion-plus, and then add to that the theft of intellectual properties that we have heard up to \$600 billion—I am sure you saw the DHS as they brought in products made by our manufacturers that went to China that are now coming from China, and it looks identical, yet, it is made by China. So it is robbing that profit and the jobs from American manufacturers that should go here, and it has to stop.

I commend the Trump administration for standing up to that. I think the gentleman brought this out.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, the reckoning is here.

Mr. YOHO. The reckoning is here.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. It has been hidden, but the consequences have been real. It is now on the surface. The day of reckoning is here.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, it is, and I hope the gentleman participates in these. Because that day of reckoning is here, and if we don't do it today, it is only going to get worse. So this is something that we have to come together as Americans. It is not President Trump out there. It is not some of the businesses that are bold enough to stand with him.

We, the American people, need to stand behind him, and I think the gentleman brought this up that this is not a fight with the Chinese people. It is the system that is running unfair trade balances.

Mr. Speaker, what I would like to bring up, going back to my notes here is, we are in the era of Xi Jinping. I don't think our disagreement is with the Chinese people, but it is with the policies of Xi Jinping and the Chinese or the Communist Party of China.

The 2017 Congress of the Communist Party of China was held in October of 2017. During that time, Xi Jinping kind of came out and was very bold in his statements. He said: The era of China has arrived. No longer will they be made to swallow their interests around the world. It is time for China to take the world's stage.

The gentleman brought this up. There is plenty of room on the world's stage if you want to be fair and balanced, and you want to play like everybody else, but you have to honor international law. You have to honor the rule of law, honoring contracts, honoring the beliefs that we have to be a respected trading partner.

We penned an editorial that talked about Xi Jinping is leading—along with

the Communist Party which is 90 million members—is leading China into a second century of shame, and it is because they are losing face. They are losing honor that the Chinese culture, over millennia, built up. They were respected. But they are getting ready to enter into the second century of shame, and I would like for Mr. FORTENBERRY to continue.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, to elaborate on a concept that I talked about earlier is this idea of human dignity, and where does culture, ideals, learning, and the pursuit of truth come from?

It comes from this sacred space, if you will. And when that is subsumed to the larger interest of the state where you are compelled to act only within certain parameters, where you have to submit yourself to this bigger idea of economic nationalism, it can't define itself because it doesn't know where it is going, so it just churns and churns. It has to be more and more and more with environmental effects, effects on culture, and effects on relationships around the world.

One final point before I leave you. The head of the United States Agency for International Development, Mark Green, a former Member of Congress, former Ambassador to Tanzania, had this to say before us recently: China, they are predatory lenders.

Mr. YOHO. Yeah.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. They are acting, again, with their superpower status around the world, basically convicting leaders in tougher places around the world that are desperate for the right types of build-out and infrastructure to attack structural poverty and to help stop the types of injustice that are there when people simply do not have a system that allows them to reach their full potentiality.

They are being forced to mortgage off various assets they have, rather than being in a robust partnership and alignment with a superpower who is interested in perhaps the right type of development, sustainability and conservation, and to build out a just governance.

So countries are having to mortgage off ports and other pieces of infrastructure in order to get Chinese money. Again, there is a resource movement out of these places into the Chinese hands in order to feed, just continue to feed this economic nationalism which has no broader purpose.

Mr. YOHO. Right.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. And that is the issue. So China, maybe they will see this. Our charge here is to try to do some self-reflection ourselves about the nature of our system and what we have done.

But also, with the hand of friendship extended, say to the Chinese: A transactional relationship is not an architecture for the 21st century, for the thriving of civilization as the world gets smaller and smaller and more and more integrated.

This predatory lending in the world's toughest places is a disastrous policy and completely inconsistent and contradictory to what a leader in the world, because of superpower status and economic power status, ought to be pursuing.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his time.

The gentleman brought up a good point about China. If you read about the Chinese Communist Party, the role of the individual is to serve the party. There is no higher entity in China other than Xi Jinping. Whereas in our government, we are so blessed in this country because we have a government that empowers their people. China suppresses their people, and that is why I want to talk about this.

This comes from a 2012 House Intelligence Committee report where they deemed Huawei and ZTE to be a U.S. national security threat. I have got the results of that right here. So we want to talk about that.

Huawei and ZTE, from 2012 until today, they have been a national security threat, but they have been able to do business in this country. This is something we need to bring to an end.

Other speakers brought up how universities were falling prey to China. We had our own university in Florida that Huawei came in and offered to set up a cybersecurity program, and they were going to fund it. And we said: No way. And so we got them to stop that.

If you just go to the headlines and you can hear how China is ramping up in intellectual property theft. They are paid to do this. This is something they want to go after, and they are doing it.

They rail against the United States on GMOs, yet, they go to Iowa and steal corn seeds so that they can grow GMO and be in competition with us.

The trade war with China and the problems with intellectual property rights, this is something that goes on every day. And as we buy cheap products made in China, this is benefiting them, not us. You can see the headlines here.

What I want to do is move on to Hong Kong with Xi Jinping. Back when Great Britain gave Hong Kong back to China in 1997, under the rulers of China at that time, there was a 50-year agreement that Hong Kong would be an autonomous, self-ruled nation. Twenty-two years into the program, China has put their heavy foot down. China has disrupted the autonomous rule of Hong Kong to the point where Xi Jinping had the nerve to say this on the world stage; as far as he was concerned, that agreement was null and void.

I want to bring that up because if we talk about if that agreement is null and void with Hong Kong, if we go back to the agreement of Taiwan under Nixon and Kissinger when they said that Taiwan is recognized as one country, two systems, and autonomous rule, if China and Xi Jinping can discount that agreement with Great Britain, does that give us the right to discount one country, two systems?

Is it time to recognize Taiwan as an independent country, a thriving democracy, our eleventh largest trading partner?

I want to bring up the South China Sea.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I will try to tighten this up.

Mr. Speaker, China, in the South China Sea, has started claiming property that is not theirs. It goes off to nine historical lines that come from antiquity, from 300 or 400 years ago. And they said: Well, we used to sail here, so this is our property.

So they started building these islands, and they went off the coast of the Philippines, and the Philippines took them to the Court of Arbitration in The Hague, and China lost the lawsuit. China ignored the ruling of The Hague, an international norm that we are all supposed to follow. They ignored it, and here you have the Spratly Islands that were little atolls sticking shallowly out of the water at low tide.

China has gone in there, and it is probably the biggest environmental insult to this world, where they have dredged up over 4,000 acres of land and they have built these land masses. I refuse to use the word "island" because that gives credibility to China.

What they have done is built—illegally, against the environment, against the ruling of international law—land masses in the East China Sea.

President Xi Jinping had the gump-tion to come here to the United States during President Obama's era in 2015, he went to the Rose Garden and claimed: We will never militarize these islands.

Yet, today, there are runways on there that can accommodate military planes. Our satellites show that there are military barracks, offensive and defensive weapons, and radar systems. I think it is pretty well militarized. They are doing that again and again and again. There are four islands they have done now.

Their goal is to go to the next chain of islands which is closer to our mainland. This is something the world has to stand up to. If not, they are going to keep continuing to march forward.

This is a photo of when they started, and this is more of the dredging. We don't have the one that shows them completed, but you can find it on the internet.

Now we are at the China of today. China has perfected 5G technology. China today has over 800 million CCTV cameras, closed-circuit television cameras, and they have put a system in place where they monitor their systems.

□ 2030

Today in China there are over 24 million citizens being monitored, and they

get issued by the Communist Party a good citizen score. But, Mr. Speaker, you don't know what your score is. So when you show up to travel, if your score is not high enough, then you get denied travel. If you go to borrow money or use your banking system, you are denied your banking system. Your kids can't go to the colleges you want them to go to because you are denied because you are a bad citizen. They have extended this and offered this to Russia; they have extended this and offered it to Maduro in Venezuela; and Iran wants this technology.

What better way for a despotic or authoritarian or Communist regime to control their citizens than the CC technology?

China uses technology to suppress their citizens to fall in line so that they serve the Communist Party. Our government empowers our people to reach their full potential.

I will close with this last thing, Mr. Speaker. China has interned over 2 million Muslim Chinese ethnic people, the Uyghurs, in what they call reeducation camps.

I want to show you this poster here, Mr. Speaker. This is a reeducation camp. That means they just go there because they want to learn new skills. This is what China is doing with the Uyghurs, the Muslim population. Not only that but they have armed crematoriums that are in place in these camps.

I've got to ask you, Mr. Speaker, when you have got a place that looks like a prison, I don't believe it is there for education. We went through World War II and the Holocaust. This Nation and all other nations said: "Never again."

Mr. Speaker, it is happening right now in China. We need to pivot away from China buying stuff, and we need to encourage our manufacturers to go anywhere but China.

I don't want a conflict with China. Nobody does. But if we stand up collectively together and we encourage manufacturers to go, then we can get China's attention via their pocketbook and we can change the course of the history of this world.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your patience, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the threat to religious liberty and religious toleration in the People's Republic of China is of grave concern. Over the past several years there has been an ever increasing intolerance of religious minorities.

Article 36 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees the freedom of religious belief. Yet the rights and safety of religious minorities in the country are very much in question.

China is the home to nearly 90 million Christians, and the country is anticipated to be home to the most Christians in the world by 2030. Yet, over the last several years, the percentage of persecution cases have risen year over year. Furthermore, the government has increasingly required churches to be state ap-

proved, churches have been razed and worshippers subjected to detainment, physical interrogation, and thought reform conditioning.

In the west, in Xinjiang Province, the United Nations has reported the government to be holding roughly one million Uyghurs without charge. Those who have escaped have testified to being repeatedly told that God did not exist and that they would only be fed after acknowledging the greatness of communism.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage this Congress and our President to take appropriate actions to promote religious freedom of religious minorities in the People's Republic of China.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5, EQUALITY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 312, MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 987, MARKETING AND OUTREACH RESTORATION TO EMPOWER HEALTH EDUCATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. SCANLON (during the Special Order of Mr. YOHO), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-61) on the resolution (H. Res. 377) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 312) to reaffirm the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 987) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal exchange outreach and educational activities, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELLEN TAUSCHER

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, tonight is a very special night for many of us. Tonight, we honor the memory of an extraordinary Representative, Ellen Tauscher, who served the Contra Costa area of California for almost two decades.

She died nearly 3 weeks ago. Tonight is our first opportunity to come to the floor and to pay tribute to her. I had the pleasure of knowing her before she became a Member of Congress and then during her years in Congress and I also had the unique opportunity to take her seat when she retired to become the Assistant Secretary of State.

So tonight, we pay tribute to this extraordinary woman. We do this in recognition of the work that she did on Wall Street, the work that she did here in the House of Representatives, and

her unyielding desire to reduce nuclear risks throughout the world.

To conduct the rest of tonight's tribute, I am turning to a woman who served with Ellen for all of the years that she was in Congress, a woman who is the leader of the Democratic Members of California, ZOE LOFGREN.

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

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELLEN TAUSCHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise really on behalf of the entire California delegation to honor our friend and former colleague, Ellen Tauscher, who passed away much too soon last month at the age of 67.

Ellen was a trailblazer in virtually everything she did in her remarkable life, and her passing is a great loss not only to California, not only to our country, but to the world.

I met Ellen when she ran for office, but I got to know her here. I recall so well Democratic Congresswomen—and there weren't as many of us at the time—all telling their own personal story and all of us being kind of surprised that we came from modest beginnings. Ellen was born in Newark, New Jersey. Her father was a shop steward at the UFCW, and he was at the Shop Rite store in Union City. Her mom, like my mom, was a secretary. But, she went on, because this country gave her an opportunity, she got a great education, and, of course, then, as will be said later tonight, became one of the youngest and one of the first women to become a member of the New York Stock Exchange.

She excelled in the issue of childcare. She wrote a book and did some technology about that before she ran for office.

But I ran into her in 1996 when I had been in Congress just a short time, and she decided and actually was recruited to run against a very conservative gentleman who had been in the House, but was really more conservative than his district, especially when it came to being pro-choice and the need to do something sensible about gun violence. I remember Ellen had a parade when she ran for office, and people were cheering her on. I thought: This woman is going to win this seat.

Sure enough, she did.

She was so popular and so different than the predecessor. People were talking about Tauscherism in the State of California, using her last name as an -ism. Really what it was was a very sensible, business-oriented approach, heavily interested in technology but wedded with good values that reflected her constituency: pro-choice, pro-education, pro-equal rights, pro-LGBTQ

rights, and that was what she brought to this body.

We remember her for the mark that she left on this institution. She continued to lead on the Armed Services Committee where she chaired the Strategic Forces Subcommittee and was a leading figure on arms control policy.

She also worked on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in a remarkable way. Not only was she a national leader on environmentally sustainable transportation policy, as a founding member of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Caucus, she also delivered for her district. It really mattered to her that she got a widening of the Sunol Grade on 680 which made a difference, not only for her district but for mine, as people were trying to commute between the two regions.

She got a fourth bore for the Caldecott Tunnel so that commuters could get around. She played a leadership role securing funding for the BART extension to the San Francisco Airport and her work to get the Army Corps to fund the dredging of the Port of Oakland.

I am particularly excited by the work we did together for the Lawrence Livermore National Lab as well as the Sandia Lab. She was so interested in the National Ignition Facility. She saved the funding, she was there at the groundbreaking, she was there when we opened the facility, and she really believed that the science that was going on there would change the world, and I still believe that it will.

But here in the House I think all of us will remember her as the presiding officer. Ellen was completely unflappable. I can remember when we had the worst, most contentious issues, we knew it would be okay because Ellen would take the dais and she would preside. She would help people calm down, focus on the disagreements, and adhere to the rules of the House. Nothing could shake her ability to preside in a wise, thoughtful, and very calm way over the House of Representatives.

We had such fun with her. Women Members went out to dinner with her and shared stories. She never put up with nonsense. She was very matter of fact. She had a wicked sense of humor, but she was someone with tremendous integrity. Of course, as we know, that integrity, expertise, and vision was recognized when President Obama nominated her to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. She was confirmed and left the House.

She did important things in that office. She helped negotiate the New START Treaty with the Russian Federation—the first agreement signed with Russia in nearly 20 years—and it was ratified by the U.S. Senate.

After leaving the Department of State, she continued to make contributions. She served on the Board of Regents for the University of California.

She continued to make sure that the science at Lawrence Livermore National Lab was protected and also at Los Alamos. She continued in her efforts to make sure that the cutting edge was always protected as a member of the Board of Advisors of SpaceX, eHealth, and other important technology businesses.

These achievements really don't do justice to Ellen's legacy. I know from our many good times talking with her, her funny irreverence and her smart insight, the one thing that she loved more than anything else on this Earth was her wonderful daughter, Katherine, who I hope is watching tonight. We loved Ellen Tauscher, and she loved Katherine.

Not every Member who planned to be here this evening was able to. We will make sure that all of the statements are entered into the RECORD.

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the dean of the California delegation and a good friend of Ellen's for yielding.

Ellen was one of my closest friends in the Congress of the United States. I think Ellen and I voted the same about almost every time the lights were turned on and the votes were requested.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOFGREN and the California delegation for organizing this tribute.

I rise to join in remembering a dear, dear friend, an outstanding colleague, and a respected public servant.

In recent days, I have been asked to describe Ellen. Words that come to mind are extraordinarily accomplished, stateswoman, a diplomat, an expert in our Nation's defense as a member of the Armed Services Committee and as a member of the State Department, and a politician in the best sense of the word. Her skill in rallying disparate interests behind a common objective was, I think, almost unmatched.

Ms. LOFGREN referred to her as presiding. She was a Democrat presiding in a House in which all respected her, which is why she was so effective. She would look to the Republican side of the aisle, and she would tap the gavel. They would know she knew what was right, and they did not want to cross her.

Her determination not to be swayed from the principles to which she always remained true was a hallmark of Ellen Tauscher. Many in the House and in our country will remember Ellen for having been one of the first women, as has been pointed out, on the New York Stock Exchange at the age of 25.

I can imagine there were a lot of old bulls on Wall Street who said, what is that young woman, that young, blonde, beautiful woman doing sitting on the Stock Exchange, a seat on the Stock Exchange?

And the answer to that question: Damn well—like everything she did.

Many will remember her for the 13 years she represented California in the Congress and for her very successful tenure as a top arms control negotiator with the Russians. But I will remember her as one of my dearest and closest friends in the House.

I will never forget Ellen's kindness, sincerity, advice, counsel, and loyalty. I will never forget her honesty and her intellect. Neither will I forget Ellen's determination to see each of us here, regardless of our party or background, as a true colleague in service.

That is how she was able to be so successful as a legislator.

□ 2045

As chairwoman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee, she was respected not only as a presiding officer but also for the depth of her knowledge as it related to our national security and for the fact that she was always genuine.

You knew that Ellen Tauscher was not taking a position for show. She was taking it because she believed deeply that it was in the best interest of our country.

Because of her work on the Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee and extraordinary efforts as a diplomat, Americans are safer today.

Ellen worked tirelessly during the Obama administration to negotiate the New START Treaty, which reduced American and Russian nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels in more than half a century. In that pursuit, she drew on the same indomitable nature, attention to detail, and determination to achieve results that made her so successful in business, in the Congress, and as a campaigner for Senator FEINSTEIN.

She chaired Senator FEINSTEIN's first two campaigns for the United States Senate, and DIANNE FEINSTEIN was one of her closest friends.

I join the Senator from California in expressing my deep sadness at the loss of my dear friend, and I join with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who have said, very rightly, that, with Ellen's passing, this institution has lost one of its most outstanding former Members.

My thoughts are with Katherine, who, as ZOE LOFGREN said, she adored. We may have been her good friends, but we were a far-back second to Katherine, a beautiful young woman in her own right, a wonderful athlete, and like her mother, bright, ambitious, fair, and loving.

We send our sympathy to her entire family. May Ellen's memory be an inspiration to all of us in this House to serve in the way she served: with honor, with humility—humility but also great self-confidence—and with determination to see every vote as an opportunity to do right by those who sent us here.

That is what Ellen did every day during her tenure.

I thank Ellen for her service. I thank her for her friendship. I thank her for making America better. We miss her.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, all of us knew Ellen in a different way, but those who served with her on the Armed Services Committee knew her work there, so I would like to recognize the gentlewoman from California, SUSAN DAVIS, who served not only in the delegation with Ellen but also on the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS).

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be here this evening and to have a chance to talk about my friend and my colleague, Ellen Tauscher.

Ellen, as we are all hearing, was really a trailblazer. She was a trailblazer, a businesswoman. She was a single mom, a philanthropist, a diplomat, a mentor, and for so many of us, a dear friend.

If you were a woman in California politics in the last three decades, Ellen probably had a significant impact on your life. She showed us all that kindness and charity can go with strength and wit.

We all have personal experience with Ellen. I actually met Ellen about 1996, I think it was. We happened to be at a National Women's Political Caucus meeting.

What was funny about that is that we kind of caught one another's eye. We have heard people talk about no-nonsense Ellen. Something was going on. We were a little impatient, and we kind of both looked at each other like: Is this really what we came for?

That was the start of a friendship.

When she learned later that I was considering running for Congress, she got in touch with me. She said: If you are coming to D.C., then I have a place for you to stay. Please stay at my house, and let's have a chance to talk, sit down and really get to know one another.

That was pretty cool because, as I said, it had just been a small encounter that we had had sometime before.

So we sat at her dinner table, and I remember asking her about what she was doing and what she was learning in Congress. She told me about the Strategic Forces Subcommittee, and I was really very impressed with that because the thought of working on arms control just seemed like, first, a fantasy and, then, just a really hard thing to do.

She said that one of the reasons that she was interested in doing that, aside from the fact that she lived so close to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and she had a real interest in having them be a premier lab for much of the testing in the future, was she felt that she wanted to show that women could do that job.

Of course, we knew that she was the one who was capable to do that and probably was the first woman to have served on that committee.

I remember, too, at her table, just talking about her daughter, Katherine, and how proud she was of Katherine,

all her hopes and dreams for her, and how tough it was being a mom and also wanting to make her schedule work for her daughter.

Then, of course, as a colleague on HASC, we were both on the committee when our country faced the great tragedy of 9/11, and just being able to respond to so many of the issues around that.

I always went to Ellen when we had a chance to talk about what we either had to vote on or what we were facing on the committee. Sometimes I would share with her: I am not sure what to do in this instance.

She would look me straight in the eye, as she would always—and you can tell in her eyes here—with that kind of wry smile. She would say: SUSAN, you are going to do the right thing.

Honestly, it gave me the confidence to do the right thing, and I knew that Ellen was going to do that as well.

A number of years into her term and the great job that she did here presiding in the House, at the request of President Clinton, she became and was able to be interviewed for and go before the Senate as Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, as people have mentioned.

In that role, she traveled extensively and was really the face of our country in those negotiations with the Russians. Quite honestly, from the discussions that I had with Ellen, I think they didn't know what to make of her because she was so direct and so strong. She wouldn't take anybody's nonsense in that role.

We were all so proud of her, knowing what she was able to accomplish, and people have referred to that as well.

I want to be mindful here of the role that she played on nuclear weapons policy, how she came at that, and how she felt it was so important for a woman to be in that position someday.

She didn't know that she was going to be the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security. I don't think she even thought that was a possibility at one time, but she wanted to be ready. She wanted to be prepared. That is what she did so much of her life.

Following a number of years facing cancer, being a survivor and all that she went through with the best attitude in the world, even in recent months, she was still speaking before the Armed Services Committee on nuclear weapons policy.

Her work on nuclear security made this world measurably safer and will have a lasting impact on future generations.

We relied so much on her knowledge and her counsel as we considered the most sobering aspect of national security: weapons with the power to destroy life as we know it on this planet. We looked to Ellen for that.

While her work was critically important, always, for Ellen, her family came first. So our thoughts today are with her daughter, Katherine, everyone

who was close to her in her community, and those she worked with throughout this world. Our thoughts are with all of them, and our blessings go with that.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, all of us, as I said, knew Ellen in different ways. I was surprised that the gentlewoman from Florida probably knew Ellen Tauscher longer than anyone else in this body, and I am so pleased to recognize DONNA SHALALA.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA).

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the California delegation for giving me this opportunity.

I met Ellen Tauscher in the 1980s when I was the director of the American Stock Exchange and she was an officer. She was brilliant, and she had a heart of gold.

We worked together again in the 1990s when she was elected to Congress. She hadn't changed. She could still focus, razor sharp, on any issue.

She was a classic citizen legislator. She had had a previous extraordinary career in finance and then committed herself to public service. All of us who knew and worked and played with her loved her. Actually, we had a date this month for dinner at her favorite Georgetown restaurant.

She will be missed as a kind, warm, and wonderful friend, as a classy colleague. She will be remembered as a patriot who loved her country and served it well.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, talking about how we each knew Ellen in different ways, she was very active in the New Democrat Coalition. We have someone who served with her as one of her cohorts, as a New Democrat who, I believe, chaired it with her at one time. I am happy to recognize RON KIND.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California, first of all, for recognizing me tonight but also for securing this Special Order to honor one of our great friends and great colleagues in this institution, Ellen Tauscher. I also thank JOHN GARAMENDI for helping to organize tonight's Special Order as well.

Ellen was a true patriot. She was a great American, someone who loved the congressional district that allowed her to represent them, loved her home State, and loved our country even more.

I got to know Ellen as a member of the incoming class of 1997. We were both present at the creation of the New Democrat Coalition. It didn't exist back then, until we first joined. Then, with the help of Cal Dooley, another California Representative; Tim Roemer; Jim Moran; and ADAM SMITH, who is now chairing the Armed Services Committee and was also one of the founding Members, we helped form the New Democrat Coalition, where Ellen really excelled in her leadership. It was

fun getting to work with her on such a personal level.

The committees to which she was assigned were a perfect fit for her and for the district and State she represented: the Armed Services Committee, where she developed such great expertise and knowledge on national security issues, but especially with the arms control issue that she became world renowned over; the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, with all of the work that she did to help rebuild America the way it should be, but especially the infrastructure projects that were so crucial to her area of California that she would fight doggedly over on that committee; and then her work on the Science Committee, which really fit in well with her leadership role with the New Democrat Coalition.

The New Dems were a group of Members here in the Democratic Caucus who were more moderate, more pragmatic. To Ellen, being moderate and pragmatic wasn't an ideology; it was a way of life, a way of being able to get things done in an institution where it is sometimes very difficult to get things accomplished.

She was always looking to find those bipartisan coalitions in order to get things across the finish line, being respectful and listening, especially to our colleagues across the aisle, knowing that there was common ground to be had that we could work on together in order to represent the interests that she represented in California but all our interests here in this country.

On the Science Committee, she was devoted, as she was with the New Democrat Coalition, to making sure that our country remained the most innovative, competitive, and creative nation in the world, especially at a time of great technological change.

She came in with me in the late 1990s during the information revolution that was taking place, the dot-com era, with, of course, a tremendous impact in California, as it had throughout the rest of the country, being able to wrap our arms around that, understanding the vast implications that this was going to have on American competitiveness abroad. How to stay on that cutting edge of new discovery in the global information technology economy while also making sure that none of our citizens were left behind with that rapid change and our role in that global economy, that was something Ellen was deeply devoted to, something that she took up as chair of the New Democrat Coalition over two terms, making sure that we were spending time to understand the policy implications of the high-tech revolution, artificial intelligence, robotics, and the role our country can play in advancing that.

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Again, how can we best empower all Americans so that they can be full participants of that global economy and rapid change? We haven't always done a good job at that, quite frankly.

I think that is one of the reasons there is so much consternation and even anger back home, because many people feel that they haven't been empowered with the skills they need to be full participants and to be successful in this highly charged economy.

That was something that Ellen recognized and was devoted to trying to find answers to when she showed up at work every day.

It was a great honor to be able to serve with her in that coalition and to later assume the chair position from her in order to continue to build it.

I know Ellen was particularly proud of last fall's election, the fact that 41 of the new Democratic Members who joined Congress decided to join the New Democrat Coalition, putting our number up to 101, which was unfathomable at the time we were starting the coalition in the late 1990s, let alone just in recent years.

It shows that the New Dems have a very important role to play, as Ellen recognized, in helping to shape the agenda and the policies that will make sense and work for the people back home.

I appreciated being able to work closely with her in that capacity. I learned a lot from the skills that she brought, with her varied interests and backgrounds that she had before Congress. As was mentioned earlier, she was one of the first women to hold a seat on the New York Stock Exchange, a very accomplished business person herself.

I think that is, in a lot of ways, where she derived her political pragmatism from, being able to get things done, and the role that she played in the respective committees, in the coalition, and in the friendships and partnerships that she was able to form so successfully here in Congress.

She wasn't one who took no for an answer. She always felt that there was a path to success in whatever endeavor she performed. That is why it made perfect sense that, in the first Obama term, he, along with Secretary Clinton, appointed her for Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security. It was perfect for her personal background and portfolio, and she became the negotiating face of America when she was out negotiating the arms control treaties.

Everyone knew, with great confidence, that when Ellen entered that negotiating room, there would be no one more prepared, no one who had done their homework more than she.

It even went beyond the intricacies and the complexities of arms control and nuclear reduction. It was also getting to understand and appreciate where the negotiators across the table were coming from, the political constituencies that they had to answer to back home.

With her own political background, I think she brought that bigger perspective to these negotiations. Because of that, the success that she was able to

achieve on behalf of our country was something that she was able to achieve with her negotiating counterparts from across the table. That is a skill that we need to cherish and recognize more, quite frankly, in our various agencies throughout government.

When she stepped down from that position, she immediately was sworn in as Special Envoy for Strategic Stability and Missile Defense at the State Department. It was just the next iteration of that skill set that she brought in the course of these negotiations.

She represented us so very, very well. We were all so proud of her, those of us who had gotten to know her throughout the years, seeing what she was able to accomplish in her post-Congress career, still finding a way to serve her Nation in a different capacity.

She will be deeply missed. She was loved by those who knew her in this institution.

Of course, she had a daughter, Katherine, whom she adored above anyone else. As much fun as it was serving with Ellen when we came in, in 1997, and throughout the years, it was perhaps as much fun watching Katherine grow up in our midst, seeing her become such the accomplished and beautiful young woman that she is today. Ellen was so proud of that.

On behalf of the Class of 1997, on behalf of the New Democrat Coalition, we thank Katherine and the entire Tauscher family for sharing Ellen with us through these years of her public service, first in Congress and then during the Obama administration.

She was a great friend, great colleague, great Representative for her district in California. More importantly, she was a great American and a great patriot who believed in the future of our country.

She will be sorely missed but never forgotten, the accomplishments that she was able to achieve throughout her distinguished career here and throughout her entire life.

May God bless her and take her into His care.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, much has been said about the New Dems, and I would like to recognize the current New Dem chair. I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER).

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for organizing today's Special Order to celebrate the life of Ellen Tauscher.

I didn't serve with Ellen. I had the opportunity to meet her and enjoyed that, and I now have the distinct honor of serving in a role that she held, not just previously but exceptionally, as chair of the New Democrat Coalition.

As my friend from Wisconsin said, the New Dems is made up of forward-

thinking, pro-growth, pro-innovative, and fiscally responsible Democrats. This Congress, we have 101 members, making us now the largest ideological caucus in the House. It is the largest the coalition has ever been.

It is safe to say, and it is certainly not hyperbole to say, that this coalition would not be what it is if it wasn't for Ellen Tauscher. The coalition came into existence with the election of Ellen Tauscher and several other current and former colleagues back in 1996.

Shortly after she took office, Peter Beinart wrote a profile piece about Ellen and the New Democrats in *Time* magazine. In it, Beinart describes the early days of a growing New Democrat Coalition that represented predominantly suburban districts across the country. He declared the Democratic center was moving toward what he called Tauscherism, a phrase that stuck around to describe the socially progressive, fiscally moderate, pro-business focus that were many of the policies New Democrats advocated not just then but now as well.

Ellen quickly gained respect, both in the coalition and within the broader Caucus. She was elected to the serve as the New Dem chair in 2005 and served in that position until 2009 when she left Congress to serve as Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs at the State Department.

As chair, Ellen made a consequential impact on the direction of the New Democrat Coalition. Under her chairmanship, the coalition fought for a forward-looking innovation agenda, strong national defense, and more effective government.

Ellen also rose in leadership positions on the Armed Services Committee, chairing the Strategic Forces Subcommittee. She worked closely with our leadership when Democrats took the majority in 2007, to help shepherd landmark legislation through the Congress.

Those who knew her well, and you have heard from many of them tonight, remember her tenacity, her creativity, and her patriotism. Since her passing, we have heard from former colleagues and friends about the extraordinary impact that Ellen made on their lives and on them.

They say the measure of a person's life is the impact they have on others. From this measurement alone, it is very clear that Ellen lived a life of purpose. We are so thankful for the time that she spent here, for the time she spent blazing a trail for the New Democrat Coalition.

We are absolutely keeping Ellen's daughter, Katherine, and the entire Tauscher family in our thoughts and

prayers this month as we celebrate her extraordinary life and her extraordinary legacy.

Again, I thank our colleague from California for organizing this Special Order in honor of Ellen's life.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I think so many of us in the House could think of the different things we did with Ellen. As I was listening, I was remembering her capacity to reach agreement. She was a legislator, and whether it was reaching across the aisle or disagreements even within the Democratic Party, she was always trying to come up with a solution that would make the country better.

I remember a disagreement we had. We were good friends, but we had a disagreement on a legislative issue. There was a disagreement in the Democratic Party, and we had a big meeting. Rather than let people fight, we stood in front of the group and we actually drafted the compromise that would move us forward in the course of about 20 minutes. It was an extraordinary experience for both of us and especially for the new Members who had never seen legislators actually legislating themselves.

I know that there are people throughout the House who have such memories, and I hope that they will be able to put them into the RECORD, keeping Katherine and the entire Tauscher family in their prayers.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and May 15 on account of district business.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 299, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 299

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—													
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2019–2024	2019–2029	
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT														
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	–10	–17	38	63	59	62	63	65	68	–469	135	–75	
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.														

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 987, the Strengthening Health Care and Lowering Prescription Drugs Costs Act (Rules Committee Print 116–14), for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 987 (RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–14)

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—													
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2019–2024	2019–2029	
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT														
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Effects	0	–79	–177	–167	–38	59	83	195	269	297	454	–403	895	
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.														

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1060, the BUILD Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1313, the Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1003. A letter from the Deputy Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of violations of the Antideficiency Act: Department of the Navy (Naval Supply Systems Command N 17-01), pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; Public Law 97-258; (96 Stat. 926); to the Committee on Appropriations.

1004. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter issuing a travel restriction on senior Department of Defense officials' travel to Afghanistan from May 15, 2019 through September 30, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1005. A letter from the Management Analyst, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulations Affecting Military Reservations [Docket ID: USA-2018-HQ-0015] (RIN: 0702-AA95) received May 9, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1006. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicaid Program; Reassignment of Medicaid Provider Claims [CMS-2413-F] (RIN: 0938-AT61) received May 9, 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.

1007. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity, Department of Energy, transmitting a report titled "Review of Recent Cost-Benefit Studies Related to Net Metering and Distributed Solar"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1008. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Amendments to Federal Implementation Plan for Managing Air Emissions from True Minor Sources in Indian

Country in the Oil and Natural Gas Production and Natural Gas Processing Segments of the Oil and Natural Gas Sector [EPA-HQ-OAR-2014-0606; FRL-9993-43-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AT96) received May 10, 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.

1009. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio; Redesignation of the Lake County Sulfur Dioxide Non-attainment Area [EPA-R05-OAR-2018-0224; FRL-9993-54-Region 5] received May 10, 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.

1010. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guide — Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Plants [Regulatory Guide 1.97, Revision 5] received May 9, 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.

1011. A letter from the Director, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's FY 2018 No FEAR Act Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

1012. A letter from the Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, USCIS, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary rule — Exercise of Time-Limited Authority to Increase the Fiscal Year 2019 Numerical Limitation for the H-2B Temporary Nonagricultural Worker Program [CIS No.: 2646-19; DHS Docket No.: USCIS-2019-0008] (RIN: 1615-AC38) received May 9, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1013. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Annual Report on Disability-Related Air

Travel Complaints received During Calendar Year 2017, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Sec. 41705(c)(3); Public Law 103-272, Sec. 41705(c)(3) (as added by Public Law 106-181, Sec. 707(a)(3)); (114 Stat. 158); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1014. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Louisville, KY [Docket Number: USCG-2018-0168] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1015. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Markers 99.3 to 100.3 Above Head of Passes, New Orleans, LA [Docket Number: USCG-2018-1108] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1016. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Safe Harbor for Trades of Player Contracts and Draft Picks (Revenue Procedure 2019-18) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1017. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Rulings and determinations letter (Revenue Procedure 2019-22) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1018. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Request for Comments on Necessary Clarifications to Normalization Requirements for Excess Tax Reserves Resulting from the Corporate Tax Rate Decrease [Notice 2019-33] received May 10, 2019, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1019. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Cash distributions in redemption of stock of former S corporations during the post-termination transition period (Revenue Ruling 2019-13) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1020. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2018 Section 45K(d)(2)(C) Reference Price [Notice 2019-28] received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1021. A letter from the Director, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Request for Comments on Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration [Notice 2019-32] received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1022. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Limited Expansion of the Determination Letter Program for Individually Designed Plans (Revenue Procedure 2019-20) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1023. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Regulation To Require Drug Pricing Transparency [CMS-4187-F] (RIN: 0938-AT87) received May 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

1024. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, National Science Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's direct final rule — Conservation of Antarctic Animals and Plants (RIN: 3145-AA59) received May 9, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology and Natural Resources.

1025. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; Changes to the Medicare Claims and Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Determination Appeals Procedures [CMS-4174-F] (RIN: 0938-AT27) received May 9, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. LOWEY: Committee on Appropriations. Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020 (Rept. 116-59). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 389. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to pay rewards under an asset recovery rewards program to help identify and recover stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption hidden behind complex financial structures in the United States and abroad; with an amendment (Rept. 116-60). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. SCANLON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 377. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 312) to reaffirm the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 987) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal Exchange outreach and educational activities (Rept. 116-61). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. WILD, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SABLON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. BUDD, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TURNER, Mr. BOST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. HECK, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. MAST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Ms. HAALAND):

H.R. 2689. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 2690. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to provide adjustment assistance to farmers adversely affected by reduced exports resulting from tariffs imposed as retaliation for United States tariff increases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 2691. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to prescribe the man-

ner in which programs of the agency are identified overseas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 2692. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of broadband conduit installation in certain highway construction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 2693. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under part B of the Medicare program by establishing a minimum payment amount under such part for bone mass measurement; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 2694. A bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Reform, 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. MCCARTHY (for himself and Mr. NUNES):

H.R. 2695. A bill to rename the Success Dam in Tulare County, California, as the Richard L. Schafer Dam; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 2696. A bill to provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 2697. A bill to increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma (for herself and Mr. GONZÁLEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 2698. A bill to provide grants to State, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies to obtain behavioral health crisis response training for law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mrs. LESKO, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. UPTON, Mr.

KEATING, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 2699. A bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Armed Services, the Budget, and Rules, 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. BURGESS (for himself, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. LONG, Mr. FLORES, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. HURD of Texas):

H.R. 2700. A bill to incentivize low-cost drug options and generic competition, and to provide extensions for community health centers and the National Health Service Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. RYAN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 2701. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to support the access of marginalized youth to sexual health services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 2702. A bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to eliminate barriers to providing child welfare services for children and youth in need, to provide additional resources to implement programmatic changes necessary to meet the requirements of the Family First Prevention Services Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2703. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the admissibility and deportability of aliens acting in accordance with State and foreign marijuana laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

H.R. 2704. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for transfers of the renewable electricity production credit and the energy credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

H.R. 2705. A bill to establish a Water Infrastructure Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Energy

and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 2706. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to clarify that charitable organization officials may receive food donations from schools under the food donation program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. CHENEY (for herself, Mr. BANKS, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. TURNER):

H.R. 2707. A bill to limit funding for any extension of the New START Treaty or any successor agreement unless the agreement includes the People's Republic of China and covers all strategic and non-strategic nuclear forces of the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. CICILLINE (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COX of California, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROW, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEAN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. HILL of California, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. LOFGREEN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCBATH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SIREN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WEXTON, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 2708. A bill to prevent a person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime, or received an enhanced sentence for a misdemeanor because of hate or bias in its

commission, from obtaining a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 2709. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the definition of firefighter for the purposes of the Public Safety Officers' Death Benefits Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH):

H.R. 2710. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to innovative new medical devices furnished to individuals with end stage renal disease under part B of the Medicare program by establishing a new device add-on payment adjustment under such part; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. LUJÁN):

H.R. 2711. A bill to amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to require the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations to reduce and prevent gas waste and to enhance gas measuring and reporting, to codify a final rule of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding certain emission standards for the oil and natural gas sector, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 2712. A bill to require that purchases of agricultural commodities made by the Secretary of Agriculture under the Food Purchase and Distribution Program be from domestically owned enterprises, and other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself and Mrs. HARTZLER):

H.R. 2713. A bill to prohibit the issuance of F or J visas to researchers affiliated with the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. GIBBS (for himself and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 2714. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a credit against tax, or refund of tax, for certain Federal insurance taxes for employees who are members of religious faiths which oppose participation in such insurance; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma):

H.R. 2715. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for State approval and implementation of specified waivers under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 2716. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to not apply changes under Public Law 115-97 pertaining to the kiddie tax to children receiving certain military

survivor benefits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. HAALAND:

H.R. 2717. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the San Felipe Pueblo certain Federal land in Sandoval County, New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. HECK):

H.R. 2718. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include green infrastructure bonds in the definition of qualified private activity bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 2719. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Stamp Out Elder Abuse Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, 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. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. MOORE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. ADAMS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RYAN, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 2720. A bill to provide for the overall health and well-being of young people, including the promotion of lifelong sexual health and healthy relationships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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 Mrs. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. RIGGLEMAN):

H.R. 2721. A bill to establish a grant program within the Department of Labor to support the creation, implementation, and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in cybersecurity; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 2722. A bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. POCAN, Mr. Rouda, Mr. TAKANO, and Ms. HILL of California):

H.R. 2723. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a Multimodal

Freight Funding Formula Program and a National Freight Infrastructure Competitive Grant Program to improve the efficiency and reliability of freight movement in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 2724. A bill to clarify the requirements of authorized representatives under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 2725. A bill to provide duty-free treatment for the sale of used yachts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2726. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit smoking on Amtrak trains; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. BANKS, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 2727. A bill to establish a pilot program to improve information sharing between the Department of Defense and designated relatives and friends of members of the Armed Forces regarding the experiences and challenges of military service, particularly during and after overseas deployments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. BYRNE, and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 2728. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize borrowers to separate joint consolidation loans; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. GARCÍA of Texas):

H.R. 2729. A bill to discontinue a Federal program that authorizes State and local law enforcement officers to investigate, apprehend, and detain aliens in accordance with a written agreement with the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and to clarify that immigration enforcement is solely a function of the Federal Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself and Mr. REED):

H.R. 2730. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a nonrefundable credit for working family caregivers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Mr. WOODALL, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 2731. A bill to provide for automatic acquisition of United States citizenship for certain internationally adopted individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. MCADAMS):

H.R. 2732. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require warning labels for prescription opioids, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. COLE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. BASS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. STANTON, Mr. COOK, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama):

H.R. 2733. A bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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 Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 2734. A bill to require certain practitioners authorized to prescribe controlled substances to complete continuing education; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. WELCH (for himself and Mr. SENSENBRENNER):

H.R. 2735. A bill to amend section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, to require that the annual budget submissions of the Presidents include the total dollar amount requested for intelligence or intelligence related activities of each element of the Government engaged in such activities; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 2736. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that the estate of a deceased veteran may receive certain accrued benefits upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. BANKS, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN):

H. Con. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) continues to make an invaluable contribution to United States and international security, and noting former Senator Richard G. Lugar's indispensable contributions to international security and reducing nuclear weapons-related risks; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself and Mr. BOST):

H. Res. 378. A resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Arthur "Art" Simon; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. CARBAJAL (for himself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. YOHO, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. HUNTER):

H. Res. 379. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July as "American Grown Flower Month"; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H. Res. 380. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of May 13

through May 20, 2019, as Infrastructure Week; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERSON (for himself and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H. Res. 381. A resolution recognizing the REALTORS Land Institute on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. WATKINS (for himself, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. ESTES):

H. Res. 382. A resolution honoring the 65th anniversary of the landmark decision of the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education* (347 U.S. 483 (1954)); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 2737. A bill for the relief of Corina de Chalup Turcinovic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2738. A bill for the relief of Ravidath Lawrence Ragbir; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 Ms. SPEIER:

H.R. 2689.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 2690.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 2691.

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

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 2692.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut

H.R. 2693.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 2694.

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

Clauses 3 and 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution and section 5 of Amendment XIV to the Constitution.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H.R. 2695.

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

Article IV, Section 3

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 2696.

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

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8, cl. 1

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 2697.

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

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8, cl. 1

By Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 2698.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 2699.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 2700.

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

Article I, Section I, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative powers generally granted to Congress, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive. Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 2701.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 2702.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—"All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2703.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2704.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2705.

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

Article I, Section VIII, Clause I

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2706.

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

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

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 this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 2707.

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

Article I, Section 9

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2708.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 2709.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2710.

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

Article I of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. DeGETTE:

H.R. 2711.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 2712.

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

Article 1 Section 8, US Constitution

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 2713.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GIBBS:

H.R. 2714.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 2715.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 2716.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. HAALAND:

H.R. 2717.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 2718.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 2719.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution [Page H9431]

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 2720.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 2721.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 1 provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises” in order to “provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States.”

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 2722.

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

This proposal is introduced pursuant to Article I, Section 4.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:

H.R. 2723.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 2724.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 2725.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2726.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 2727.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 2728.

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

As described in Article 1, Section 1, “all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.”

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to “provide for the common Defense and general Welfare” of Americans. In the Department of Education Organization Act (P.L. 96-88), Congress declared that “the establishment of a Department of Education is in the public interest, will promote the general welfare of the United States, will help ensure that education issues receive proper treatment at the Federal level, and will enable the Federal Government to coordinate its education activities more effectively.” The Department of Education’s mission is to “promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.”

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 2729.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ:

H.R. 2730.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 2731.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 2732.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 2733.

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

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 2734.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 2735.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: 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 this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof . . .

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 2736.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 2737.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution provides that Congress shall have power to “establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization.” The Supreme Court has long found that this provision of the Constitution grants Congress plenary power over immigration policy. As the Court found in *Galvan v. Press*, 347 U.S. 522, 531 (1954), “that the formulation of policies [pertaining to the entry of aliens and their right to remain here] is entrusted exclusively to Congress has become about as firmly embedded in the legislative and judicial tissues of our body politic as any aspect of our government.” And, as the Court found in *Kleindienst v. Mandel*, 408 U.S. 753, 766 (1972) (quoting *Boutilier v. INS*, 387 U.S. 118, 123 (1967)), “[t]he Court without exception has sustained Congress’ plenary power to make rules for the admission of aliens and to exclude those who possess those characteristics which Congress has forbidden.”

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2738.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 25: Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 95: Mr. STANTON and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 117: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 141: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 158: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 205: Mr. CRIST.

H.R. 230: Ms. MATSUI, Ms. FUDGE, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 257: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 285: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 295: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 296: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 309: Mr. HIMES and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 366: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 372: Mr. SUOZZI and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 375: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 383: Mr. STEILL.

H.R. 389: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 500: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. STEWART.

H.R. 510: Ms. OMAR, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 535: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 553: Ms. FRANKEL, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WRIGHT, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 555: Ms. SEVELL of Alabama, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 586: Mrs. LESKO, Mr. BABIN, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 613: Ms. OMAR and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 647: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 662: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 693: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, and Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 720: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 728: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. LURIA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 748: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CORREA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. NEAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. Rouda, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. WATERS, Mr. DUNN, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, and Mrs. MILLER.

H.R. 767: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 792: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 801: Mr. CASE and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 806: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 816: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 860: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 873: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. STEWART, and Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 874: Mr. PAYNE and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 884: Mr. HIMES and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 919: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 958: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 961: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1004: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 1005: Mr. KIM.

H.R. 1019: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 1023: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 1025: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1032: Mr. CROW, Ms. MOORE, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1035: Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 1037: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1043: Mr. ALLRED and Mr. COMER.

H.R. 1044: Mr. KIM, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 1058: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. STEWART, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1073: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1086: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

- H.R. 1097: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1133: Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. TTUS.
H.R. 1140: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CRIST, Ms. DELAULO, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 1146: Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1154: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. TED LIEU of California, and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 1156: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H.R. 1163: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 1169: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 1173: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 1175: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. DUNN, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1199: Mrs. RADEWAGEN and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1200: Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1210: Ms. MOORE, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1220: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 1224: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1225: Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. CRAIG, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. STANTON, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 1228: Mr. STAUBER and Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 1236: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan and Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 1243: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 1256: Mr. GALLEGRO, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. COOK.
H.R. 1309: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. GALLEGRO, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1313: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1325: Mr. SCALISE.
H.R. 1327: Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BUCSHON, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. HAGEDORN, Ms. WATERS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 1342: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1351: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1360: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1374: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. YOHO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. FULCHER, and Mr. HAGEDORN.
H.R. 1379: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. YOUNG, and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 1380: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1437: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1450: Mr. SOTO and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1472: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1474: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 1507: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1511: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 1521: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1530: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 1551: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 1553: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 1554: Mr. BUDD and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 1556: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 1592: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 1595: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 1599: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1603: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 1620: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 1629: Mr. KIM, Mr. SIRES, Mr. HOLINGSWORTH, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. REED.
H.R. 1646: Mr. DEUTCH and Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 1666: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 1671: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1692: Mr. EVANS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 1696: Mr. AMODEI and Mr. MCADAMS.
H.R. 1702: Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 1721: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 1723: Mr. RASKIN and Ms. DELAULO.
H.R. 1730: Mr. TIPTON and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 1748: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1766: Mr. RIGGLEMAN.
H.R. 1767: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 1775: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 1777: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1781: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 1786: Mr. JEFFRIES and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1789: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1830: Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 1837: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1854: Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 1857: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 1865: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. TURNER, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. BUDD, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. STANTON, Mrs. HARTZLER, and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 1869: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. LESKO, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 1878: Ms. WATERS and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1890: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 1892: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1896: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 1897: Mr. COHEN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1911: Mr. LATTI.
H.R. 1912: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 1919: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 1941: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 1948: Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. COOK, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 1959: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1962: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 1965: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1979: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1982: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 1999: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 2023: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 2037: Mr. DEFazio, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2051: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 2056: Ms. HAALAND, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. CASE, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2066: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 2079: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 2088: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. TONKO, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 2100: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2117: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2136: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 2142: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 2146: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 2148: Mr. SERRANO, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2149: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 2150: Mr. TONKO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GIANFORTE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. YOUNG.
H.R. 2164: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2178: Mr. MAST, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. HAGEDORN.
H.R. 2200: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 2201: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 2202: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 2203: Mr. VELA.
H.R. 2215: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 2218: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2219: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 2222: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 2226: Mr. BURCHETT.
H.R. 2235: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 2236: Mr. ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 2278: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 2294: Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 2313: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 2314: Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 2316: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 2322: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 2328: Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 2336: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. POCAN, Mr. BRINDISI, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. KIND, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 2339: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.
H.R. 2340: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 2349: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 2353: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. COHEN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 2354: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. HILL of California, and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 2355: Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 2379: Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RYAN, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 2382: Ms. DELAULO, Ms. OMAR, Mr. COOK, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. KIM.
H.R. 2405: Mrs. LURIA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.
H.R. 2410: Mr. CLAY and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 2411: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 2412: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 2415: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HECK, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PASCRELL, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 2420: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.
H.R. 2422: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2433: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. RYAN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. CASE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2435: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. VELA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. LATTI.
H.R. 2441: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2443: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2448: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2449: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 2458: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2460: Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 2466: Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. CLAY, Ms. DEAN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LEWIS, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ROUDA, and Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 2468: Ms. NORTON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COX of California, Ms. WILD, and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2474: Mr. VELA, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 2476: Mr. MAST, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 2480: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. ROONEY of Florida.

H.R. 2481: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. MAST, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. BAIRD, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BERA, Mr. COX of California, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. COLE, Ms. CHENEY, and Mrs. CRAIG.

H.R. 2489: Mr. MEEKS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. OMAR, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 2493: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 2504: Mr. COX of California.

H.R. 2509: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 2512: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 2533: Mr. KIM.

H.R. 2550: Ms. WATERS and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 2557: Mr. KIM, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mrs. TRAHAN.

H.R. 2560: Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 2561: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 2576: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2577: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 2581: Ms. HAALAND, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 2585: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.

H.R. 2591: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 2597: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 2599: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 2602: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GALLEG0, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 2609: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 2617: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. COX of California, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 2620: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 2635: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2637: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SOTO, Ms. OMAR, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 2644: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 2648: Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2662: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 2671: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2674: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 2687: Mrs. DINGELL and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.J. Res. 7: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.J. Res. 57: Mr. PHILLIPS and Ms. WILD.

H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, and Mr. MEUSER.

H. Con. Res. 37: Mr. COURTNEY.

H. Res. 23: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. MAST, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H. Res. 33: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. WILD, and Ms. HAALAND.

H. Res. 54: Ms. CHENEY, Mr. MAST, and Ms. WILD.

H. Res. 60: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H. Res. 78: Mr. ROUDA.

H. Res. 138: Mr. CICILLINE.

H. Res. 152: Mr. CISNEROS.

H. Res. 174: Mr. SUOZZI.

H. Res. 189: Mr. GUEST, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. CASE.

H. Res. 231: Mr. CROW and Mr. LEVIN of California.

H. Res. 233: Ms. OMAR.

H. Res. 255: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H. Res. 269: Mr. WALTZ.

H. Res. 323: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H. Res. 325: Ms. OMAR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. PALLONE.

H. Res. 326: Mr. RUSH, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Ms. SCHRIER.

H. Res. 338: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H. Res. 340: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 364: Ms. PORTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. SHERMAN.

H. Res. 368: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. WATERS.

H. Res. 371: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. HASTINGS.