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Senate

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrew M. Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 1 minute.

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

HEALTHCARE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I would like to take a minute to explain why Medicare for All is a prescription for Medicare for None. Some folks are pitching this wild, misguided idea that one-size-fits-all government insurance is a cure-all for what ails the patients and the people of the United States of America. This conversation needs a strong dose of reality medicine.

Let's look at what is really being proposed—Medicare for None. Here is what it would do. It would dump 181 million Americans off their private health insurance plans, double your income taxes, and put patients with pre-existing conditions and chronic diseases on long waiting lists for medical care. It would unravel the current health safety net for seniors and people with disabilities, make the government the gatekeeper between Americans and their doctors, and, finally, put every single American who works for private health insurance out of business and out of a job.

The politics behind the proposal is simple: free healthcare. Let me remind my fellow Americans that if it sounds too good to be true, it is too good to be true.

Medicare for All is a catchy slogan. When you hear it on the campaign trail, remember it really boils down to government-run healthcare.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Before the Senate adjourned for Memorial Day, I laid out seven more nominations for our consideration when we returned—four to fill important vacancies in the administration and three to the Federal bench. So this week, the Senate will continue our work to confirm more well-qualified nominees and finally let the American people's President have more of his team on the job.

Yesterday we began by voting to advance the nomination of Andrew Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security. Mr. Saul is a graduate of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and has spent decades building a successful career in business and in public administration. In addition to his experience in financial management, Mr. Saul has previously served as vice chairman of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and as Chairman of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, where he oversaw programs relied upon by literally millions of Americans.

It is no surprise that our colleagues on the Finance Committee voted unanimously to favorably report Mr. Saul's nomination to the full Senate. I hope Members will reach the same conclusion and support his confirmation.

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by the Reverend Pat Conroy, S.J., Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Divine Potter, take the misshapen clay that we are and fashion us into vessels of Your honor.

Open the hearts of our Senators to the fullness of life, forgiveness of sins, and the hope of eternity with You.

Remind our lawmakers of Your wisdom in Luke 12:48, which states: "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be added."

Lord, may our legislators realize how much they have been given and strive to use their gifts for Your glory.

We pray in Your most merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Later, we will turn to the consideration of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs; Heath Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Susan Combs, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior; and three nominees to preside in a district court and the Court of Federal Claims.

In each case, the President has put forward impressive and uncontroversial individuals who, I might add, in a previous era, would have been candidates for a voice vote. They are thoroughly qualified for public service. Their nominations should not have been delayed even this long.

In the case of Mr. Schenker, for example, our colleagues have forced the top Middle East job at the State Department to remain open for 1 year. This is the top job at the State Department for the Middle East, and they have kept it open for 1 year—a year that brought no shortage of crises in that region.

So I am glad we are continuing to get things back on track. I hope our colleagues will join me in voting to put each of these public servants to work for the American people.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Madam President, on another matter, today, June 4, 2019, marks a historic anniversary for the U.S. Senate. It was 100 years ago today that this body passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and sent it on to the States for ratification. It was 100 years ago today that this institution finally recognized that American women deserved the right to vote just the same as men.

Of course, this victory for equality and fairness had been a long time in the making. The very same text that would become the 19th Amendment was first introduced in the Senate more than 40 years before, back in 1878. It was 40 years between the first introduction and the final passage. It was introduced by Senator Aaron Sargent of California, who, with his wife, was a close friend of Susan B. Anthony's. When it finally received a vote nearly a decade later, there were twice as many votes against it as for it. By 1914, there had been progress. When it received another vote that year, it failed by only 11 votes. By February 1919, there was more progress, losing by just one vote. The old justifications were eroding. Our Nation's true principles and clear logic were chipping away at this old mistake.

Then, precisely one century ago today, the right thing to do became undeniable. Women's suffrage cleared the Senate floor. The rollcall vote was 56 to 25—2 more than two-thirds. Newspaper accounts tell us that several minutes of sustained applause and cheers filled the Gallery. Then the 39 words that would become the 19th Amendment were on their way to the States, on their way to concluding a 42-

year journey and becoming enshrined in our Constitution.

Of course, this chapter of Senate history is just a tiny slice of the incredible uphill battle that the broader women's rights and suffrage movement waged in American politics and in culture. There were the pioneering thinkers of the Seneca Falls Convention, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, and their famous Declaration of Sentiments. There was the incredible, history-changing intellectual and strategic partnership between Stanton and Susan B. Anthony and the prolific writing, coalition-building, and grassroots activism it produced.

There were devoted organizers, such as Carrie Chapman Catt, Ida B. Wells, and Mary Church Terrell, and so many more—both the dynamic leaders whom history remembers and the millions more women and men who lent their support to the cause and who made quiet contributions of their own.

Some of them lived to see the fruits of their work become part of our Constitution, and many did not, but the progress we celebrate would not have been possible—it would have been literally unimaginable—without them.

So this milestone brought one chapter of hard work to an end, but it really started a new chapter in our history as American women became more and more integrated into our democracy. It was just 6 years after the 19th Amendment was ratified that my own State of Kentucky elected our first female Member of Congress, Katherine Langley, to the House of Representatives.

I could not be more glad that the Senate will spend today commemorating this historic milestone. This afternoon, I know a number of our colleagues plan to come to the floor to describe the history and significance of this day in much more depth. Later, we will vote on a resolution to officially mark the centennial of our predecessors' historic vote.

Several more Senators have been working on additional legislation to help our Nation mark the whole year of commemoration that begins this spring and will continue through the anniversary of final ratification.

I want to thank a number of our colleagues who helped lead the preparation for this. In particular, thanks to Senator COLLINS for her leadership in coordinating today and focusing the Senate's attention on this milestone. Thanks to Senator MURKOWSKI, the lead sponsor for the resolution we will be voting on this afternoon. Thanks to our colleagues Senators BLACKBURN, FEINSTEIN, ERNST, and others for their hard work.

I would also like to thank the members of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, led by Chairwoman Kay Coles James and former Senator Barbara Mikulski, the Vice Chair, and their staff, including executive director Rebecca Kleefisch and Anna Laymon.

Madam President, 100 years ago today, American women's right to vote

was up for debate in this Chamber for the last time. As one Member of this body remarked on June 4, 1919, "The advocates of the Susan B. Anthony amendment have won a great victory and are justly entitled to all the praise and honor which comes with the winning of a battle which has been fought for so long a time . . . the right of suffrage [for] those noble, patriotic, and splendid women of our country who have so long fought for this right and who so richly deserve [it]."

Today we reflect on our gratitude for that work, and we rejoice in that victory.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, too much of our conversation about migrants seeking to enter at the southern border has to do with what happens when they get here. Not enough of our conversation concerns how we deal with the problems in the countries from which the migrants are coming. Many of these migrants are fleeing vicious gang violence, corruption, domestic abuse, drug cartels, and economic hardships that are so severe that they would risk a journey of 1,000 miles on foot rather than to stay where they are.

We simply have to do more to help the countries from which these folks are coming to fix the problems that are causing their people to flee. That is getting at the root causes here, not at just putting on a bandaid after they get to the border, and that may be the most effective way to deal with the overall issue. Unfortunately and as usual, the Trump administration has done the opposite. Its policies are exacerbating the vicious conditions in these Central American countries.

President Trump has cut \$450 million in security assistance to Central American countries and has provided no information about why the cuts have taken place and where the money will go. As usual, it seems it is sort of on a whim. He gets this idea in his head and spews it out without checking it and without explaining it even when it has the consequence he doesn't want, which is more people coming to our southern border.

Now what the President has proposed are tariffs on Mexico that would be massively destabilizing to our economy and theirs—a policy that will only lead to more migration. These whimsical and erratic proposals by the President that seem to pop into his head and with which he goes forward without

checking are making a mess of what is going on at the southern border.

So I would say to the President: There is a much better way to address the migration issue than with tariffs. Deal with the problems in the Central American countries that are causing the migration in the first place.

The Democrats have proposed legislation that would do just that—stem the tide of migrants and help to reduce the backlog of cases. How?

First, allow asylum seekers to apply for asylum in their home countries. If the people under all of this gang violence and viciousness and economic hardship would be able to apply for asylum in Honduras or in Guatemala or in El Salvador instead of having to take a dangerous and often expensive 1,000-mile trek, they would do it. Why don't we do that? Let's increase the number of immigration judges so there could be adjudication rather quickly, and let's build the capacity of Central American countries to crack down on the violent gangs and vicious drug cartels.

Our bill would provide \$1.5 billion in security assistance to these countries, which is far more than the Trump administration has cut, but it is still nonsensical to have cut this money. This administration gets in its own way almost every day, but the solutions we proposed are the types we should debate.

So we are going to push forward with these proposals. Democrats will seek to add these policies to any package of border legislation that comes here before the Senate. If no legislation dealing with the border comes up, Democrats will seek to add security assistance for Central American countries to an appropriations bill and push for language that requires the administration to use it. This is so important that we will push hard in whatever vehicle we can find to move this proposal.

Again, all of these policies would have a far greater impact, with far less disruption, than slapping tariffs on one of our Nation's largest trading partners.

Now, frankly, I don't believe President Trump will actually go through with the tariffs. When he doesn't, we should be ready to proceed to these commonsense policies instead.

President Trump has a habit of talking tough and then retreating because his tough talk can't be implemented or doesn't make sense. President Trump has a habit of proposing asinine and dangerous policies before backing off, and President Trump has a habit of pretending that the very act of not following through on a misguided policy is somehow a victory. I wouldn't be surprised at all if President Trump didn't follow through on these tariffs either.

We Democrats have proposed a much better solution to the problems the President is talking about, and when the President backs off on tariffs, as I believe he will, this is a solution ready

to go that can get bipartisan support that can actually stem the problems we have at our southern border.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Madam President, next, on the 19th Amendment anniversary, today we observe the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment by the U.S. Senate—a critical step in the long march for equality that began at the very founding of our country, when Abigail Adams implored her husband to “remember the ladies” when drafting the Constitution, a reminder that fell on deaf ears. It was a march that gathered numbers and force at Seneca Falls, under the leadership of brave New Yorkers like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and found expression in the abolitionist movement.

While that march for equality under the law achieved a great and long-overdue victory 100 years ago, it is still not over. We have a lot to do. Wearing the yellow rose is wonderful, but it is not enough.

When women in the workplace do 100 percent of the work but only earn 80 percent of the pay as a man in the same position, the march is not over.

When good legislation like the House-passed Violence Against Women Act to provide justice to survivors of domestic violence and stalking languishes in this Chamber in a legislative graveyard because the NRA is opposed to it, that march is not over.

When the States are passing laws making it harder for minorities to vote, when State parties gerrymander districts to limit minority representation, and when the Supreme Court pretends that discrimination no longer exists in this country and guts the Voting Rights Act, the march to equality and universal suffrage is not over.

Without universal suffrage, democracy is incomplete. That was the lesson of the women who organized, protested, and compelled their government to pass the 19th Amendment by the slimmest of margins. So let us not consider June 4 a day to look back with complacency and remark on our historical progress, but rather as a day to look forward and recognize what we still must achieve.

There is no shortage of good work we could take up here in the Senate—pay-check fairness, Violence Against Women Act, the Equality Act, voting rights, election reform—to make sure all Americans can enjoy the full blessings of liberty. These pieces of legislation have passed the House and ended up in the legislative graveyard of the Senate. I can think of no better way to honor the legacy of the suffragists than to continue their work on breaking down barriers and strengthening our democracy.

ELECTION SECURITY

Madam President, finally, on election security, today's anniversary should also be a reminder of how precious our elections are and how we must guarantee that they continue to be fair and to be free.

Last week, Mr. Mueller reminded us once again that Russia conducted a

malign campaign to interfere in our 2016 elections. Director Wray and our intelligence community leaders have issued clear and unambiguous warnings that foreign powers will try to do it again in 2020.

The Senate must act on this. How can we sit by idly with our arms folded complacently while foreign countries try to interfere with our democracy—our beautiful, wonderful democracy?

We have bipartisan legislation ready right now to harden our election infrastructure and to hold foreign powers accountable for trying to meddle in our elections, but so far, much to our dismay—much to the Nation's dismay—Leader MCCONNELL has not indicated any openness to have this body consider it.

As frustrating as that is, we have made progress on my request for an all-Senators briefing on the threats of election meddling. We should hear from our leaders of the FBI and Homeland Security about the upcoming threats. Director Wray has already said something publicly about this.

Now, the good news here is that I spoke to the Republican leader, Leader MCCONNELL, and he has agreed to hold such an all-Senators briefing. We haven't gotten a date yet. I urge him to hold it as soon as possible, and certainly it should take place during this work period. This briefing should only be the beginning—the beginning only—of a larger conversation about the steps we must take to secure our elections.

Ladies and gentlemen, Democrats and Republicans, Americans, this is not optional. There aren't two sides to this issue. Our democracy was attacked, and we—both Democrats and Republicans—must take steps to prevent an attack in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, before I begin, I would like to take just a second to mention the resolution the Senate will be passing this week celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment.

This was a landmark moment in the history of freedom in our country—a major step forward in realizing America's promise of liberty. It is an important moment to celebrate, and I look forward to voting for this resolution this week and honoring all the women whose courage resulted in the 19th Amendment's passage.

STREAMLINE ACT

Madam President, just a few years ago, a lot of our current technology would have been unthinkable—watching a football game on your phone, using an app to see who is ringing the doorbell at your house while you are across town at work, ordering groceries using your computer, or, with voice-activated technologies like Alexa, putting groceries in your online cart without even having to click a button.

But while the technological advances of the last couple of decades have been tremendous, there is a lot more to come. The 5G mobile broadband technology will deliver speeds that are 100 times faster than what today's technology can deliver. It will be vastly more responsive than 4G technology, and it will be able to connect 100 times the number of devices that can be connected with 4G.

It is hard to imagine. After all, our devices today are pretty fast and responsive as it is, but 5G will be much, much faster. That means near-instant responsiveness from your phone and computer, but it means a lot more than that.

So 5G will enable massive breakthroughs in healthcare, transportation, agriculture, and other key industries, and 5G will pave the way for automated vehicles, which have the potential to dramatically reduce traffic injuries and fatalities. It will facilitate surgical innovation and new ways to treat chronic illnesses and to heal injuries.

It will allow precision agriculture to take off, empowering America's farmers and ranchers to make better decisions about field management and substantially increase their crop yields. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that precision agriculture will reduce farmers' operational costs by up to \$25 per acre and increase farmers' yields by up to 70 percent by the year 2050.

The technology for 5G is already here, but it requires more than simply having the technology to make 5G a reality. In order to deploy 5G, wireless providers need access to sufficient spectrum, and they need to be able to deploy the infrastructure needed to support the technology in a reasonable and timely manner.

Last year, the President signed the bipartisan MOBILE NOW Act. It was legislation that I had introduced to help secure adequate spectrum for 5G technology.

Yesterday, along with Senator SCHATZ, I reintroduced the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act to address the other part of the 5G equation, and that is infrastructure. The 5G technology will require not just traditional cell phone towers but small antennas called small cells that can often be attached to existing infrastructure like utility poles or buildings.

Everybody has seen the cell phone towers rising a couple hundred feet into the air. This is going to be a different type of technology.

I was encouraged to see the Federal Communications Commission under Chairman Pai's leadership modernize its regulations on the approval for small cells, but more work can and should be done. That is where the STREAMLINE Act comes in.

My STREAMLINE Act updates current law to better reflect emerging technology. It will expedite the deployment of small cells while respecting

the role of State and local governments in making deployment decisions. Importantly, it will make it more affordable to bring 5G to rural areas by addressing the costs of small cell deployment.

Too often, rural areas, like those in my home State of South Dakota, have lagged behind when it comes to getting the most modern broadband technology. It is important that we remove barriers to deployment in rural areas so that rural communities can have the same access to the benefits of 5G.

In addition to fostering tremendous technological breakthroughs in everything from agriculture to energy, 5G has the potential to add \$500 billion to the economy and to create millions of new jobs. But in order to achieve those economic benefits, we need to stay at the head of the 5G revolution.

The United States lagged behind other countries in deploying 2G and 3G technology, which had real economic consequences. Europe, for example, took the lead in 2G and cornered most of the market in sales of networking equipment and telecom hardware. As 4G emerged, however, the United States' wireless industry stepped forward, investing billions in 4G deployment. The government also took steps to support the wireless industry, freeing up spectrum and making it easier to deploy the necessary infrastructure.

That is what we need to do again today. If we want to stay at the head of the race to 5G, the government needs to make sure that wireless companies have access to the necessary spectrum and the ability to efficiently deploy small cell infrastructure.

While we pursue licensed spectrum for 5G, we must also be mindful of the critical role that unlicensed spectrum plays in the development of 5G and throughout the communications landscape. Wi-Fi operating on unlicensed spectrum is responsible for a tremendous and growing amount of the data transmitted in our homes and offices and will play an increasing role in the future.

Identifying spectrum resources, not just for the next few years, but for the next 10 years and beyond is essential if we are to retain American leadership. My MOBILE NOW Act was an important step forward in increasing access to both licensed and unlicensed spectrum, but there is more work to be done. While we have made good progress on securing low- and high-band spectrum, China and South Korea are far ahead of us in opening up mid-band spectrum for 5G.

If we don't want to lose out to China and South Korea on 5G, we need to substantially increase the amount of mid-band spectrum available to U.S. companies. And, of course, we need to focus on streamlining the deployment of small cells through measures like the STREAMLINE Act, so that companies can get the necessary infrastructure for 5G in place. The STREAMLINE Act would substantially expedite the de-

ployment of 5G technology, and I hope the Senate will take up my bill in the near future.

Americans have always been innovators and pioneers. We have been on the cutting edge of more than one technological revolution, and we can lead the world again in 5G. I look forward to continuing to work to ensure that U.S. companies have the framework they need to carry America into the 5G future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). The Senator from Utah.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I have been a Member of this body for several months now, and I would like to offer a few observations about the experience.

I had been told that I might not like it here. Having previously been a Governor, some friends thought I might find the pace a little too slow and decision making too diffuse and cumbersome, but that has not been the case.

My committee assignments are interesting and the work is important, and while few bills actually become law, the fact that both political parties must reach consensus for a bill to pass reinforces the ties that bind our Republic.

Given the public passion of our politics these days, I had also presumed that the atmosphere here would vary between prickly and hostile, but the truth is that Senators on both sides of the aisle are remarkably friendly and collegial once the cameras are off.

I have now met privately with 68 of my fellow Senators. Like them, I came here in part because I believe my life experience could help us confront our national challenges. I also believe that the values and policies practiced in Utah can inform national debates. Our State has the fastest job growth in the country. It balances its budget every year. It has the country's most highly educated workforce.

It is a great privilege to represent the people of Utah in the Senate. I am humbled by the history that has been made here, by the character of the patriots whose sculptures adorn our halls, and, of course, by the great sacrifice made to construct the Capitol of the greatest Nation on Earth. To serve here is to be reminded daily of the history and greatness of this blessed country.

The American character has been distinct from our very beginning. Alexis de Tocqueville observed that Americans had fashioned a culture different from any other he had encountered.

Just a few weeks ago, I attended the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit in Utah. In his keynote address, historian Jon Meacham observed that, in a number of ways, that endeavor revealed some of the distinct elements of the national

character. President Abraham Lincoln signed the project's enabling legislation on the eve of the Civil War. The country was divided as never before or since, and the President was preoccupied with preserving the Union. But despite the gathering storm, he had both the foresight to see the impact of a transcontinental railroad and the confidence to believe it actually could be constructed. We Americans are drawn to visionary endeavors, and we rarely lack the confidence needed to undertake them.

It is difficult from today's vantage point to appreciate the extent of the project's engineering and construction challenges. Some have even called it the greatest engineering triumph of the 19th century. Tunnels were blasted through the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, at first only with black powder. There were no hotels or restaurants along the way, no local sources of energy or power tools. On some days, the progress through Granite Mountain was measured in inches.

The cost was prohibitive, particularly for a country preparing for a war, so Congress made it a public-private partnership. Two companies—one from the West, another from the East—were each granted tracks of land commensurate with the amount of track they laid. Fierce competition ensued, each company wanting to obtain the most land possible.

There were many who opposed the idea of granting public land to private companies that stood to make fortunes on the lands they received. There were others who thought the project was the height of folly—too expensive, too dangerous, and unnecessary. After all, it was already possible to go from New York to California in just 6 weeks by land and 2 by sea. But having studied and debated the matter, Lincoln and Congress defied public criticism and did what they believed was in the best interest of the country.

The construction crews numbered in the thousands. Fifteen thousand Chinese immigrants worked for the Central Railroad that began in Sacramento, and roughly 7,000 Irish immigrants labored for the Union Pacific Railroad coming from the East. In time, veterans of the Civil War joined the crews, as did several thousand Mormons from Utah.

The work conditions were brutal. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 to 1,000 men died. The achievement was also marred by failures of character. The promoters were oblivious to the rights and needs of Native Americans and to the plight of the immigrant workers. When the railroad was completed, Chinese laborers were denied citizenship. There can be a blindness in the human mind that is clouded by ambition. Despite these unfavorable and unpardonable failings, the Transcontinental Railroad was a grand achievement. It joined two great oceans and overcame the challenge of a nation spread across vast distances and foreboding lands.

Intrinsic in the American mind is the conviction that we can overcome any challenge. In the years since then, we have achieved greater marvels and overcome greater challenges. Seventy-five years ago, brave Americans landed on the beaches in Normandy and began the process of liberating a continent. Americans turned the tide of two world wars, overcame a global depression, conquered deadly, debilitating disease, and walked on the surface of the Moon.

We who have inherited this incomparably accomplished Nation might wonder if we will face challenges as daunting and opportunities as transformational as theirs. The decisions each generation of Americans makes affect the course of history and profoundly impact our prosperity and our freedom. We face such decisions today.

Eight years ago, I argued that Russia was our No. 1 geopolitical adversary. Today, China is poised to assume that distinction. Russia continues its malign effort, of course—violating treaties, invading sovereign nations, pursuing nuclear superiority, interfering in elections, spreading lies and hate, protecting the world's worse actors from justice, and promoting authoritarianism—but Russia is on a declining path. Its population is shrinking, and its industrial base is lagging. John McCain famously opined that Russia is a gas station parading as a country. As it falls further behind, we must expect Russia's inevitable desperation to lead to further and more aberrant conduct.

Unlike Russia, China is on a rising path. When it was admitted to the World Trade Organization, the expectation was that China would embrace the rules of the global order, including eventually respect for human rights. It has done the opposite—imprisoning millions in reeducation camps, brutally repressing dissent, censoring the media and internet, seizing land and sea that don't belong to it, and flouting the global rules of free and fair competition. Like Russia, China promotes authoritarianism and protects brutal dictators like Kim Jong Un and Nicolas Maduro.

Today, we mark the anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre. That day, cries for freedom were brutally crushed. Since then, China has pursued a relentless course to smother the kinds of hopes and dreams that filled that square 30 years ago.

It is possible that China might someday experience a discontinuity or another uprising that will change its course. But barring that, because China's population is almost four times our size, its economy should eventually dwarf ours, and because economic advantage enables military advantage, China's military could even pass by ours as well. It is possible that freedom itself would be in jeopardy. If we fail to act now, that possibility may become reality.

I believe we have two imperatives: First, strengthen ourselves and, second, stop China's predation.

In the long run, for a country like ours, with a relatively small population, to rival a country like China, with its much larger population, we must join our economic and military might with that of other free nations. Alliances are absolutely essential to America's security, to our future. I can't state that more plainly. Our alliances are invaluable to us and to the cause of freedom. We should strengthen our alliances, not dismiss or begrudge them. We should enhance our trade with allies, not disrupt them, and coordinate all the more closely our security and our defense with them.

It is in the most vital interest of the United States to see a strong NATO, a strong Europe, stronger ties with the free nations of Asia, the Pacific, the subcontinent, and with every free country. We need to hold our friends closer, not neglect them or drive them away. These alliances are a key advantage we have over China. America has many friends; China has very few.

We have another advantage: innovation. The country that leads in innovation will lead in prosperity. China knows that as well as we do. After all, China began its economic rise by stealing our technologies. But today, China has become an impressive innovator all by itself. Last year, China received almost as many global patents as did the United States. It is far ahead of us in 5G. It is on track to surpass us in artificial intelligence, and artificial intelligence is a general purpose technology that will have systemic impact on the world.

It is critical that we protect our technology and propel the innovation we need in the future. Well resourced and guided, our great research universities, combined with the productivity inherent in free enterprise, are capable of reasserting America's innovation leadership.

One dimension of American innovation is often underestimated, however. America is a magnet for the world's best and brightest. They want to come here, not China. Over half of the 25 most valuable high-tech companies in America were founded by immigrants or by their children. It is very much in our national interest to keep attracting the world's best minds to America.

We also need to tame our national debt and deficit if we are to remain strong. The Federal Government took in about \$3 trillion last year and spent about \$4 trillion. Adding a trillion dollars every year to the debt means that in 10 years, we would be spending almost as much on interest as we do on our military. America won't be strong enough to defend its interests and leadership if it strains under the burden of crippling financial debt.

In addition to strengthening America, we must also confront China's aggression. China has focused its ambition most acutely on trade. Flouting global rules and conventions, China has corrupted the free market. China views companies in countries that play by

the rules as the proverbial fish in a barrel. Too often, we just ignore China's aggression, genuflecting before the throne of free markets. But you don't have a free market if the biggest player is allowed to cheat.

China's cheating takes many forms. For many years, it held down the value of its currency to make its products artificially inexpensive, intending to drive competitors from other countries out of business. More recently, China has debased its currency to partially compensate for tariffs imposed on its goods. Today, so-called industrial policy is China's primary weapon of choice. China subsidizes a company by loaning it funds at submarket rates, by forgiving loans, by providing free research and development, or simply by allowing it to use intellectual property stolen from other nations.

Subsidy is even easier to hide when the company is owned by the government itself. There are 140,000 state-owned enterprises in China, accounting for 40 percent of its industrial assets. Profitability, return on capital, and repayment of debt are mostly irrelevant in such state-owned enterprises. They can employ predatory pricing—entering a foreign market by pricing a product well below its cost, driving domestic competitors out of business. When an American company does that, it is prosecuted under antitrust laws, but proving a Chinese product is priced below cost is extremely difficult given the lack of reliable cost data.

China's industrial policies are killing and debilitating businesses throughout the world.

Look, I am a free market, free trade guy, but free markets require rules to enforce honest competition. Slavishly accepting China's cheating as a dynamic of a free market, competitive workplace makes no sense at all. The President is right to use tariffs to crack down on China's theft of intellectual property, but when it comes to China's predatory industrial policy, the cheating will not end. We need to counter it directly.

Classically, a country has several tools to counter a predatory competitor. It can ban all or certain of its products. We did this with the Soviets during the Cold War. It can employ counterbalancing subsidies. It can require high levels of local content. And, of course, it can align with other nations to establish strict rules of conduct, which it then vigorously and swiftly enforces. All or some mix of these is needed.

As we confront China's aggression, we must also endeavor to convince it to turn back from the road of economic, military, and geopolitical conflict upon which it has embarked. Joining the other nations of the world in genuinely fair and free trade and in respect for the sovereignty of its trading partners and neighbors is very much in China's, America's, and the world's interest. China is not yet a geopolitical foe, but its actions over the last sev-

eral years have brought it right up to that line.

What I have said today won't come as a surprise to leaders here in Washington. The forms of China's aggression are widely understood by members of the administration, Members of Congress, and foreign affairs experts on both sides of the aisle. But, to date, our national response has largely been ad hoc or short-term or piecemeal. It is past time for us to conduct and construct a comprehensive strategy to meet the challenge of an ambitious and increasingly hostile China.

I said at the outset of my remarks that there are two dimensions needed in a strategy to preserve American leadership: First, strengthen America, and second, confront China's predation. There is a third dimension. We must alert the American people to the threat we face and unite them to the greatest extent possible in our response. In the past, an act of war or blustering threats by hostile actors have united us. But don't expect to see the Chinese President pound his shoe on the counter or shout that he is going to bury us, as Nikita Khrushchev did long ago. No, China intends to overcome us just like the cook who kills the frog in a pot of boiling water, smiling and cajoling as it slowly turns up the military and economic heat.

The disappearance of traditional media and the emergence of social media have made it more difficult to unite the country. Conspiring voices online prey on the human tendency to diminish the dignity and worth of people of different views, of different races, religions, or colors. Contempt rather than empathy is a growing feature in our politics and media. Each of us must make an effort to shut out the voices of hate and fear, to ignore divisive and alarming conspiracies, and to be more respectful, more empathetic of our fellow Americans. And when it comes to cooling the rhetoric and encouraging unity, there is no more powerful medium than the bully pulpit of the President of the United States.

Bringing a nation of 330 million people together in a shared effort is a greater challenge these days than bringing 2 coasts together with a railroad. But now, as then, national unity demands that the voices of leaders draw upon the better angels of our nature. They must call upon the distinctive qualities of our national character evidenced time and again in American history. We must reaffirm the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

Jon Meacham said it well: The greatest words ever originally written in English may be these: "All Men are created equal." That founding conviction propelled America to become the greatest Nation on Earth. No people have done more to assuage poverty, to combat tyranny, or to advance the God-given right of every woman and man to be free. That is still our common cause, our enduring legacy, and

our promise to generations unborn. Only America can lead that endeavor, but only with honor, with integrity, and with the combined strength of the friends of freedom will we succeed.

America remains the best hope of Earth and the champion of freedom. May God bless us with the courage and wisdom to keep that sacred trust.

I yield the floor.

(The remarks of Ms. CANTWELL pertaining to the introduction of S. 1703 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Ms. CANTWELL. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this Senate Chamber has had a lot of historic debates. We have considered legislation of great seriousness and historic importance.

I have been on the floor of the Senate when we voted on going to war. I can't think of a more serious responsibility that a Member of the Senate might have. You know that even at the end of a good day, innocent people are going to die, and you have to cast a vote as to whether America should make that decision.

I have been here when we passed legislation that really was transformative in terms of the future of this country. After we went through the great recession in 2008, President Obama stepped up and said that we have to do something about reforming Wall Street, and we did. We spent months in committee hearings and brought to the floor a bill that is characterized as Dodd-Frank to change Wall Street and to make sure we never went through that kind of economic crisis again.

I was here when we considered the Affordable Care Act 10 years ago. That debate went on for over a year, amendment after amendment, change after change. We were addressing an issue that affected virtually every single American family, if not directly, then indirectly.

Those are the types of things that have been debated on the floor of this Chamber. But look at it now. It is empty. It is so underutilized that for hours and hours each business day, we come to the floor to make little speeches. At best, we are going to have a vote or two on another nomination from the Republican side, usually a controversial nomination, and that is it. That is it.

When you think of all of the possibilities of what we could do in the U.S. Senate Chamber for the good of this country, it seems like a terrible waste of space and a terrible waste of time. Men and women who made great personal sacrifices to run for the U.S. Senate and who serve in this Chamber find themselves in an empty Chamber, by and large, with nothing going on.

If you want to see some action, switch your C-SPAN channel over to the House of Representatives. In that

Chamber, with a Democratic majority, they are actually legislating. That is right. On Capitol Hill, one of the branches of Congress is actually passing legislation. Students ought to see it so that they know what it looks like.

Don't look here because we don't do that anymore. We don't spend our time dealing with legislation in the U.S. Senate—only with lifetime appointments to the Federal bench that Senator MCCONNELL and the Federalist Society approve.

Let me give you an example of something that happened in the House, an opportunity for the Senate. It is about the Affordable Care Act.

The Affordable Care Act passed under President Obama 10 years ago. It really changed the way we sold health insurance in America. Before the Affordable Care Act, health insurance companies could, and often did, use people's medical history to deny coverage or to charge premiums they couldn't afford to pay for.

What type of preexisting condition caused people to be rendered essentially uninsurable before the Affordable Care Act? Asthma, diabetes, allergies, high blood pressure, arthritis, a history of cancer, or even being a woman—that was considered a preexisting condition. It raised your premiums and maybe even denied you coverage.

More than 133 million Americans out of some 360 million in this country have a preexisting condition. Five million of them are from my home State of Illinois. I bet even more are from the State of Florida.

Before the Affordable Care Act, insurance companies used to use that medical history against individuals and families. The Affordable Care Act said, enough of that discrimination against people who have preexisting medical conditions. That bill, that law, prohibited insurance companies from denying coverage to people with preexisting conditions or from trying to charge them higher premiums because of it.

For the past 2 years, President Donald Trump has had a single focus on eliminating the Affordable Care Act and the protections I just described. He has attempted in every way possible to eliminate protection for 133 million Americans with preexisting conditions. He even brought it to the floor of the U.S. Senate early in his Presidency.

I will never forget that night. It was early in the morning, and it was a see-saw vote back and forth as to whether we were going to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The Republicans, who had been decrying this for 10 years, couldn't wait to repeal it, but they had nothing to replace it with. So at 2:30 in the morning, through that door walked a man whom I consider a national hero, a Member of the U.S. Senate named John McCain. John McCain walked through that door, stood in that well, and as he could barely move his arm, having had his arms broken as a pris-

oner of war, said no. His "no" vote, with that thumb going down, changed history. It kept the Affordable Care Act alive. President Trump failed, and he has never forgiven that great hero John McCain for stepping up for the good of this country and voting no against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

The President did not quit with that legislative effort. He decided he would try to kill the Affordable Care Act and the protection for people with preexisting conditions. He would do it in court if he couldn't do it in the Senate.

President Trump's Department of Justice recently weighed in on a Texas court case and argued that the Affordable Care Act should be abolished. If that happened, of course, discrimination based on preexisting conditions would once again be legal in America.

In July, the court will hear the appeal of this case. If President Trump has his way, Americans will lose this protection if they have preexisting conditions. It is just that simple.

Last month, the House of Representatives, not too far away from where I am standing, decided to do something. They decided to legislate. Unlike the Senate, they understand that the House of Congress can actually pass a bill that might become a law. So they had a debate, and they had a vote. On a bipartisan basis, the House of Representatives, last month, passed the Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act. This bill would prevent President Trump or any President from once again allowing health insurance companies to discriminate against people with preexisting conditions. It would affect 5 million people in my State with preexisting conditions and their families.

Let me tell you about one of them. Her name is Cathy. She is from one of our suburban towns outside of Chicago—not the town, really—the big city of Naperville. She wrote me about her kids, especially her oldest child who has diabetes and the other three children in her house who have cystic fibrosis. Cathy wrote: "As a constituent and someone personally affected by cystic fibrosis, I'm asking you to please protect access to quality, specialized care for people with preexisting conditions."

Think about what that mom has been through with those three kids—diabetes for the oldest and cystic fibrosis for three of her children. Can you imagine the sleepless nights, the heartache, and the worry she and her family have been through because of those kids? Any family who has ever had a sick kid knows it is a special pain, and Cathy has had it over and over and over again.

Cathy, I have to say this: The House of Representatives is here to help you. Sadly, the Senate is not. Under Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL, Republican leader from Kentucky, the Senate is exclusively considering partisan, controversial, lifetime appointments to

the Federal courts and virtually nothing else—nothing else. The Senate should be voting on bills that improve people's lives. The Senate could pass the bill already passed by the House, and I could send Cathy of Naperville a message: We hear you. We want to help you and your kids. We don't want you to ever have to worry about health insurance in the future because the kids were born with these medical conditions.

There are other things we could do. How about this for a radical idea? Overwhelmingly, the American people, Republicans and Democrats, say: Congress, would you do something about the cost of prescription drugs?

What have we done on the floor so far when it comes to the cost of prescription drugs in the Senate? Nothing. Every single day, if you own a television, you get to see night ads by prescription drug companies, and some of them you could repeat right back to them. "If you are allergic to Xarelto, don't take Xarelto." How would I figure that out? Do you know the most heavily advertised drug? It is Humira. It is for an arthritic condition, but it also treats psoriasis. I am learning all of this because I see these ads over and over and over again. Do you have any idea how much Humira costs? AbbVie, the company that makes it, tells you \$5,500 a month. Now, if you are crippled with arthritis, maybe that is what you need and want to do. If you have a red spot on your elbow from psoriasis, probably not.

So I have a bill that says: Disclose the price of drugs on your ads. It is not a radical idea, and it is a price that the drug manufacturers themselves publicize. We are not making it up. Put it on your ad. It is one step but only one step forward. There are so many things we could do to deal with the high cost of prescription drugs that we are not doing on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Instead, this empty Chamber is for Members of the Senate to come and give speeches and maybe look longingly across the Rotunda at the House of Representatives, which is actually legislating. What if we decided to do something about prescription drug prices? I think America would be in shock to think that the Senate actually is legislating.

We just had another tragedy in Virginia Beach, another mass shooting. Twelve innocent people were killed and several others seriously wounded. We don't know how that will end, but it is already a gross tragedy. It has been repeated over and over and over in virtually every one of our States.

Could we take the time on the floor of the Senate to make sure people with a felony conviction record do not buy guns in America? That is not too much to ask, is it? Closing that gun show loophole and keeping guns out of the hands of people who misuse them, we could be doing that on the floor of the Senate but not with Senator MCCONNELL's agenda. It doesn't fit. He doesn't have time.

We could also be reauthorizing the Violence Against Women's Act. It is a bill that used to pass so easily. Democrats and Republicans agree that we are against violence involving women. We are not reauthorizing it. We are not even considering it on the floor of the Senate.

The Senate would be a great place to legislate. It would almost sound like the movie or look like the movie, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," where people come to the floor of the Senate, elect Senators, debate issues, vote on amendments, have rollcalls, make speeches, appeal to the American people, and try to put the majority votes together. Wouldn't it be a wonderful return to those thrilling days of yesterday when the Senate legislated?

But Senator MCCONNELL doesn't have time, no time this year for legislation. Maybe next year. If he is in charge, maybe never. I urge Leader MCCONNELL and my Republican colleagues, let's get back to work. Let's earn our paychecks. Let's use this Chamber for the purpose for which it was built. Let's actually debate a measure. Don't be afraid to vote, my colleagues in the Senate. I have done it several thousand times. It is not that painful. I have constituents who expect nothing less of us, to see the Senate at work actually legislating on matters that are meaningful. They realize the Senate has become an empty Chamber, a legislative graveyard. I am ready to go to work. Perhaps a few Republican Senators will join the Democrats in actually doing that.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

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

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

PRESIDENTIAL POWERS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to address a matter that I believe should alarm every Member of this Senate, regardless of party, and that is the President's and the executive branch's increasing use of declared emergency powers to seize powers that are not lawfully theirs to take.

Just in the last week, we have seen two examples of this. We saw an administration claim emergency authority to move forward with an arms sale to Saudi Arabia and others. Last week, we also saw the President claim emergency powers in order to threaten an escalating set of tariffs on the country of Mexico.

Earlier this year, the President claimed emergency powers to divert funds away from important military and national security priorities to fund part of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. There was a headline, May 10,

2019, "Pentagon Shifts \$1.5 Billion to Border Wall From Afghan War Budget and Other Military Projects."

I, personally, oppose the outcomes the President is seeking in each of these emergency declarations. I oppose selling weapons to Saudi Arabia under the current circumstances. I oppose putting huge tariffs on Mexico that will harm American consumers and American businesses. I oppose diverting moneys from the Defense Department to spend on a wasteful, ineffective wall along the entire U.S. border.

Those are my views with respect to these outcomes. I suggest that all of us, Republicans and Democrats alike, should focus not only on the outcomes of each of these emergency declarations but the means the President is using to achieve them because, in each case, the President is claiming emergency powers to justify these actions. If this Senate stands by and allows that to happen, we will be surrendering our coequal powers as a separate branch of government and, in the process, undermining the integrity of our democracy itself. We should not leave this to the courts. We should not say, well, we don't think the President should be able to declare these emergency powers, but we are not going to deal with it here in the Senate; we are going to leave that to the third branch of government. That will undermine our democracy and this institution. Whether you like the outcomes or dislike the outcomes, the claim of emergency power to achieve these goals establishes a terrible precedent for our democracy, and we cannot sit idly by and allow that claim to continue unchecked.

I want to start by reviewing the Trump administration's invocation of so-called emergency powers to sell weapons to Saudi Arabia and others. The President's desire to please the Saudi regime and promote the Crown Prince's reckless conduct apparently knows no limits. It is a bottomless pit. We all recall President Trump vetoed a resolution that passed both Chambers of Congress with bipartisan support to end U.S. military support for the disastrous war in Yemen. When his own CIA Director concluded that the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia was complicit in the murder of U.S. resident and journalist Jamal Khashoggi, the President refused to hold the Crown Prince accountable. Instead, he ran to his defense saying that "it could very well be that the Crown Prince had knowledge of this tragic event—maybe he did and maybe he didn't!"

That was the President's attitude, go ahead and murder a resident of the United States, go ahead and murder a columnist for a major U.S. paper. It doesn't really matter.

The administration went on to flout the law by refusing to provide a determination to Congress on whether the Saudi Crown Prince was responsible for the murder of Khashoggi. Despite the fact that Saudi leaders have openly

talked about acquiring a nuclear weapon, the President is singularly determined to conclude a nuclear cooperation agreement with the Saudis, attempting to dodge oversight and accountability at every turn.

That was just the prelude to what the President did last week when Congress was in its work period. The President invoked a so-called emergency authority to sell precision-guided munitions and other arms to Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and others. Why? It is pretty obvious. He knew that arms sale would be challenged by Congress, and it would be very likely that Congress would not approve that sale.

What happened? Here are the facts. Under the law, the administration must submit a formal notification to Congress of a proposed arms sale, if it is large enough. After the sale is notified, Congress has a short window in which we can act to block the sale. We would do that by introducing and passing a joint resolution of disapproval through the House and the Senate. The President knew the Congress was not going to support that sale and that we would likely vote to block it. What did he do? Instead of trying persuasion, instead of going through the constitutional process, the legal process, he decided to fake an emergency because under the law, the President can bypass congressional review if he states that "an emergency exists," which requires the sale to be made immediately "in the national security interests of the United States."

By making that declaration, the President was able to commit an end-run against Congress, and we should not allow it to happen because it is abuse of power and, I believe, an abuse of the law.

That emergency authority has only been used a handful of times in the last few decades. In fact, the last President to invoke it was President George H. W. Bush following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Let's be clear. There is no emergency here, and the President is invoking it under false pretenses simply to hand another favor to the Saudi Crown Prince.

Where are these bombs and munitions going to end up? The war in Yemen and the Saudi-led coalition's war against the Houthis in Yemen has raged for 5 years now, costing the lives of more than 100,000 civilians. Millions are on the brink of starvation. The United Nations has declared Yemen the world's largest humanitarian catastrophe. Where are we 5 years into this war? The Houthis are more entrenched and militarily sophisticated. Iranian influence in the region has expanded.

In short, the Trump administration's strategy has been totally counterproductive. Instead of prioritizing a diplomatic solution of the conflict, the President is fueling the fire and perpetuating a humanitarian crisis.

What was the claimed emergency here, the emergency the President invoked to try to bypass the Congress

and sell these weapons to Saudi Arabia? The administration cites in its documents, in its notice, Iranian malign activity in the region. The administration claims that the “rapidly-evolving security situation in the region requires an accelerated delivery of certain capabilities to U.S. partners in the region.”

We all know that Iran is a malign actor in the region. This is nothing new. It has kept the Assad regime in Syria alive. It supports the Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthi rebels in Yemen, and a constellation of Shia militia groups in Iraq—all of which have contributed to instability in the region for a very long time.

The administration has not explained why all of a sudden this ongoing malign activity justifies an emergency declaration to circumvent this body in the House of Representatives, nor has it shown how the delivery of these weapons is going to provide some kind of an immediate benefit to either the United States or our allies.

What we really have is, this administration has, under the direction of National Security Advisor John Bolton, in a calculated effort, dramatically increased tensions with Iran to a point where we could easily have a miscalculation that leads to war.

This administration has ripped up the nuclear agreement, choked off Iran's oil exports, and, against the advice of America's military leadership, designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard a terrorist organization while accelerating the movement of American ships and bombers into the Persian Gulf.

Maybe most troubling is that even when given multiple opportunities, Secretary of State Pompeo, has refused to acknowledge that the 2001 authorization to use military force, AUMF, would not justify the administration taking military action against Iran. The administration's failure to make that very clear shows the need and urgency for us to act in these areas. In fact, what we know from our intelligence communities, cited in public reports, there is zero evidence that Iran and al-Qaida have carried out any joint operations against the United States. In fact, to the contrary, ISIS, which we know is an al-Qaida descendant in Syria and Iraq, took credit for a 2017 attack on Iran's Parliament building and tomb of the Islamic Republic's founder, the Ayatollah Khomeini, which according to Iran's state media killed at least 12 people.

Anyone who knows anything about the history in this region knows that while Iran is a malign actor, they have been an enemy of al-Qaida and an enemy of ISIS—Iran, of course, being a majority Shia country and ISIS and al-Qaida being extreme elements of a Sunni ideology.

As we sit here and watch the President invoking these emergency powers to undermine the separation of powers, we are not doing our job so we need to

begin to take action. Yet what the President is learning from our inaction is the ability to continue down this road of claiming emergency powers to take further measures.

As I said just last week, we also saw the President invoke emergency powers to put in place a mechanism to dramatically increase tariffs on Mexico over a period of time. That, of course, would be incredibly costly to American consumers, costly to American businesses, but it is also incredibly costly to our system of government and separation of powers, where article I clearly gives this Congress power in the area of setting trade policy. Yet where are we? We are AWOL, totally AWOL when it comes to standing up for the Constitution. We are allowing this President to, time after time, claim emergency powers to accomplish certain goals. Some may justify it by saying: OK. I agree with the outcome in that particular use of emergency powers.

This pattern of conduct is going to set a very dangerous precedent. While some of my colleagues may like some of these outcomes today, you have another President in the White House who starts claiming emergency powers left and right, and all of a sudden, I can assure you, my colleagues will take a different view. This is the moment when people need to come together and stand up for the Constitution and do our jobs as a separate branch of government. We can't contract this all out to the courts to make these determinations. Of course, earlier in the year, the President claimed emergency powers to divert moneys from important national security efforts, including the effort in Afghanistan and to build the wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Again, I suggest, don't be lured into going along with this process simply because you like the outcome. We can disagree about whether it is smart and cost-effective to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, but we should not disagree that it is an abuse of power to continue to manufacture or claim emergency authorities to override the will of Congress.

This is an important moment, especially as we consider the fact that Secretary Pompeo has not clearly indicated that the 2001 AUMF does not give this administration or any administration the power to use military action against Iran.

If we don't start standing up and doing our job, we will be undermining important constitutional principles that the Founders put in place to prevent an Executive from running wild over the legislative process. So I hope, as the Republicans and the Democrats see the President invoke these emergency powers of whether to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, to increase tariffs on Mexico, or to build a wall, we recognize that we are going down a very, very slippery slope and that we have a constitutional obligation to protect our democracy and the principles outlined in the Constitution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRUZ). The Senator from Texas.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2157

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 45, which was received from the House.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 45) directing the Clerk of the House to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2157.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 45) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in the RECORD of June 3, 2019.)

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

NOMINATIONS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, this week, the Senate will consider another batch of well-qualified nominees. These are men and women who have chosen to serve the American people in a variety of ways throughout the Federal Government, and we owe it to them to get them off the Senate calendar and on the job.

Among the nominees we are considering this week is Susan Combs, who, as the Presiding Officer knows, is a fellow Texan who has been nominated to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget at the Department of the Interior. Susan has led an impressive career in both the public and private sectors and has served our State as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, then as the first female agriculture commissioner, and, later, as the Texas comptroller of public accounts.

In each job, she gained the respect of virtually everyone she worked with. So, for those who know Susan, her nomination has come as no surprise. What is surprising, though, is how long it has taken her to reach this point and be confirmed. She was nominated in July of 2017. Within 1 month, she testified before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and she received unanimous support. Suffice it to say, her nomination was not controversial. So why has it taken 2 years for her to get a vote on the Senate floor?

Unfortunately, our colleagues across the aisle have pulled every trick in the book to slow down the nominations process, not because they have objected to a particular nominee or because a nominee has been unqualified, but because it has been part of a broader effort to stymie the President and this administration and bring the work of this body to a crawl.

With each day that has passed since the President has been inaugurated, the growing backlog of nominations has allowed hundreds of important positions throughout the Federal Government to have remained vacant. That is not fair to the people who have been nominated; that is not fair to the administration; and it is particularly not fair to the American people, whom these individuals are to serve.

A couple of months ago, we passed a modest rules change that broke the logjam, at least to some extent, and allowed us to finally begin to make some much needed progress. In the, roughly, 3 months prior to the rules change, we were able to confirm only 23 nominees. In the, roughly, 2 months since, we have more than doubled that number. We have begun to fill dozens of positions, including those of Federal judges, ambassadorships, and sub-Cabinet officials at various Departments and Agencies. Two weeks ago, we confirmed the 41st circuit court judge since President Trump took office, and we are making progress on filling more judicial vacancies.

As we approach the 2-year anniversary of Susan Combs' nomination having been sent to the Senate, I am glad we can finally vote on her confirmation and continue our work to confirm well-qualified nominees.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, on another matter, we continue to hear cries from the left about Medicare for All—the one-size-fits-all healthcare plan they continue to embrace.

It is ironic, in having been in this Chamber during the battle over the Affordable Care Act and when President Obama famously said “If you like your policy, you can keep it,” that now, apparently, the Democrats have abandoned that promise. Instead, their promise is, if you like your employer-provided health insurance policy, you can't keep it.

The fact is that this plan would drain the vital program that our seniors have relied on for more than a half a century and would force all Americans to participate in a watered-down version, which, clearly, would not be financially sustainable. More than 180 million Americans would be kicked off of their private insurance plans and be forced onto a government-run plan. This strikes me as a solution in search of a problem.

Don't get me wrong. Our healthcare system isn't perfect, and there are things we need to do to make it better, but they don't want to pay higher taxes and be put on the same

healthcare plan as every other American. They want to be able to choose their coverage at prices that work best for them and their families, and, yes, we need to improve our healthcare system so it focuses on patients and allows all individuals and families to choose what works best for them. Fortunately, Senate Republicans have been working hard to create legislation that would do exactly that.

Earlier this year, I cosponsored the Protect Act, which is being led by our colleague from North Carolina, Senator TILLIS. This bill would make sure that no one would be denied coverage or would be forced to pay a higher premium because of one's having a pre-existing condition. With the future of ObamaCare hanging in the balance, we need to provide peace of mind for the millions of Americans who have pre-existing conditions and who worry about the uncertainty of their healthcare.

This legislation would also prohibit discrimination against patients based on their health status. That includes denying coverage, limiting what treatments are covered, or increasing premiums because of one's having a pre-existing condition. This is an important step we can and should take to affirm that all Americans deserve access to affordable care at affordable prices. In addition, by codifying the association health plans, we can help self-employed individuals and small business employees who don't receive employer-provided coverage.

Association health plans were initially established by the Department of Labor. They allow businesses in the same region or industry to come together and purchase insurance. These plans have proven to be a great solution for small businesses across the country that represent a host of small businesses and sole proprietors because they are afforded the opportunity of getting, essentially, the same quality of coverage provided by large employers but at the same lower prices that people pay who are in these large employer-provided plans.

Historically, the problem has been in the individual market, which is where most of these individuals would find themselves, in that the pool of risks is not sufficiently broad. Because of perverse incentives, they would actually end up paying much higher premiums than other people who would be similarly situated who would have employer-provided plans.

Association health plans address that directly by providing a larger pool of insured individuals, which would help to bring down the premiums and help to bring down the deductibles over what they are currently under the Affordable Care Act. Several chambers in Texas are using these association health plans for their members, and I would like to be able to provide more flexibility for AHPs so that more Americans may take advantage of this employer-provided insurance.

In codifying this Labor Department rule and making insurance more affordable and accessible, we must also look at healthcare costs beyond the premiums people pay for their health insurance. That is why we need to take a look at out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs. When it comes to drugs that have just come on the market after lengthy research and development, you would expect the prices to be higher. That is the price we pay for the innovation and lifesaving new drugs. Companies patent their drugs to ensure that the money spent during the research and development phases can be recovered once the drugs hit pharmacy shelves.

These patents—a form of individual property protection—are important in order to encourage innovation. Unfortunately, on occasion, we see companies that abuse this system and try to get new patents on existing drugs in order to prolong their exclusivity and, of course, to maintain the high profits they get on a patented drug. This type of behavior is not what Congress intended. We cannot allow bad actors to game the system in order to turn higher profits and prevent more Americans from getting access to these drugs at lower prices, which is what the system is designed to do once they go off patent.

Recently, I introduced the Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Act, which encourages competition within the pharmaceutical industry by stopping these sorts of corrupt practices. The bill would define product hopping and patent thickets—two practices used by some manufacturers—as anticompetitive behavior. Certainly, this doesn't prevent manufacturers from making improvements in their products. It doesn't limit patent rights, and it doesn't hamper innovation. Yet it does stop those who knowingly abuse the patent system by allowing the Federal Trade Commission to bring antitrust suits against the bad actors.

In addition to these bills, I recently introduced a bill to protect the integrity of the Medicare part D system. This is the prescription drug system that Congress created years ago, which actually provides seniors with access to prescription drugs at a modest cost. Currently, part D's sponsors may voluntarily report fraud data to the CMS, but they are not required to report the specific number of instances of fraud, waste, and abuse they identify or the actions they take to correct these problems. This bill would implement recommendations made by the Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General to require plan sponsors to report fraud and improve oversight of this important program.

These are the types of reforms we need. We don't need Medicare for All, which will force 180 million people off of their private health insurance and bankrupt the Medicare system that we pledged to be there to provide access to healthcare for our seniors once they

qualify. These are the types of reforms we need instead. Overhauling our entire healthcare system to put everyone on the same subpar plan would not help anyone.

The way I see it is we have two options. One option is Medicare for All, which forces everyone onto the same plan. The government tells you what clinic to go to, what doctor to see, what brand of prescription you can get access to. You lose the power to make decisions about your own healthcare, and you simply have to take what you get on somebody else's timeframe. That is Medicare for All. It would simultaneously ruin Medicare by forcing all 330 million Americans onto the same plan, which will bring down the quality of care for our seniors, who have paid over the years into the plan, and which will bankrupt our country in the process.

I think there is a better choice, a better option. Rather than the government's telling you what you have to do, let's make smart, targeted reforms that allow patients to determine the coverage and care they want at more affordable prices. I believe we can implement these reforms in a way that will bring down costs without reducing choice.

We can continue to protect Americans with preexisting conditions, which is something we all agree should be done. We can lower the costs of prescriptions and out-of-pocket costs and stop the bad actors who game the system. We can provide the States with more flexibility to allow for more coverage options so that families can pick the plans that are right for them. Yes, we can also encourage innovation so our country will remain at the forefront of medical solutions and innovation.

Those are two words you don't ordinarily see—"government-run" plan and "innovation"—in the same sentence. As a matter of fact, they are polar opposites.

Finally, we need to preserve Medicare for our seniors who have paid into this over their lifetime.

I appreciate my colleagues who are hard at work to make these kinds of reforms a reality. And I have heard from my constituents loud and clear. When it comes to healthcare, they want more choices, more affordability, not the one-size-fits-all that Medicare for All would provide.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BURR).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. LANKFORD. I rise to remind the Senate of two anniversaries that are happening this week. This week is the 75th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy. It is commonly known as D-Day. One hundred sixty-thousand-plus individuals crossed the English Channel by aircraft, by boat. They moved in every way possible, starting in the middle of the night and with the major invasion that was the largest naval invasion in the history of the world. They would have crossed into France—what was the beginning of the end of Nazi Germany.

The loss of lives of Americans and Allied forces was catastrophic as they pushed in. The boys, 18, 19, 20 years old, got on aircraft, got on ships, launched out into the water, knowing there was a tyrant on the other side who had to be stopped. It is entirely appropriate for the Nation to pause to remember D-Day, to know the freedom we have right now was protected by a generation that stood for that freedom. As the Nation looks toward Normandy a couple days from now, I think we should once again thank the "greatest generation" that guarded our freedom.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. President, today is also a 100-year anniversary, though. One hundred years ago today, June 4, 1919, the Senate voted to pass the right for women to vote. As a son of a pretty amazing mom and as the husband of a really remarkable lady and as the dad of two daughters who are both voters now—they cannot thank the ladies enough who started in the 1800s working toward a basic human dignity and right; that is, the right for people to vote. It is astounding to us as a nation to think that it took that long, all the way up until 1919, to have a vote in the Senate to allow women to vote. That vote—with 36 Republicans and 20 Democrats that day who voted on June 4, 1919—changed the direction of how we would vote and how we would cooperate together as a nation.

Now, we have a lot of other areas to fix, but that one was a big one, and my family is grateful for what was done in the past. People who come through the Rotunda of the Capitol often see a statue there that looks like it is not finished. It is a block of stone, and there are three ladies who are carved out of it, but a part of it is not carved. I often hear people say they don't understand that statue. That statue is Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott, the three ladies who led the movement of ladies all over the country to just speak out and say ladies should have the right to vote. Those three ladies are carved into stone that is in our Rotunda, but what is interesting is, the statue is unfinished because the assumption was in the days ahead, there would be more ladies in the future who would step out and would lead a nation to make sure that we allow the rights of every single individual to be honored.

So, for the sake of my mom and my aunt, my grandmother, my wife, my daughters, and millions of ladies, we cannot thank those ladies enough for standing up for what was right at that time period. I think it is appropriate that we pause for just a moment in the Senate and remember June 4, 1919, 100 years later, and thank those ladies for standing up for the rights of ladies in their generation and the ladies in the generations to come.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

JOB CORPS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, everywhere I go in Montana, I hear the same thing from my State's business owners and job creators of the State; that they need more workers. They need more highly skilled welders, bricklayers, heavy machine operators, and laborers. The list goes on and on. I will tell you that I think the biggest limiting factor to moving our economy forward is a well-trained workforce. These businesses give living-wage jobs to the folks who are able to fill them, if they have the skills to fill them.

That is why I was so appalled when the Trump administration recklessly and cluelessly moved to close so many successful Job Corps programs across this country.

While we have heard there is some sort of reprieve for the Anaconda Job Corps, we have not received word that actually means it is going to stay open or any of the other Job Corps across this country—16 of which were scheduled for privatization and 9 of which were out-and-out closures—will stay open.

In Montana's case, we have two successful Civilian Conservation Corps programs: the Anaconda Job Corps and the Trapper Creek Job Corps. The Anaconda Job Corps, of course, is in Anaconda, MT. The Trapper Creek Job Corps is in Darby. These two job training centers play an active role in our State's economy.

We have a foundry in Butte, MT. It is called Montana Precision Products. Mike Robbins is a co-owner of that. This company has hired more than 50 Job Corps graduates in recent years alone—more than 50—most of whom, if not all, were from the Anaconda Job Corps. He has promoted these folks—some of them—from entry level to mid-level managers.

So when Mike and his brother Burt need high-skilled employees, the first place they look is the Job Corps. Why? Because these folks come out with a skill set that fits their needs.

Now, you may ask: Who is going into the Job Corps? These are at-risk folks. These are folks who are having a hard time with life and a hard time getting a job, and they go in the Job Corps—young people—and they give them a skill, a skill they can use in the private sector, a skill that if the Trump administration has their way, they will no longer be able to receive.

They will be at risk. They will not be well trained. They will, in fact, probably end up in some sort of government program instead of contributing to our economy, and this is what the Job Corps allows them to do.

(Mr. LANKFORD assumed the Chair.)

Needless to say, they also provide incredible work in our forests, fighting fires, helping clean up our forests.

It is just amazing to me—it is amazing the shortsightedness of this decision to privatize 16 and close 9 Job Corps across the country. We have heard from one of its graduates—I have heard from many of its graduates, by the way—of the Job Corps in Anaconda and down in Darby at Trapper Creek. One of the graduates is named Zoey Huff. Zoey told me the Job Corps saved her life—changed it. Before her time in the Job Corps, Zoey lived with her parents. She wasn't sure what direction she wanted to take in her life. She went through the Job Corps, and now she has a CDL, which is a commercial driver's license. She has that and certificates that make her an employee who is valued and someone whom businesses across this country—because I don't think Montana is any exception—are competing against each other to hire.

The Job Corps gave her the training and the life tools she needs to succeed, but Zoey's story is not unique. My office has been flooded with stories like hers. I encourage folks who have been impacted by the Job Corps to share their story on my website.

I recently heard from Carl in Montana. Carl's father enrolled in the Job Corps nearly 50 years ago. That 1-year investment in Carl's father provided him with a career that has lasted him for 45 years, that allowed him to raise 5 children and help support 11 grandchildren. It was a good investment because 4-year colleges are great, but they are not for everybody. There are some folks who would rather work with their hands than sit at a desk. These are the folks who shower after work, not before work, and I can relate to these folks. Without important resources like the Job Corps, we are making it harder and harder for young people in rural areas to access the job training they need to succeed in this 21st century economy.

If the President tries again to close the Job Corps, not only will it immediately reduce the amount of well-trained workers in rural America, but it will also kill dozens of good-paying jobs in these small communities that don't support the Job Corps. It is a double punch in the gut that our rural counties have not felt in a long, long time—decades.

Once they are closed, by the way—the one in Anaconda has been open since 1966—once they are closed, it will be hard to get them back.

So when I received the news about the Job Corps 10 days ago, I urged Secretary Perdue, the Secretary of Agriculture, and Labor Secretary Alex Acosta to reverse course.

Senator BOOZMAN is on board to help reverse this shortsighted and irresponsible decision. I am proud to work with him and Senator MERKLEY on this issue and appreciate his work to protect Job Corps in rural America, but we can't do this alone. That is why I, along with Senator BOOZMAN, am introducing bipartisan legislation that will reverse the administration's action to close Job Corps not only in Montana but across this country. I am going to continue to fight until we get a firm promise from this administration that these Job Corps centers are going to be around for years to come. We will be introducing legislation to block closures and prevent these critical employment centers from being subject to the whim of a President who doesn't know what is going on in rural America.

My bill will prohibit the use of appropriated funds in fiscal year 2019 and 2020 to close any Civilian Conservation Centers. It will also prohibit any Agency Secretaries from changing the inter-agency agreement that facilitates the operation of Civilian Conservation Centers, thus preventing the privatization of these programs.

Look, the administration's decision to close these, whether it is in Montana or Arkansas or any other place, will negatively impact those States in the whole country. So it is my hope—it is my hope that this administration will open their eyes and see what is really going on in this country because, quite frankly, Job Corps has worked for decades and decades and decades. It has produced people who are valuable assets to the business community and who raised families and helped support our economy and are part of the fabric of this great country. Yet this administration, through their goal to making America great again, has forgotten about things that make America great and have made America great.

So whether it is businesses like Mike Robbins' and Burt Robbins' business or whether it is students who go through this program, like Zoey, we need everybody in this Chamber—everybody, Democrats and Republicans alike because we are smarter than that—to make sure we have Job Corps around for our next generation and generations after.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CAPITO). The Senator from Iowa.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I come to the floor today, on June 4, to take a look back at a very historic vote by the U.S. Senate. This vote changed the course of political history in America. It strengthened the social fabric and constitutional framework of our Republic.

One hundred years ago today, lawmakers in this body cast a vote for liberty and equality under the law. The Senate approved Federal suffrage legislation. At the time it was passed, it

was known as the Susan B. Anthony amendment. Today it is better known as the 19th Amendment to our U.S. Constitution.

Section 1 of the 19th Amendment reads: "The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

By adopting the measure, the 66th U.S. Congress paved the way for women's suffrage from sea to shining sea. At the time, more than a dozen States and Territories allowed full suffrage, led by the Western States of Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Idaho.

In 1919 both Chambers of Congress were led by Republican majorities. The House of Representatives adopted this constitutional amendment 304 to 89 on May 21. Two weeks later the Republican Senate voted 56 to 25 in favor of women suffrage. That was two votes more than the necessary two-thirds vote required under our Constitution.

Both U.S. Senators from my State of Iowa voted for passage. Senator William Kenyon, then the junior Senator from Iowa, later went on to serve as a Federal judge for the Eighth Circuit.

The other aye vote from Iowa was cast by my predecessor, meaning he was the only other Senator from Iowa to serve in the position I now serve in as President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate. That senior Republican Senator from Iowa was a former Governor of Iowa, Albert Baird Cummins.

To a full Gallery packed with suffragists, Senator Cummins, as President pro tempore, announced final passage of the suffrage amendment. It was reported on June 5 in the New York Times that Iowa Senator Cummins, presiding over the U.S. Senate, allowed visitors in the Gallery to celebrate with "deafening applause," and he made no effort to stop the celebration.

As President pro tempore, Senator Cummins from Iowa was present at the enrollment ceremony, watching over the shoulder of Vice President Thomas Marshall, who signed this historic bill.

After the Senate passed it, it was then sent to the States for ratification. In a special session of the Iowa General Assembly, my State became the tenth State to ratify the 19th amendment on July 2, 1919, less than a month after the U.S. Senate had approved it.

Suffragists and supporters continued the campaign they started in the Hawkeye State prior to World War I. They mobilized support among farmers to pave the way to the ballot box for women. The future Secretary of Agriculture under President Harding championed women's rights to vote in his widely circulated farm journal. Henry C. Wallace of Des Moines wrote:

I do not know how we can have a government of the people, for the people and by the people, until women have an equal voice with men. They are fully as competent as men to use that ballot wisely.

Now, others invoked the patriotism, service, and sacrifice of women during

World War I. Another compelling argument reminded Americans that, without the ballot, women suffered taxation without representation. All Americans will recall that the battle cry of taxation without representation also paved the way to America's road to independence from Great Britain, declared in July of 1776.

Two days after Iowa ratified the 19th amendment, Americans celebrated our Nation's 143rd year of independence on the Fourth of July. One hundred years later, we are 1 month away from celebrating our Nation's 243rd year of independence. Wow, what a difference a century can make.

The historic passage of the 19th amendment pulled back the curtain to the voting booth and cracked open the glass ceiling for women to serve in public office. Today one-fourth of the U.S. Senate are women, including my colleague from Iowa, Senator JONI ERNST. She is also the first female combat veteran elected to serve in the U.S. Senate.

In the 116th Congress, 102 women are now serving in the House of Representatives, including two women from Iowa, Representative ABBY FINKENAUER and CINDY AXNE.

In the last election, Iowans elected our first female Governor, Kim Reynolds, one of nine women now serving as chief executive of their respective States.

Today I pay tribute to all those who blazed the trail to the ballot box and helped secure women's right to vote.

At long last, the sacred right of franchise became a reality for all Americans. It had been sought by women since the American Revolution. Through the decades, it gained momentum through relentless advocacy at the grassroots.

A lot of credit is due to organizers of a convention called the Seneca Falls Convention in New York State in the summer of 1848. Just think how long that was before the 19th amendment was finally adopted. In 1848 this convention lit a flame that became inextinguishable. They launched a civic movement for the ages with enough oxygen to become a grassroots prairie fire.

For more than half a century, this organization of mostly women organized with petitions, parades, and protests, building momentum and constituencies at the State and Federal level. These early suffragists succeeded in laying a cornerstone of equality for generations to come. One of the most fundamental rights of self-government is the right to vote, and ratification of the 19th amendment enshrined their sacred civic duty into our founding charter of freedom.

I often say that the ballot box holds elected Members of Congress to account for the decisions we make on behalf of those we represent. Our institutions of government, civic organizations, system of free enterprise, places of work, schools, communities, and,

most importantly, families are stronger thanks to the suffragists of our history.

The road to ratification came down to a tie-breaking vote in Nashville, TN. A young member of the State legislature broke a deadlocked vote that otherwise would have tabled the measure. His name was Harry Burn, a 24-year-old Republican from East Tennessee.

The morning of the vote, he received a note from his mother. She invoked the name of a famous suffragist with long ties to my home State of Iowa. You hear it along with Susan B. Anthony, but not as often. The name of that Iowa woman is Carrie Chapman Catt. If you want to visit her historic farm home, you can go to Charles City, IA, and visit where she grew up and lived.

Mrs. Burns, the mother of that young Tennessee State legislator, implored her son to "be a good boy and help Mrs. Catt put the 'rat' in ratification."

Representative Burns credited his tie-breaking vote to the influence of his mother, to justice, and for the legacy of the Republican Party. In a statement explaining his vote, Representative Burn wrote:

I appreciated the fact that an opportunity such as seldom comes to a mortal man to free seventeen million women from political slavery was mine. . . . I desired that my party in both State and nation might say that it was a republican from the East mountains of Tennessee . . . who made national woman suffrage possible. . . .

On August 18, 1920, the Volunteer State became the 36th State to ratify the amendment, securing the three-fourths of the States required under the U.S. Constitution.

When the U.S. Secretary of State certified the results 8 days later, the 19th amendment became the law of the land. It ensured men and women in America would share equal rights to this fundamental civic right.

Like Harry Burn, I have a personal story about my mother. My mother influenced my interest in government. For as long as I can remember, she sowed the seeds of my quest for public office and a commitment to public service.

For years, she taught students in a one-room schoolhouse about the three R's—reading, writing, and arithmetic—as well as lifelong lessons of civic responsibility. At home, she taught the Grassley kids around the kitchen table to stand up for our beliefs. Those teachings were to choose right over wrong, to waste not, want not, and to value hard work and the value of hard-earned money. She practiced what she preached, putting honesty and integrity first and foremost.

This photo I have beside me today was published in the Des Moines Register on August 30, 1920. Approximately 8 or 10 days after Tennessee ratified it but only 1 day after the secretary of State of the State of Iowa said women could now vote, we have this photo of my mother voting. It sets the scene of a historic day near my family farm.

A local woman named Mrs. Jens G. Theusen, of Fairfield Township, located in Grundy County, IA—I live just across the county line in Butler County—submitted her ballot in a country school in what I think was a school election.

She was one of the first women to vote after the newly ratified 19th Amendment.

My own mother, Ruth Corwin Grassley—referred to here as Mrs. L. A. Grassley, after Louis Arthur Grassley, my dad—also cast a history-making vote that day in a local election.

This picture says this is my mother here, but this is my mother right here. So the Des Moines Register was wrong in identifying this person, when this person is my mother. The Waterloo Courier got it right that this was Ruth Grassley, but instead of with two s's, the Waterloo Courier spelled it with one s.

The Waterloo Times Tribune was present at this vote and reported that "Black Hawk and Grundy County women gained fame Friday by being the first in the state and probably the first in the nation to take advantage of the privilege of equal suffrage." That is from the Waterloo paper.

You would think that I would have known about this while my mother was living. I didn't know anything about it. I have since learned that this photo was widely distributed in newspapers across the country, illustrating the historic victory of women's suffrage.

This election in Iowa was held just 29 hours after the official announcement of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

This photo of my mother also immortalized her vote for posterity. She did so without any fanfare. She never bragged about anything, including her history-making vote in the local election. In fact, it wasn't until after she had passed away by maybe 20 years that I learned that my mother, Ruth Grassley, was one of the very first women in Iowa to cast her vote.

While I was growing up, I didn't realize what a trailblazer she was from the standpoint of women's suffrage. I knew she was a trailblazer in many other ways. Many suffragists wore their mission as a badge of honor for all to see. With 50 years of fighting to get it, I sure don't blame them for doing that. Others, like my mother, were equally as proud to carry out their newfound right and civic duty in anonymity. I am not surprised I never knew this story about my mother. My mother cast her vote to make her voice count, perhaps not even realizing she was making history at that moment.

Today, at this moment, I stand here as an Iowa farm boy, a proud son of a very early voter in Iowa—one of the first four, according to the Des Moines Register—and a U.S. Senator from Iowa because I want to share her story on the centennial anniversary marking Senate passage of the 19th Amendment.

As Americans, we celebrate the Founding Fathers who enshrined the

principles of limited government, free enterprise, and personal responsibility in our Constitution. Let us also pay tribute, then, to our founding mothers who fought and who secured these cherished blessings of freedom and liberty for their daughters and granddaughters yet to come in the same document. Today, we remember their legacy. Let's respect their legacy.

A century after the Senate voted in favor of the 19th Amendment—on this very day 100 years ago—I encourage all Americans to treasure their right to vote. The suffragists of yesterday helped shape the course of history to ensure all Americans today and for sure in the future will carry the torch of freedom, liberty, justice, and opportunity for all for generations to come.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, first, I want to congratulate the senior Senator from Iowa and say what a wonderful story that is about his mom. And to see a picture like that—it is such an inspiring story. He certainly has a lot to be proud of in many, many ways.

I say to the Senator, now I know more about you, knowing that you had such a smart and strong mom. That tells me a lot. Thank you for sharing that.

I rise with two short topics today. First, I, too, want to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. Even more so, I rise today to celebrate the brave and determined women who fought so hard and for so long for our right to make our voices heard.

I remember coming into the U.S. Senate in 2000 and finding out that it wasn't until 2001—the first year I was here—that we actually had enough women in the Senate to have one woman on every committee, a woman's voice on every committee. It is incredible, actually, that it took until 2001. But this was an important milestone at the time, as together we have been able to achieve many different milestones for women's voices, and we see that continuing to happen.

I want to speak specifically about Catharine Fish Stebbins, a woman from Detroit who was one of those women who fought so hard at the very beginning and on whose shoulders we really stand. She may not have been as well known, but she was a suffragist and an abolitionist. She signed the Declaration of Sentiments at the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls in 1848.

One of the resolutions in that document said: "It is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to elective franchise," and she took that very seriously.

In 1871, accompanied by her husband, Catharine tried to register to vote. She was told no. She tried again, this time

accompanied by a friend who lived in another ward. That friend, Nannette B. Gardner, argued that she was a widow and a taxpayer and that she should be allowed to register. But Catharine was once again told no.

In 1872, she tried to register again. This time, she was told no, but she did get election officials to admit that, in their words, "Mrs. Stebbins would have all the required qualification of an elector, but for the fact of her being a woman."

Catharine never did get to cast a ballot before she died in 1904. Yet I believe she would be extremely proud of how far we have come as a country and how far we have come in Michigan.

Last November, Michigan elected a woman Governor—our second woman to be elected Governor—a woman secretary of state, a woman attorney general, reelected a woman to the U.S. Senate, and elected three new women Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. It was extraordinary.

That is progress, but in my mind, the real progress was that being women wasn't the story. We didn't win because of the novelty of having all of these women running for statewide office. We didn't win thanks to some "pink wave" that was talked about in the press. We didn't win because we focused on "women's issues" because, as we know, every issue is a woman's issue. Instead, each of us won because we were strong and qualified candidates who earned our nominations and ran forward-looking and positive campaigns focused on issues important to Michigan families. Everyone was judged on their own. People weren't talking about our gender and whether it was OK to have women in all of these top positions; instead, they were talking about our qualifications and who was the best candidate. To me, that is truly historic.

There is no question we still have a long way to go. Women now make a quarter of this Chamber. We are one out of four—a historic high. I think Catharine would agree with me that it should be at least 50 percent. That would be a good goal. I think we are maybe 54 percent of the voting population; that is good too.

On this 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, I am celebrating how far we have come and the women, like Catharine, who worked so very hard to get us here. Even more important, I think we all should recommit ourselves to the fight to move forward.

REMEMBERING THAD COCHRAN

Madam President, I would like to take one more minute to talk about a dear friend of mine who is no longer with us, who had a funeral yesterday and one today in Mississippi. I want to pay tribute to someone I was honored to call my friend, and I know that many other Members on both sides of the aisle feel exactly the same way.

Thad Cochran was the senior Senator from Mississippi, but he was so much more. He was a wonderful musician. I

have some very happy memories of joining him to play the boogie-woogie on the piano that was in his office. People couldn't believe that he actually not only had a piano, but he had a grand piano in his office. As someone who grew up in music, we immediately bonded over that, as two people who loved to play the piano.

He was a true gentleman. If he gave you his word, you knew for a fact that he would keep it. His honesty and integrity made him a joy to work with on the farm bill, as well as on so many other issues.

He was deeply devoted to public service, particularly fighting for his farmers, for cotton farmers and others in the delta, protecting the waters of the Mississippi Delta, and caring for Mississippi's children. As author of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, he helped provide healthy food for children and families from Biloxi to Battle Creek and everywhere in between.

Senator Cochran was a legislative legend in Mississippi, and he never stopped fighting for his beloved Magnolia State. He loved Mississippi, and I can tell you that Mississippi loved him right back. I had a chance to see this lifelong love affair up close when I visited Mississippi with Senator Cochran back in 2013. At the time, I was chair of the Agriculture Committee, and Senator Cochran was the ranking member. We were right in the middle of working on the farm bill, and I was invited to speak at the annual meeting of the Delta Council, which has been working to promote economic development in Northwest Mississippi since 1935.

I can tell you that you couldn't find a better Mississippi tour guide than Senator Cochran. I got to see the delta up close and listen to him talk about the waters, the conservation programs he was such a champion for, and the people who depend on them, in that soft drawl of his. Listening to him was like listening to poetry.

Senator Cochran certainly wasn't going to bring me all the way to Mississippi without stopping by a few holy sites of that American form of music called the blues. We visited the iconic Po' Monkey's Lounge in Merigold—one of the last rural juke joints in the State—and met its operator, a local farmer named Willie Seaberry. We also stopped by Clarksdale Crossroads, home of the Delta Blues Museum and the very spot where blues legend Robert Johnson said he sold his soul to the devil in exchange for songwriting success.

I will never forget the picnic by the Mississippi River that he and others hosted for me. If you have never been to a good old-fashioned Mississippi cookout, then I suggest you book a ticket right now. The only thing there was more of than food was southern hospitality. I might have been the token Yankee, but I was welcomed as one of their own.

At every stop along the way, Senator Cochran was just beaming with pride.

He couldn't have been more proud of his State, and they were always so proud of him.

At first glance, you might think we didn't have a lot in common. I am a northerner, and he was a southerner. We were from different political parties and different generations, but we both loved the blues and loved to play the piano. We were both passionate about agriculture and protecting the waters in our States, and we both deeply believed in bridging differences and working together to keep our country moving forward.

In his final speech on the Senate floor, Senator Cochran said this:

We have engaged in heated arguments. But even in full disagreement, I believe all our motivations begin at the same point: the sincere desire to serve our States and country.

Senator Cochran was always able to see the good in others, and I firmly believe that the Senate and our country would be a kinder, better place if more of us would follow his lead.

Senator Cochran was, above all, a statesman, and he was my friend. For that, I will always be grateful. I want to offer his family and friends and the entire State of Mississippi my deepest condolences.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Senator from Wyoming.

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

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

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today as part of our national celebration of the 100th anniversary of U.S. women's suffrage.

Now, 100 years ago today, on June 4, 1919, Congress passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote. This hard-fought legislative victory would ensure women's full participation in our democracy.

On August 18 of 1920, women's suffrage became U.S. law. Now, some of the people watching may not know that Wyoming was actually more than 50 years ahead of the Nation when it came to women voting. That is a fact.

This year, people back home in Wyoming are celebrating both the 100th anniversary of the U.S. women's right to vote and the 150th anniversary of Wyoming women's right to vote. Wyoming truly is the Nation's trailblazer when it comes to women's equality.

Many people think of Wyoming as the Cowboy State, and that name honors our State's great western heritage, but Wyoming is also known as the Equality State—the first State in the Nation to grant women the right to vote, long before statehood, actually, because, on December 10, 1869, the Wyo-

oming territory passed the first law in the United States granting women the right to vote and to hold public office. The law meant full civil and judicial equality with men.

The following year, on September 6, 1870, Louisa Ann Swain, of Laramie, WY, became the first woman in the United States—in the history of the entire country—to vote in a general election.

Twenty years later, Wyoming reaffirmed its commitment to women's rights as we sought statehood. Wyoming, categorically, refused to enter the Union without the right for women to vote. When standing on principle became a major sticking point, Wyoming stuck to its guns on women's equality.

In fact, retaining women's right to vote was so essential that Charles Burritt, of Johnson County, a delegate to the Wyoming Constitutional Convention, famously declared: "If we cannot come into the union of states with a platform of right, why then we will stay out and willingly remain in a territorial form of government until all of us have passed away to the grave." That is how important this issue was to the people of my home State of Wyoming.

In Congress, Joseph Carey was here as a Wyoming delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. He presented the case for statehood in the House of Representatives. He emphasized the strong values of the people of Wyoming, values that included political parity between men and women. Members of Congress opposed to women's suffrage meanwhile argued strongly against Wyoming becoming a State. One Representative opposed to statehood even remarked—and I will quote him from the RECORD of the House of Representatives. He said: "Mr. Speaker, I do not hesitate to say that in my judgment the franchise has been too liberally extended." It is a Member of the House of Representatives arguing against allowing Wyoming to become a State.

Well, Wyoming, of course, won the debate narrowly. On March 26, 1890, the U.S. House of Representatives narrowly passed the Wyoming statehood bill by a vote of 139 to 127. The measure passed the Senate a few months later, and then on July 10, 1890—that is the day we became a State—President Benjamin Harrison signed Wyoming's statehood into law, naming the 44th State the "Equality State"—not the "Cowboy State," not a "Western State" but the "Equality State." Let me just say that my State may have been the 44th State to enter the Union, but Wyoming will always be the first when it comes to women's rights.

Wyoming has declared 2019 as "The Year of Wyoming Women," and on December 10 of this year, Wyoming will celebrate Wyoming's Women's Suffrage Day. It is a time to pay tribute to Wyoming's many women trailblazers, such as Nellie Tayloe Ross, who was Wyoming's 14th Governor and the first

elected woman Governor in the United States.

Governor Nellie Tayloe Ross completed the term of her late husband, Governor William Ross, who had died suddenly in office. She showed great courage and resolve by then running for election—and she did this against the advice of close family and friends—and she won. On January 5, 1925, Nellie Tayloe Ross became the first U.S. woman to be sworn in as Governor, serving with distinction until 1927. She didn't stop there. Nellie Ross went on to become the first female Director of the United States Mint, serving five terms here in Washington from 1933 to 1953. She died in 1977 at the age of 101.

I want to recognize another Wyoming trailblazer today—educator Estelle Reel. Estelle Reel was the first woman elected to Wyoming's statewide office as the superintendent of public instruction. Only 1 year later, in 1895, she became the first woman confirmed by the U.S. Senate to a Federal position, the Superintendent of Indian Schools.

There are a few more Wyoming women firsts whom I would like to mention.

On March 7, 1870, Esther Hobart Morris was the first woman to serve on a jury. That jury was in Laramie, WY. She was also the first female justice of the peace, appointed on February 17, 1870.

In 1870, Wyoming's Mary Atkinson became our country's first female court bailiff.

Wyoming was also home to the first all-woman city government, elected in 1920 in Jackson, WY, and they are shown here in this photograph as Wyoming's trailblazing women. The Jackson Press dubbed them "the petticoat government."

Clearly, the people of Wyoming and all Americans owe an incredible debt of gratitude to the Nation's extraordinary women leaders, past and present, so this year, we celebrate those first laws that gave women the right to vote and ensured their full participation in our democracy.

Thank you, Madam President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. JONES. Madam President, before I get into my initial remarks, let me commend my colleague, the Senator from Wyoming. I didn't know about all of the Wyoming women having been first in women's issues. I congratulate that State, and I hope that, given the record number of women we have in this body and in the Congress of the United States, we will continue that march toward progress that Wyoming started over 150 years ago.

H.R. 2157

Madam President, today I rise to speak about a disaster so many of our American citizens have experienced over the last few months. I am not talking about the historic flooding that has taken place in the Midwest. I am not talking about the devastating

tornadoes that have touched down all over the country, including most recently in my home State of Alabama. I am not even talking about Hurricane Michael, which hit Alabama's Wiregrass and wiped out entire fields of crops. We all agree those have been tragic and deadly natural disasters, but the disaster I want to talk about for a few moments today is the self-imposed disaster that was created by this U.S. Government that has taken place in the wake of these storms and natural disasters.

President Trump and certain Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle have managed to take what has traditionally been a bipartisan process and turn it into a political mess. It began last December when the President decided to insist on funding for some type of wall along our southern border. That demand resulted in the longest government shutdown in our Nation's history. It also set off a series of delays for badly needed disaster relief. Only after the President dropped his demand for wall funding could the government once again open and resume full operations.

After the government reopened and disaster relief was proposed in this new Congress, the President was locked into a political dispute with leaders in Puerto Rico and refused to provide the necessary aid to those American citizens—American citizens—and yet another stalemate thus began. As that stalemate dragged on, the President once again injected the issue of border security and immigration into the unrelated discussions regarding disaster relief. Finally, after a delay of several months that saw the occurrence of additional weather-related disasters, the President, just as he had done with the most recent government shutdown in January, resumed his political demands and signaled he would sign a clean bill that included only disaster relief.

That bill passed the Senate a couple of weeks ago by unanimous consent. Unfortunately, it did not pass the House last week because of three individuals who refused to let it pass the House also with unanimous agreement. It was only after the President withdrew his demands that the bill got to the Senate floor with enough support to garner the necessary votes to pass.

What was interesting about the bill that passed by unanimous consent in the Senate a couple of weeks ago and passed the House of Representatives just last night was the "lo and behold" moment as Republicans voted for the bill last night. A month ago, they had voted against an almost identical bill in order to please the President. They obediently switched their votes to aye when the President signaled his support.

Folks, I think it is somewhat shameful to play politics with people's lives the way we have done in this Congress over the last few months—to play politics with people's lives and their liveli-

hoods, especially when the political issues that were holding things up had really nothing to do with the important issues at hand.

You can see it here. This photograph shows what happened in the Wiregrass area of Alabama just last fall as a result of Hurricane Michael. On the left side of this graphic is the "before" picture. We had a record cotton crop that was ready to be harvested, and everyone was excited about the bumper crop we had. Hurricane Michael came through, and, with no pun intended, it was just gone with the wind—literally wiped out. That was last fall.

Then it was in March that the tornado season once again hit Alabama. This is one photograph, but I can show you many of the devastating effects of the tornado that touched down in Lee County in March, killing 23 people. I myself visited there with the first responders to comfort those who had lost loved ones and had lost everything.

What you cannot see in this picture is the littered countryside of Lee County, littered with not only the splintered trees but with people's lives—their homes, their belongings, their mobile homes that were scattered throughout the entire area. All was lost in that area and in Beauregard and in Smith Station. Yet these folks couldn't get the disaster relief they needed in a timely manner because it was being held up by the President and Congress. These folks had been through so much already, and the fact that we put them through so many months of uncertainty while they were waiting for help from their elected representatives is really unconscionable.

Now that this bill has passed—and I am assuming that as soon as the President comes back, he will sign it, as he signaled he would—I want to thank my senior colleague from Alabama, Senator SHELBY, and Senator LEAHY for their leadership in getting this bill across the finish line. I want to also say a special word of thanks to my neighbors from Georgia, Senator ISAKSON and Senator PERDUE, who worked tirelessly—so hard—to make this bipartisan deal such that the President would sign it.

Although it took far too long, I am certainly grateful that farmers and Americans across the country who have suffered from these disasters, experienced them firsthand, can finally breathe a sigh of relief today because of the disaster relief bill that has finally been passed.

(The remarks of Mr. JONES pertaining to the introduction of S. 1708 and S. 1709 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. JONES. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, 75 years ago tomorrow, June 5, 1944, General Dwight D. Eisenhower gave a speech to U.S. soldiers the day before the invasion of Normandy.

In that speech, he said this:

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

He ended his comments by saying:

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

It was an undertaking not just remarkable for its logistical effort and massive supply planning but for what it meant to humanity: a mobilization in the name of freedom to stand against evil and a massive undertaking uncertain of outcome to fight oppression for a free world.

I hope every American will take some time this week to reflect on that massive undertaking 75 years ago that ultimately led to the liberation of Europe, the destruction of Adolf Hitler, and the end of World War II and to reflect on the sacrifice and courage, the selfless acts of bravery, and the stories of families who never saw a loved one return.

The decision to move forward with the invasion was reached in late 1943. By May of 1944, nearly 3 million Allied troops were amassed in southern England. Gathered along with the millions of soldiers was the largest armada in world history, with over 4,000 ships from Canada, the United States, and Great Britain. There were 11,000 airplanes that participated in the invasion, pounding the shores and Nazi positions, and delivering supplies and thousands of troops up and down the coast of France.

The assault began shortly after midnight on June 6, 1944, with Allied bombers attacking targets along the coast and inland. More than 24,000 American, British, and Canadian airborne assault troops and 1,200 aircraft followed the air bombardment. At 1:30 a.m., the 101st Airborne Division began landing behind Utah Beach, and the 82nd Airborne Division began landing at 2:30 a.m. The second phase on the coast began at 5:30 a.m. when six Allied divisions and numerous small units began landing on five beaches. In total, the Allies landed more than 160,000 troops at Normandy—73,000 American, along with 83,115 British and Canadian forces—on Gold, Juno, and Sword Beaches.

By the end of the first day, Allied casualties were estimated at 10,000 killed, wounded, and missing in action: 6,603 Americans, 2,700 British, and 946 Canadians. From D-Day through August 21, the Allies landed more than 2 million men in northern France and

suffered more than 226,000 casualties, with nearly 73,000 killed or missing. They paid the ultimate price to save the world from tyranny, and their average age was 26 years old.

Etched in the pavement of the U.S. Armed Forces Memorial Garden in Normandy, France, are the words: "From the heart of our land flows the blood of our youth, given to you in the name of freedom." Let us never forget the sacrifice of the greatest treasure this Nation has and what these men and women did for a free world and free people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, one of the things I have noticed over the years that I have given these climate speeches is that corporate engagement on climate change has been one-sided, let's just say. It is clear who my adversaries have been—Big Oil, the coal lobby, the Koch brothers, and some very powerful corporate trade associations—the American Petroleum Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the most powerful of all, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, so-called. In my view, it is more properly called the U.S. Chamber of Carbon. These adversaries have managed a big-money campaign, first, to sow doubt about or outright deny climate change and, second, to block action in Congress and Federal agencies to limit carbon pollution.

The International Monetary Fund just estimated fossil fuel subsidies in the United States at \$650 billion for 2015. Yes, that is "billion" with a "b." When you are defending that kind of subsidy, you spare no expense, which explains the millions of dollars spent by the fossil fuel industry and its trade group cronies in opposing climate bills, in supporting phony climate denial front groups, and in funding election attacks against candidates who might try to limit carbon pollution.

While the fossil fuel industry has been running roughshod around Washington, the rest of corporate America has sat on its hands. Even companies with gauzy website offerings on climate and strong sustainability policies within the company have done virtually nothing to support climate action in Congress. I could name names, but that would make it a very long speech because, basically, everybody in corporate America has been absent here.

There are, at long last, signs that corporate America is waking up to the climate fight it has been losing in Washington. When and if corporate America finally engages in the serious support of climate action, Congress will, once again, spring to life. After a 10-year drought, we could again see bipartisan legislation to reduce carbon pollution.

Why this new spurt of corporate engagement on climate change?

Look at the avalanche of warnings about the financial risks climate change poses to the global economy. In just the last few months, here are some of the warnings: 34 central banks, including Canada's, France's, and England's; a group of major reinsurers; the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco; the investment giant BlackRock; EPA economists and scientists; the Urban Land Institute; the investment advisory firm Mercer; the European Central Bank; and the investment advisory firm Sarasin & Partners. All have separately warned about climate change's tanking the economy.

There are agricultural as well as financial warnings. In April, the big food companies—Danone, Mars, Nestle, and Unilever—announced that they would begin advocating for Federal action on climate change. They see the risk climate change poses to the world's agricultural and water supplies.

Their preferred solution? A price on carbon:

Establish an ambitious carbon pricing system that sends a clear signal to the marketplace to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions aligned with the Paris Agreement goal to keep global temperature increase well below 2-degrees centigrade. An appropriate carbon pricing structure should be transparent in how prices are set, equitable in how revenue is appropriated to mitigate costs on the most vulnerable communities, and built to ensure our global competitiveness.

I fully agree.

Following on those food companies' heels, Microsoft announced that it, too, would begin advocating in Congress for Federal climate action. It joined the Climate Leadership Council—a group of economists, policymakers, businesses, and environmental groups—formed in 2017, to advance a price on carbon. Like the food companies, Microsoft sees a Federal price on carbon as the best policy to tackle climate change.

Then, in May, 13 more companies announced the CEO Climate Dialogue to advocate for climate action. Once again, these companies declared that they supported a price on carbon:

An economy-wide price on carbon is the best way to use the power of the market to achieve carbon reduction goals, in a simple, coherent and efficient manner. We desire to do this at the least cost to the economy and households. Markets will also spur innovation, and create and preserve quality jobs in a growing low-carbon economy.

Note that last sentence: "Markets will also spur innovation, and create and preserve quality jobs in a growing low-carbon economy."

One of the weird things about all of the remorseless opposition to climate action out of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers is that there is a heck of a lot of commerce and a heck of a lot of manufacturing in climate change solutions. So why are they so against them? It is an anomaly but not the only anomaly in climate denial.

Republican colleagues who wax poetic about the free market seem not to

notice this massive \$650 billion subsidy for carbon pollution. That is a big thing not to notice if you are serious about the free market. The last gasp of climate obstruction here in Congress is to talk about innovation as the magic climate solution. Here is the rub: Without a clear market signal in the form of a price on carbon, there will be little incentive to innovate. How do you innovate away a \$650 billion annual subsidy? How does the market work to reduce carbon pollution when carbon pollution is free? Innovations like carbon capture and storage aren't cheap. There is not much of a business case for these innovations—it is hard to see the revenue proposition—unless we put a price on carbon. Then innovation happens.

Am I wrong about market theory?

Let's go to Milton Friedman, the Nobel Prize-winning patron saint of market theory. He was unambiguous about pricing pollution.

He was asked: Was there a case for the government to do something about pollution?

He responded:

Yes, there's a case for the government to do something. There's always a case for the government to do something about it . . . when what two people do affects a third party [. . .] But the question is, What's the best way to do it? And the best way to do it is not to have bureaucrats in Washington write rules and regulations. . . . The way to do it is to impose a tax on the cost of the pollutants . . . and make an incentive for . . . manufacturers and for consumers to keep down the amount of pollution.

So, yes, putting a price on pollution to give an incentive to innovation is core free market principle.

I happen to share that faith in the power of the market to drive innovation when the market is working. But it is not going to happen when the market is distorted by a \$650 billion subsidy.

That is why I filed a carbon pricing bill to help correct that fossil fuel subsidy and balance the market, so those principles can go to work.

At the end of May, 75 companies came to Capitol Hill to advocate for carbon pricing. Together, those companies operate in all 50 States, have annual revenues over \$2.5 trillion, and have a market value of nearly \$2.5 trillion.

These companies met with dozens of lawmakers, both Democrats and Republicans, to make the case for a price on carbon—that it is the commonsense policy to dramatically reduce carbon pollution, drive the transition to a low carbon economy, and grow jobs and the economy. There is enormous economic and scientific support for that argument. There is little opposition to that argument or at least little opposition that can't be traced back to the mischief of the fossil fuel industry and its front groups. I hope my colleagues listened.

I also hope that other companies join in and help the American business community make climate action a

Washington, DC, priority. It can't just be talk. The fossil fuel industry isn't going to just walk away from a \$650 billion annual subsidy. To offset the millions spent by the fossil fuel bandits defending their license to pollute for free is going to require some real effort on the part of corporate America.

It is also going to take corporate America getting control over the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers. The watchdog group InfluenceMap has analyzed business associations around the world. They found that the Chamber and NAM—the National Association of Manufacturers—are the worst—the worst—the most obstructive when it comes to climate action. Here they are, rock bottom: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers—tail end of the worst.

Why? Why are the Chamber and NAM the worst? If the majority of large companies in America support climate action, why do these two trade associations remain so opposed? Why are they the worst?

I strongly recommend that if you are a corporate member of one of these two organizations—if you are a corporate member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, if you are a corporate member of the National Association of Manufacturers—that you demand an audit—that you demand an audit of these trade associations' funding because here is what I expect you will find: You will find that while they had you out on the front porch as a prop for the neighbors to see, they were in the back room, secretly pocketing big money from fossil fuel interests to stop climate legislation. My belief is that the fossil fuel industry has given both the Chamber and NAM so much money that those two organizations have chumped—chumped—their member organizations by ignoring their views on climate in order to keep the money pouring in secretly from the fossil fuel industry.

The members are in a position to find out. Ask. Demand an audit. Find out if you have been chumped by the organizations you support.

This trade association obstruction by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers has to change, but it will not until these trade associations' member companies demand a stop to the obstruction and demand real support for carbon pricing.

Let me close with a word of warning. The alarms are ringing loudly. As one scientist recently said: "The ocean is screaming." Financial crises loom. Our failure over the last three decades to address the climate crisis is a black mark against both our democracy and our system of free market capitalism. Creepy-crawly political subservience to fossil fuel interests has degraded American democracy, and free market capitalism is conspicuously failing to meet the climate challenge. That can change, but it has to change fast.

More than three decades ago, Representative Claudine Schneider and Senator John Chafee, both Republicans from Rhode Island, introduced comprehensive legislation to address climate change—from Republicans, three decades ago. Since then, the fossil fuel industry's campaign to obstruct climate progress has succeeded, but at a terrible price. Every day that we fail to address our climate crisis is a day that we mortgage our children's and our grandchildren's futures.

Through these long decades, the good guys in corporate America have been conspicuously absent. This recent activity makes me optimistic—optimistic that the business community seems to be finally stepping up and optimistic that bipartisanship can be restored.

Eyes are beginning to flutter open around here. Now it is time not just to wake up but to get to work.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Ms. COLLINS. As the senior Republican woman in the Senate today, I am pleased to begin a series of speeches, along with my good friend from California, the senior Democratic woman Senator, Mrs. DIANNE FEINSTEIN, to commemorate a significant milestone in our Nation's history. One hundred years ago today, the Senate finally passed the 19th Amendment, which affirmed the right of women to vote in elections.

All of us recall that in 1775, as the Second Continental Congress was forging a new Nation conceived in liberty, Abigail Adams admonished her husband John to "remember the ladies." Despite Abigail Adam's advice, it took nearly a century and a half for women to achieve their rightful place as full U.S. citizens.

On June 4, 1919, the U.S. Senate passed the 19th Amendment to our Constitution. The courage and determination exhibited by generations of women and men were rewarded in just two sentences:

The rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

That is it. Those are the words of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote.

It is an honor today to join my 24 women Senate colleagues in cosponsoring a resolution commemorating this centennial. The yellow roses that we are wearing are a historic and en-

during symbol of the victory that we celebrate today.

It has often been said, as Emerson put it, that "there is properly no history; only biography." The story of women's suffrage is an anthology of remarkable biographies.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott led the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848. This marked the first time that American women formally demanded the vote. The convention produced the landmark Declaration of Sentiments. Using the Declaration of Independence as a template, it states: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men and women are created equal."

The early women's rights movement was closely linked to the abolition of slavery. Lucretia Mott made her position clear. She said:

"I have no idea of submitting tamely to injustice inflicted either on me or on the slave. I will oppose it with all the moral powers with which I am endowed."

Among the most vigorous advocates of women's suffrage were those who knew too well the lash of oppression, the escaped slaves Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman.

Another very important incident in the march of history occurred in 1872. Susan B. Anthony and 14 other women in Rochester, New York, illegally voted in that year's Presidential election. They were promptly arrested. Susan B. Anthony was put on trial, convicted, and ordered to pay a fine of \$100 or face imprisonment. Imagine—for voting.

She bravely refused, saying that she would never submit to this "high-handed outrage upon my citizen's rights." The authorities wisely chose not to pursue collecting the fine.

Suffrage leaders realized that nothing short of a constitutional amendment would do—one modelled after the 15th Amendment, which granted the vote to all men regardless of race.

With new leaders—such as Carrie Chapman Catt and, later, Alice Paul—stepping forward, a strategy was developed to use every peaceful instrument to change the hearts and minds of political leaders and the public. In addition to marches, rallies, and petitions, they enlisted the power of the pulpit and the press in their just cause.

It took more than four decades for this strategy to succeed, and strong Maine women played key roles. Katherine Reed Balentine, the daughter of the legendary Speaker of the House of Representatives, Thomas Brackett Reed, led the Maine Woman Suffrage Association. Author and activist Florence Brooks Whitehouse became a nationally known suffrage organizer and offered these words to opponents of this cause: "This you must know; the world is mine, as yours."

I am proud to report that when the 19th Amendment came to the Senate floor on that historic day, exactly 100 years ago, both of Maine's Senators, Republicans Bert Fernald and Frederick Hale, were among the 56 voting in favor. Following Senate passage, all

that remained was for 36 of the 48 States to vote for ratification.

Maine became the 19th State to ratify the 19th Amendment, but it wasn't easy. An earlier popular referendum on women's suffrage in Maine got clobbered at the polls by a margin of nearly 2 to 1. Of course, women were not allowed to vote on their own future, which obviously skewed the results.

Recognizing the inherent unfairness of the situation, Maine's Republican Governor, Carl Milliken, called an emergency session of the State legislature and ushered the measure through by a vote of 72 to 68.

By the summer of 1920, only one more State was needed to reach the magic number of 36. The Nation's eyes were on the State of Tennessee, where the amendment was before the legislature. The outlook was discouraging. After two rollcall votes, suffrage opponents, who wore red roses on their lapels, were in a dead heat with the yellow rose supporters. If the measure failed to pass in Tennessee, the 19th Amendment would not be ratified.

At the last possible moment, the youngest Tennessee lawmaker, Harry Burn, despite the red rose that he wore—which indicated you were in opposition—cast his vote in favor of ratification.

After evading an angry mob by climbing out of a third floor window in the Maine Capitol Building and hiding in the attic, Representative Burn explained that he changed his mind after he received a letter from his mother, telling him: "Don't forget to be a good boy" and to do the right thing.

I am sure the Presiding Officer is very familiar with this story.

One of my inspirations in public service, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith, once addressed the question of what is a woman's proper place. Her famous short answer was this: "Everywhere."

The rest of her answer describes the importance of the struggle and the success that we celebrate today. She said: "If there is any proper place for women today, it is that of alert and responsible citizens in the fullest sense of the word."

It is a great pleasure to join my colleagues—particularly the senior Democratic woman Senator, DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California—in saluting those great, courageous, and persistent women who, over many long decades and through much difficulty, guided our Nation to that proper place by giving women the long, overdue right to be full citizens in this country—the right to vote.

Madam President, it is now my great pleasure to yield to my friend and distinguished colleague, Senator FEINSTEIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I want to thank my distinguished colleague from the great State of Maine. Thank you so much, Susan. Thank you for your work

here, for your care, for your concern, and for your vigilance on all issues that affect women. Thank you so much.

Madam President, I am very proud to join SUSAN COLLINS and all of my colleagues on the floor today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Congress's passing the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Before the 19th Amendment, women were actually denied the same basic civil rights as men. We were not allowed to attend a college. We could not become doctors, lawyers, or politicians. Married women had no right to property, and even though women were required to follow the law, they had no say in electing their lawmakers.

Simply put, women were second-class citizens. So it is against this backdrop that the women's suffrage movement took shape decades ago to fight to achieve equality for us, and the fight began at the polls.

In 1916 President Woodrow Wilson faced a tough reelection campaign. At the time, 12 States allowed women to vote. The newly formed Women's Party campaigned forcefully in most States against Wilson because of his strong opposition to women's suffrage. As a result, women voted against Wilson by notable margins, causing the first known gender gap in a Presidential election.

Although Woodrow Wilson ultimately won a second term, the Women's Party made clear that they were a force to be reckoned with. I could not be more proud of the suffragists who fought for decades to secure our right to vote and laid the groundwork for a woman's right to hold office. It is because of fearless, hardworking women like Alice Paul, Lucy Burns, and Dorothy Day that I stand here today on the floor of the Senate representing the largest State in the Union, California.

In the first elections held after the 19th Amendment was ratified, women won public office in 23 States. Today, women are represented in all levels of government—Federal, State, and local.

In 1992, the first year I was elected to the Senate, a historic number of women won elected office. Twenty-four new women were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives that year, and four women—Senators MURRAY, Boxer, Mosley-Braun, and I—were elected to the Senate. Last year, nearly a century after Congress passed the 19th Amendment, women set another record with 102 women serving in Congress and 3 more holding seats on the U.S. Supreme Court. So women are still shattering the glass ceilings.

In 2014, Janet Yellen became the first woman to lead the Federal Reserve. In 2016, Hillary Clinton became the first woman to be nominated by a major political party for President of the United States. And just this year, after being elected the first female Speaker of the House in 2007, NANCY PELOSI became the first woman to be reelected Speaker of the House.

Last Congress, I became the first woman to serve as the ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. This is especially significant for me because I was inspired by Anita Hill's testimony before the all-male Senate Judiciary Committee to run for this office.

Even though there are more women in leadership positions across industries, there is still work to be done. According to the American Association of University Women, in 2017 women earned between 77 cents and 53 cents for every dollar earned by men.

SUSAN COLLINS, we still have a long way to go, it seems to me.

In addition, women continue to face discrimination and harassment at school and in the office, as well as high rates of sexual violence.

Before I close, I would like to address an issue that has unfortunately been in the news quite a bit lately; that is, the latest attacks on women's health and reproductive rights. We should not forget what Justice Ginsburg told the Senate Judiciary Committee during her confirmation hearings in 1992. I was there, and here is what she said:

The decision whether or not to bear a child is central to a woman's life, to her well-being and dignity. It is a decision she must make for herself. When Government controls that decision for her, she is being treated as less than a fully adult human responsible for her own choices.

In the past month, six States have passed blatantly unconstitutional laws that effectively ban abortion, even in cases of rape and incest. These new restrictions are especially concerning in light of the new conservative majority on the Supreme Court, which has long signaled its opposition to women's reproductive rights. Just last month, in a case challenging abortion restrictions in Indiana, Justice Thomas authored an opinion comparing contraceptives to eugenics and demonstrated a clear hostility to Griswold and Roe. Between the Indiana case, the various unconstitutional State laws, and other reproductive rights cases on the Court's docket, many legal observers believe Roe today remains in jeopardy.

As a U.S. Senator, I will continue fighting for equal rights for women, and I will honor the legacy of women who blazed the trail. I am honored to recognize those women and the progress we have made as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of Congress passing the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I thank the Senator from California for her remarks and yield time now to the Senator from Illinois, Ms. DUCKWORTH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I come to the floor today to honor some of the Founders of our Nation who all too often don't get their due—

Founders whose gender or skin tone may not be represented on Mount Rushmore but whose brilliance, whose resilience, helped ensure that the democracy we have today is strong and true.

This democracy wasn't just built by George Washington or Thomas Jefferson. It wasn't perfected in the 18th century when the ink dried on the four original pages of the Constitution.

It was shaped by women like Abigail Adams, whom I named my first daughter after. It was strengthened by suffragists like Sojourner Truth, who worked tirelessly to better the country that had kept her in chains, who used her emancipation to call for freedom and a voice for all women—Black, White, you name it. It was formed by Illinoisans like Ida B. Wells, who demanded that women of color have a place at the forefront of the suffrage movement. It was forged by women like Mary Livermore, who channeled her frustration over women's inequality into action, spearheading Chicago's first-ever suffrage convention 150 years ago and marking Illinois as a leader in the fight for women's rights.

Our democracy was sharpened by a group of Illinoisans who traveled to Washington, DC, in 1913, joining thousands of other women in their march down Pennsylvania Avenue—protesters who were vilified, berated, jostled, tripped, and even jailed but who withstood it all to call for a constitutional amendment giving women the right to vote.

This Union was made more perfect when the 19th Amendment finally passed Congress 100 years ago today.

These women raised their voices on the picket lines so that we could make ours heard at the polls. They risked safety and security, withstood hypocrisy and overcame misogyny, refusing to stay silent so that their daughters and their daughters' daughters would inherit the democracy they deserved. For that, we are forever in their debt.

Of course, every American's right to vote wasn't truly secured that day in 1919, nor was it secured later that week, when Illinois became one of the first States to ratify the amendment, or in 1965, when Lyndon B. Johnson picked up a pen and signed the Voting Rights Act into law.

It still is not secure today—not when voter suppression tactics still block so many people of color from the ballot, when voter roll purges are still common and some in power are still fighting to install modern-day poll taxes.

So we can't get complacent. What began at Seneca Falls continues with us today, as it now falls to our generation to keep alive the work of yesterday's suffragists, to keep pushing for bills like the Voting Rights Advancement Act to ensure that bigoted State laws don't disenfranchise any American. It falls on us to keep fighting for that more perfect Union, to keep making our voices heard—whether that is here on the Senate floor or anywhere

else—so that finally, some day soon, every American can make theirs heard at the ballot box.

I yield the floor.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I recognize the Senator from Alaska, Ms. MURKOWSKI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I rise today to join my colleagues as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the date Congress sent to the States this question: the ratification of a constitutional amendment granting women the right to vote.

Our ancestors have long sought the promise of a better life for themselves and their children. Many of our forebearers came to this country seeking religious liberty, economic security, or personal freedom.

Since 1788, they were drawn to the promise of these words: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Today, most in this body and across the country would agree that a woman's full participation in the life of her community and Nation are crucial if the promise laid out in our Constitution's preamble is ever to be fully realized.

But in 1788 and for many years thereafter, women could not own property, could not open a bank account on their own, or even control the money that they earned through their own work. They could not control their destiny or, indeed, their own bodies. Justice, tranquility, the general welfare, and the blessings of liberty were, for women, what men said they were.

That all began to change on June 4, 1919, the date when finally, after so many years of struggle and failure, the required number of Senators voted aye for House Joint Resolution 1, "proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women." It was very simple yet intensely powerful, a resolution with just one article that read:

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

That remarkable moment, we know, did not come easily. For decades,

women across America sought the promise of our Nation for themselves and their daughters. They were subjected to insults and ridicule and, sometimes, even imprisonment and violence.

In 1906, an editorial in the New York Times defined the word "suffragette" as a "demanding screecher" and "a woman who ought to have more sense." Walking in parades in support of the right to vote, women had insults and worse hurled at them. Suffragists were physically attacked.

Beginning in June of 1917, it got much worse. Here in Washington, DC, police began arresting women who were picketing the White House in support of suffrage for "obstructing sidewalk traffic." Throughout the summer and into the fall, women who refused to pay the fine were sent to the Women's Workhouse in Lorton, VA, or the district jail, where conditions were deplorable. Rats ran free in the prison. The food was infested with maggots. Alice Paul, a leader of the National Woman's Party, and about 71 other women began a hunger strike while in jail and for months suffered force-feeding of raw eggs in milk through nasal gastric tubes. In November, 33 of the imprisoned suffragists were beaten by guards by order of the prison superintendent. One woman's hands were handcuffed high above her head on the prison door for an entire night. Some were left unconscious.

Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Julia Ward Howe, Ida B. Wells, Mary Church Terrell, Alice Paul, and others are widely known as suffragist leaders. There were millions of others across the country doing what they could in their own families, in their own communities and States, to advance women's rights. They marched, protested, sewed flags and banners, and spoke up at home and in their hometowns.

In the following 100 years since the Senate sent the women's right to vote to the States for ratification, the right to vote gave women the power to change their lives and to impact our Nation in so many positive and profound ways. As a result, our Nation has made incredible strides.

Today, in 2019, it may be difficult for some to imagine an America without women leaders in every conceivable endeavor. Amazing women have contributed to our Nation in countless ways, both large and small. We have moved from the horse and buggy era to putting a man on the moon, but man would not have gotten there and back without women mathematicians and engineers.

While few colleges admitted women a century ago, by 1980 more women than men earned bachelor's degrees. Since 1919, women are able to enter any profession for which they are qualified, keep their own wages, start and run corporations, lead scientific and medical advances, and fly into space. Women have the right to be heard in

the Halls of Congress and in their children's schools. We are allowed to determine the guilt or innocence of an accused and volunteer as poll workers. We can inherit property, run the Iditarod, and become mayors and Governors. And we can not only run for office, but we can vote for ourselves.

Women can do anything we put our minds to, but if it had not been for the right to vote—the basic, legal right to be recognized—would we be where we are today? Would we have women like Sandra Day O'Connor, Condoleezza Rice, Christiane Amanpour, or Sally Ride? Would we have the benefit of the voices of countless American women who share their views with Congress because they know that their opinions—backed up by their votes—matter on issues as varied as childcare, climate change, and national security? Would the young women of today have the faith that they really can do anything they set their minds to? Maybe not.

I rise today to call on all Americans to commemorate this day, to remember all those who made it possible, and to honor them by recognizing that the right to vote, to be heard, and to be valued is a precious right. It has not always been implemented fairly, and it must be guarded and defended.

As we look to honor the past, we must also acknowledge that, like our ancestors, we have more progress to make. Gaining the right to vote was the first step toward full equality. Despite the passage of the Civil Rights Act, which makes discrimination on the basis of sex illegal, and despite the Equal Pay Act and the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, our Constitution gives us the right to vote but does not protect us from discrimination.

So in the spirit of women who fought for the rights of women who would come after them, I hope the Senate will pass S.J. Res. 6 to remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. That will be something we will bring up at another point in time. But today, I am able to stand with my friends and my colleagues here in the Senate as we recognize and honor those who paved the way and have allowed for this right to vote, that right and value to be heard.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASIDY). The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Alaska for her eloquent comments.

I now yield to Senator MURRAY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, 150 years ago, in Washington State, a suffragette named Mary Olney Brown went to vote, and like so many others at the time, her vote was rejected. Why? Because she was a woman. She said: "The idea of a woman voting was regarded as an absurdity."

Fifty years later, thanks to the tireless efforts of women like Mary Olney

Brown, that longstanding injustice finally began to change when this Chamber passed the 19th Amendment to guarantee women's right to vote.

Today, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of that important milestone in the march for equality, it is inspiring to see how far women have come over the last century. When we passed the 19th Amendment, there was only one woman in Congress—Jeannette Rankin. Before I ran for the Senate in 1992, there were two women Senators. I was very proud to join the Senate in 1993 and to join with Senator Barbara Mikulski, who is here today, and we became six women in the Senate. Today, there are 25 women serving in the Senate and 102 in the House of Representatives. Today, women are Governors, Fortune 500 CEOs, Nobel Prize-winning researchers, and candidates for President.

It is clear we have come a long way, but we still have more work to do. Women may have more representation, but we still make up less than a quarter of Congress. Women of color are still particularly underrepresented. And we still have some ceilings left to crack. Women are still paid less than men for the same work, and the same gap is even wider for women of color. Women still bear most of the burden of being a working parent, especially when so many lack access to affordable childcare and paid family leave. Nearly 50 years after *Roe v. Wade* was decided, women are still fighting to defend their right to make their own decisions about their own bodies.

These injustices even extend to voting rights. Even after the 19th Amendment was ratified, many women of color were still denied the right to vote by discriminatory barriers designed to keep them from the ballot box. Today, there are still far too many States that have put into effect voter-suppression efforts that disproportionately hurt communities of color, like harsh voter ID laws, limits on early voting, polling machines, voting locations, and "exact match" requirements that make it easy to purge someone from the voter rolls due to a typo.

After all the years women spent fighting for their right to vote, it is unacceptable that these kinds of efforts would strip that right away from anyone, which is why we need to pass legislation to restore the Voting Rights Act to its full power to protect the rights of voters across our country.

While there is still a lot of work ahead to make good on the promise of the 19th Amendment and make sure that everyone in our country who is entitled to vote is actually able to vote and that every woman is able to exercise all of her rights under our Constitution, I am confident we can get there, and I want to say why.

After 2016, I watched as women across the country stood up, spoke out, and fought back. I saw as much energy as I have seen in my lifetime as women joined together against countless dif-

ferent efforts to roll back the clock on their rights. I saw millions of women turn out to march for their rights, and then I saw millions of women turn out to exercise those rights last November. And what happened? They broke records and barriers across the country, and afterwards, several States started breaking down some of the barriers that were put up to block people from voting. I believe that momentum is going to continue to build, especially as women continue to reach out to other women to build a bigger and more inclusive coalition.

So today, as we celebrate the Senate vote to pass the 19th Amendment, I want to not only remember how hard women fought to get that right to vote but to promise that we are going to keep fighting just as hard to protect it for everyone in this country, and then we are going to keep using it to fight hard for the change we want to see in our communities.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for her good remarks today.

I am very pleased to yield time to the Senator from Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Maine for her leadership in today's activity as we commemorate the Senate's action in passing the 19th Amendment and sending that to the States for ratification.

It is amazing to think that it was 100 years ago today—today—that women in this country still did not have the right to vote. When we think about Nashville, TN, today, we are thinking about country music, bachelorette parties, pro-sports; in the summer of 1920, Nashville, TN, was the focus of individuals on both sides of the debate over women's suffrage because that summer was the final push to get the 19th Amendment ratified so that women would forever have the right to vote. Suffragists from all across the country looked to Tennessee in that last-ditch effort to pass an amendment before the 1920 Presidential elections.

As it all came together and as everybody was coming into Nashville—you had the red roses on one side and the yellow roses on the other side—the battle was heating up. The Tennessee House of Representatives had been called back into a special session so that they could debate this issue: Would women receive the right to vote? Would Tennessee agree to vote for ratification of the 19th Amendment?

The pro and anti suffragists flooded that city. Those who opposed enfranchisement, wearing those red roses, went to extreme lengths to prevent a vote. At one point, legislators actually fled the State to prevent a quorum.

They left the State so they would not have to say where they stood on the issue of women having the right to vote. But let me tell you, against those Tennessee women, against suffragists from across the country, all wearing their yellow roses, those legislators never stood a chance.

You have all heard of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, but let me introduce you to a few more of those fierce female fighters from the summer of 1920. There was Anne Dallas Dudley from Nashville, who was really quite an organizer; Abby Crawford Milton; Sue Shelton White from West Tennessee; and, as has been mentioned, Ida B. Wells, who was from Memphis. They are all Tennesseans who fought tirelessly on behalf of suffrage and brought the State's house of representatives to that fateful vote on August 18, 1920.

The Senator from Maine talked a moment earlier about a young legislator, the youngest member of the House of Representatives in the State of Tennessee. His name was Harry T. Burn. Harry was from Niota, TN. He was a freshman house of representatives member. He switched his vote from nay to yea, broke a tie, and made history. As the Senator from Maine said, he did it because of a letter written to him by his mother, who reminded him that he should be a good boy and help Ms. Catt—Carrie Chapman Catt—put the “rat” in “ratification.” He did, and so it was official: Tennessee had become the 36th and final State needed for ratification of the 19th Amendment.

That journey from Seneca Falls, NY, to Nashville, TN, was hard-fought. Sometimes we don't think about how long it took. It was a 72-year journey—72 years—from the Seneca Falls Convention to that final vote in Nashville, TN.

Think about this: The women who started this push for women's suffrage were not alive to see it become the law of the land and become a constitutionally guaranteed right. And the women who voted in that 1920 Presidential election, many—most of them were not even alive when the fight began. But the women who started the fight did it because they knew that women receiving the right to vote was a worthy fight. Today, we owe them so much gratitude for the work they did 100 years ago today in pushing this through the U.S. Senate.

My colleague, Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND of New York, has joined me in working to pass the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act. We are doing that here in the Senate, and in the House, two of our colleagues—Representative ELISE STEFANK from New York and BRENDA LAWRENCE—have introduced a companion bill.

The legislation authorizes the Treasury to mint silver coins honoring the work of women suffrage activists. The coins will be issued in 2020, which also marks the centennial anniversary of the passage, the ratification of the 19th

Amendment. Proceeds from sales of the coin will support the important work of the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative.

It is my hope that because of this, more young women will look to history for guidance and feel very proud of what they learn about the women suffragists, that the little girl who is following her mom into the voting booth will begin to understand and appreciate why so many women are standing in line at the polls to cast their vote, and that women who want to change things in their community or their State or their country will stop waiting for someone else to take the lead and will realize they are empowered to do this because of actions that were taken over 100 years ago.

In 1916, famed suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt stood before the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and she declared:

The time has come to shout aloud in every city, village, and hamlet, and in tones so clear and jubilant that they will reverberate from every mountain peak and echo from shore to shore: The Woman's Hour has struck.

Indeed, the woman's hour did strike and shout, these ladies did.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Tennessee for giving us such a great history lesson, and I appreciate her remarks.

Next on our list of speakers is Senator ERNST followed by Senator SHAHEEN.

I yield to Senator ERNST of Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I thank Senator COLLINS and Senator FEINSTEIN for arranging this afternoon's visit on the floor of the U.S. Senate. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to come to the floor today to recognize the courageous and determined women behind the women's suffrage movement.

These trailblazing women, and countless more like them, paved the way for women in my home State of Iowa and across the Nation to have the right to vote. They forged a path for women like me and all of my absolutely remarkable female colleagues joining me on the Senate floor today.

On this 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, it is easy to think of these courageous women as institutions and visions of strength and perseverance, and that is absolutely what those women are.

They were also once young girls and young women seeking to understand the answer to simple questions like: Why can't my mother vote in an election? Why can't I pursue my dreams?

All too often, the response back then to these questions was simply to tell women that politics and government were too complicated or important for our gender to have a role in it. “Best

leave it to the men to figure out these tough matters.” That is what they would say.

I think the 127 women in Congress this year would have something very different to say about that. To be honest, I don't know if the suffragettes completely understood the tremendous impact their efforts would have now a century later.

They secured more than just the right to vote. The passage of the 19th Amendment has led to immeasurable progress in the right for women's equality on all fronts. I see their spirit in the girls and women, young and old, I meet each and every day in my job as a U.S. Senator.

I was recently at a women's networking event where Gen. Jennifer Walter, the first female Iowa Air Guard general in the Iowa National Guard, talked about her career options when she graduated high school over four decades ago. They were very limited, to say the least. She could be a typist or work in a clerking job in the Air Force or she could be a nurse. Those were the options that were open to her, but General Walter is not one to be boxed in.

She decided to forge her own path forward. That led her to the Air National Guard, first in Kansas and then in my home State of Iowa. There were still plenty of obstacles, but she was unwavering. Walter was going to prove she belonged and could reach her full potential.

Even in my own life, I have benefited from the hard work and the commitment of these women trailblazers. That is especially clear when I look back on my 23 years of service in the Army Reserve and the Iowa Army National Guard.

When I joined the service after college, there were no opportunities for women in combat. By 2003, I was a company commander leading supply convoys in combat zones in Iraq. Like me, hundreds of women were serving the cause of freedom, and some were even paying the ultimate price for our Nation. Yet women could not even formally serve in combat fields or occupations until 2013.

Now I look at my daughter, Libby, as she prepares to enter her second year at West Point, and she also considers entering combat arms. She has so many opportunities ahead of her because of the strong women that came before her.

It is truly an honor to be in the company of so many remarkable women on the Senate floor today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, and it is all the more fitting that we do so during a time when there are more women serving in the U.S. Senate than any other time in history.

We come from every imaginable background and from every corner of our great and beautiful country. I will continue to challenge every one of our

young women today who are contemplating serving our country in government or in the armed services to say yes and to jump into that arena. We are a better nation because of the contributions of women in all walks of life and in all fields of service and in both Chambers of Congress.

Again, I offer my great thanks to Senator SUSAN COLLINS and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California for the opportunity to speak today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, before I yield to my friend and neighbor from New Hampshire, I recognize, in the back of the Chamber, a truly extraordinary woman, an outstanding former U.S. Senator who served in this Chamber from 1987 to 2017, some 30 years, Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. She has served on the Commission that has worked very hard to make sure we commemorate this centennial of women's suffrage, and she has been a mentor and friend to all of us who had the pleasure of serving with her.

I welcome Senator Mikulski back to the U.S. Senate, which was her home for so many years and where she still has so many friends and admirers, of whom I count myself one.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair counts himself one as well.

Ms. COLLINS. The Chair is a very wise man.

Now I yield to Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I thank my neighbor and friend, Senator COLLINS, and Senator FEINSTEIN—the two of them for organizing this afternoon's conversation on the floor in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment.

I also begin by recognizing Senator Mikulski, who was such a trailblazer for so many women. I remember being a young woman involved in politics in the late eighties in New Hampshire right after she was elected to the Senate, and she came up and spoke to us. At the time, I was not sure there was ever an opportunity for a woman in New Hampshire to go anywhere, and listening to her made me realize there were opportunities for women everywhere, and we need to take advantage of them, so I thank Senator Mikulski.

Today we celebrate not only the passage of the 19th Amendment but the countless women who fought for decades before 1919 so that women would one day realize the full rights protected under the Constitution.

As so many of my colleagues have said, we remember women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, who organized the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls in 1848; Susan B. Anthony, who took up the fight following the first convention, and Harriet Tubman, Ida Wells, and Sojourner Truth, who worked tirelessly

for women's rights all while battling the forces of slavery and racism. These women and so many others faced extraordinary obstacles as they protested, marched, lobbied, and, at times, sacrificed their own freedom so women could one day secure the right to vote.

The leaders of the women's suffrage movement understood the fundamental truth; that the rights protected under the Constitution are merely privileges if they are not enjoyed by everyone in our society.

As Susan B. Anthony put it in 1873, "It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; not yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union. And we formed it, not to give the blessings of liberty, but to secure them; not to the half of ourselves . . . but to the whole people—women as well as men."

The suffrage movement was, of course, an effort to achieve political equality for women, but it was also an effort to secure a more perfect Union by giving life to the ideals laid out in our founding documents. This pursuit for equality continues today, and it is in the spirit of our trailblazers that women carry on the fight for full equality under the law.

It is in that spirit that we are here this afternoon on the floor of the Senate to talk about the importance of carrying on the tradition of our Founding Mothers. These figures are an important part of our history, and because of the generations of women they inspired, their legacy lives on today. We must remember their stories and honor their sacrifices. Those sacrifices have helped shape the identity of our Nation, and it is why we celebrate these women in the same regard as we have our Founding Fathers. It is why the issue, for me, of keeping a promise to redesign the \$20 bill with the likeness of Harriet Tubman is so important.

The United States was not shaped exclusively by men, and our living history, which our currency is a part of, should reflect that because the symbols that we have for our country matter.

Leaders of the women's suffrage movement rose from communities across this country, but today I would like to recognize one of the pioneers of that movement from my own State of New Hampshire, Armenia S. White.

Armenia spent most of her life in Concord, NH, which is our capital. She was active in the community, including supporting the abolitionist and temperance movements, but the cause for which she was most passionate was securing the vote for women.

Armenia was the first signer of the call for an equal suffrage convention in New Hampshire, which was held in Concord in 1868. She was also the first president of the New Hampshire Woman Suffrage Association, a position that she held for nearly 50 years. When the time came for New Hampshire to send a delegate to the American Woman Suffrage Association, or-

ganized in Cleveland, Armenia was selected and served in that position for decades.

Armenia's efforts in New Hampshire were largely responsible for the decisions by the State legislature in 1871 and 1878 to make women eligible to serve on school committees. I think it is interesting that we were eligible to serve on school committees before we were eligible to serve in the legislature. But, nevertheless, not only did she help women become eligible to serve on school committees, but she secured women a vote in local school district elections.

Sadly, Armenia never lived to see women secure the right to vote with the passage of the 19th Amendment, but her efforts to improve equality in New Hampshire and throughout the Nation left an enduring impact on the movement. It is an impact that, as the first woman elected to be Governor of New Hampshire and then elected to be Senator there, I have benefited from. I feel a deep sense of gratitude to Armenia and to so many women who came before me for forging a path so that women could one day serve in public office and so that one day we could vote.

Alice Paul, the leader of the women's suffrage movement, once described women's suffrage saying:

I always feel the movement is a sort of mosaic. Each of us puts in one little stone, and then you get a great mosaic at the end.

As we recognize and celebrate the passage of the 19th Amendment, we must remember that there is still so much work to do, and even the smallest stones contribute to this great mosaic.

I thank the Presiding Officer and thank again my colleagues, Senator COLLINS and Senator FEINSTEIN, for leading this effort.

We still have a lot of work to do.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from New Hampshire, and it is now my pleasure to yield time to the Senator from Nebraska, Mrs. FISCHER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I, too, would like to thank the senior Senator from Maine and the senior Senator from California for organizing the colloquy we are having on the floor today in recognition of a very historic moment.

To have Senator COLLINS be a leader here in the U.S. Senate has been just a wonderful experience for me and to share with her the last 7 years that I have been here. She is truly a leader, and she is a mentor to both men and women here in the Senate. I always tell people, if you want to see a true legislator, you need to watch SUSAN COLLINS.

Mr. President, I rise today with great honor and pride to join my colleagues in recognizing the 100th anniversary of

the Senate passage of the 19th Amendment, which did pave the way for women's constitutional right to vote in this country. Today we celebrate this historic milestone, and we honor the suffragists, women of courage who were pioneers and leaders.

These women who fought for their God-given right to vote in the greatest democracy the world has ever seen must be remembered. Nearly 100 years ago, with picket signs in hand, Alice Paul led hundreds of brave suffragists to the White House to advocate for the essential role of women's right to vote in this Republic.

Today, almost a century later, women make up half of the electorate. According to the Pew Research Center, more women voted than men in the 2018 elections.

As I stand today in this Chamber alongside the women of the Senate, I am so grateful for the strength of the women who came before us. On this historic day, I would like to reflect on some of Nebraska's strong and very influential women who have made a difference. Susette LaFlesche Tibbles served as a translator for Chief Standing Bear during his famous speech when he fought for Native Americans to keep their land. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Willa Cather is renowned for her work chronicling life on the Great Plains. And biographer, historian, and teacher Mari Sandoz invested in the next generation of creative writers.

I also think of women in politics from my home State of Nebraska who inspired me to serve my community, my State, and my country. I think of Kay Orr, Nebraska's first female Governor and the first female Republican Governor in the United States. I think of Virginia Smith, my congressional Representative and the first woman from Nebraska to hold a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Let's not forget the stories of the suffragists and all of the women throughout our Nation's history whose courage and brilliance changed the world. It is because of them that we stand today in the hallowed Chamber of the U.S. Senate, with a record number of women serving in Congress and record numbers of women exercising their constitutional right to vote. We will never forget the path that brought us here today and the pioneers who fought for the rights of millions of women to participate in the core function of our Republic.

I encourage my Senate colleagues to swiftly pass the resolution before us today, and I hope in doing so that it serves as encouragement and inspiration for future generations of women who will continue to write America's story.

Thank you again to Senators COLLINS and FEINSTEIN and to all of my colleagues for sharing their stories, their past, and their future vision for this country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I want to thank the Senator from Nebraska for her very kind comments and her eloquent remarks, and I am now pleased to yield time to the Senator from Wisconsin, Ms. BALDWIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator COLLINS.

I rise today proudly wearing a yellow rose in solidarity with 24 other women who serve in the U.S. Senate to recognize what is a very historic milestone in our Nation's history. Almost 100 years ago, after decades and decades of struggle by brave women and men, our Nation finally extended to women the most fundamental right of our democracy—the right to vote. The struggle for women's suffrage was fought in every corner of our country, and communities all over the Nation are planning to recognize their contributions over the next year.

Today marks precisely 100 years to the day that the Senate passed the 19th Amendment. I am proud to state that a week later, on June 10, 1919, Wisconsin became the first State in our Union to ratify the 19th Amendment. I am always proud to say that my home State was the very first to ratify women's right to vote, narrowly beating our neighbor to the south, the State of Illinois, because of a paperwork error. You know, we are still first. I am especially happy that I will forever have bragging rights over my friend from Illinois, the co-chair of the Senate caucus, Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH, because Illinois wasn't quite quick enough and Wisconsin did it first.

I am also proud today to wear a purple ribbon. This ribbon is in recognition of the women of color who fought and marched alongside their White colleagues in the suffrage movement but whose contributions went largely unsung and many of whom were still denied the right to vote after the 19th Amendment was ratified.

As we observe and celebrate this historic moment, we must be careful not to mistake progress for victory. With just 131 women currently serving in Congress, we are well short of equal representation in government. Government works best when legislatures reflect the people they work for—when they look like America. That is why it is important to increase the number of women who serve in public office. Women are half the population. We should be half of our Nation's government, too.

When I first entered public service, I had the opportunity to sit on the Madison City Council. I remember well a meeting when I had one of those light bulb moments of the difference that women make when we serve.

The city council that day was debating whether to extend service and add an additional bus route that went di-

rectly to the Madison Area Technical College's new campus. I remember listening to my male colleagues and their participation in the debate. There was a lot of focus on funding and logistics and finger pointing at which body in government should bear this responsibility. At first, they didn't seem to think that the city council should take action to add another bus route.

Then I began hearing the voices of my female colleagues. They began speaking of and describing their experience traveling to campus. They spoke about evening classes and having to walk a long distance down a poorly lit road to get to the nearest bus stop. They spoke about the dangers of walking home alone at night. Most women can identify with the fear of walking or commuting home late at night. It seemed that the men in the debate hadn't thought about it in the same way before that moment. The whole debate changed as soon as women's voices were heard, and the city council ultimately voted to fund a new route that went right to the campus door.

Women bring their life experiences to the job. It helps inform our debate, our votes, and the policies that we deliver. My experience with the women of the U.S. Senate, past and present, is that they ran for office and came to Washington to solve problems. I feel like we are guided by the idea that our job is to work together and to get things done. That is what we do, both Democrats and Republicans, as we work together to deliver solutions.

I worked with my colleague Senator SUSAN COLLINS to pass legislation to better support the more than 40 million family caregivers in this country who contribute millions of dollars each year in uncompensated care for their loved ones. I worked with my colleague Senator JONI ERNST to pass legislation to provide our Nation's farmers and agricultural workers with the mental health resources they need to deal with the extreme economic stress that our farmers have faced in recent years. I worked with my colleague Senator LISA MURKOWSKI to pass legislation that will bring more obstetricians to rural areas and expand access to maternity care to women so they no longer have to drive hours to get the healthcare they need or to deliver their babies.

I appreciate these partnerships and the many others that I have been able to experience, and I look forward to continuing to work together on a bipartisan basis to deliver results for the American people. With more women in public office, you will see more solutions to the challenges and problems we face. Women get stuff done.

In 2017, I was proud to lead bipartisan legislation to establish the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission and ensure that we give this important anniversary the recognition and celebration it deserves. I am thrilled to say that the Commission is now hard at work in developing, supporting, and

lifting up commemorative efforts across this country. It is working with private organizations and government at every level to encourage and help facilitate their events.

I give a particularly heartfelt thank-you to my friend and former Senator Barbara Mikulski, who helped to get the Commission started and is now actually serving as a Commissioner.

I look forward to seeing the great work of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission as we get closer to the formal anniversary celebration of when the 19th Amendment finally became part of our Nation's charter.

I am grateful today for the brave women who came before us and fought for the right of all American women to have a say in their own government. Thanks to their struggle, their persistence, and their determination to bring women the right to vote, I stand here today as one of 25 women who serves in the U.S. Senate and represents the great State of Wisconsin.

We have more work to do, but in 2018, more women ran for office and won than ever before in our Nation's history. As a result, we have a new Congress that is starting to look just a little bit more like the people it aims to represent. Let's keep building on that progress, and let's keep working together on solutions to the challenges we face today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am now pleased to yield to the Senator from Maryland, Mr. CARDIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I thank Senator COLLINS for arranging for us to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of women's suffrage here in the Senate.

I thank my colleague Senator FEINSTEIN for working together so that we all have a chance to reflect on the progress we made and the commitment to make sure we continue to move forward.

It was June 4, 1919—100 years ago today—that the Senate passed the women's suffrage constitutional amendment, but the campaign started with the birth of our Nation. On March 31, 1776, Abigail Adams wrote a letter to her husband, who was serving in the Continental Congress.

She wrote:

I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such an unlimited power in the hands of the husbands. . . . If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.

I am sorry that our Founding Fathers did not listen to Abigail Adams.

Over 144 years later, the 19th Amendment was adopted to our Constitution, providing for women's suffrage. It passed first in the House of Representatives on May 21, 1919, and then in the Senate on June 4, 1919.

The right to vote was the first step. Over the last 100 years, we have seen tremendous progress. Legally, financially, and socially, more women have entered the workforce than ever before. Women are filling key leadership posts in increasing numbers, but we still have an unfinished agenda for equality for women.

I think most people in this country would be surprised to learn that there is nothing in the Constitution of the United States that guarantees equal rights for women. As the late Justice Scalia said, there is nothing in the Constitution that requires discrimination against women, but there is nothing that protects women against discrimination.

Senator MURKOWSKI and I introduced S. Res. 6, which extends the date for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. In 1972, we passed the Equal Rights Amendment here for ratification for the States and extended it one time, and 10 years later, 35 States had ratified the Equal Rights Amendment—3 short of the required 38. Nevada and Illinois have since ratified the amendment, so it is one State short. However, we need to pass the resolution to extend the time limit.

As Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has said—and this is interesting—every constitution written since the end of World War II includes a provision that men and women are citizens of equal stature. Ours does not. It is well past time that we passed the Equal Rights Amendment.

The 27th Amendment to the Constitution took over 200 years to ratify. It deals with congressional pay increases.

We can pass and should pass in this Congress a fitting tribute to the celebration of women's suffrage—the Equal Rights Amendment for women.

We need to do more for equal pay for equal work. I acknowledge the extraordinary leadership that we had in Maryland and this Nation in Senator Barbara Mikulski. She was a true champion in so many ways—as a social worker, as a city councilperson, as a Member of the House of Representatives, and as a U.S. Senator—in advancing rights for women, particularly in the workplace. I remember, with pride, seeing her stand next to President Obama as he signed his very first bill, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which enforced rights for women in the workplace. As Senator Mikulski would point out, we still have work to do. We still have not passed equal pay for equal work in this country, and this Congress should deal with that.

We have a wealth gap. There is no question that women do not have the same wealth as men. In working with Senator RUBIO on the committee on which I serve as ranking member, the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, we must look at whether the tools of the Small Business Administration's are providing help to women to develop their own businesses.

Wealth is usually accumulated through business growth, and we need to do more to help women.

In the State of Maryland, I am proud that 39 percent of our small businesses are owned by women, but women do not have equal access to the tools with which to access capital. We can do better with the 7(a) Program and with the Community Advantage Pilot Program, particularly in making it permanent. So there are still steps we can take to help advance equal rights and equal opportunity for women.

There is women's healthcare. The constitutional right of women to make their own choices about their own health and well-being is again being challenged by some of our States and here on Capitol Hill. Whether it is abortion, preventive screening, or contraception, access to reproductive healthcare provides women with greater economic opportunity. Treating women as less than equal was wrong at the start of our Nation, and it is wrong today.

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, let us do several things. First, I urge all of our colleagues to support the resolution that is pending, S. Res. 212, in regard to celebrating the women's suffrage and, second, that we work for full equality for women in our Constitution, in the workplace, in entrepreneurship, and in healthcare.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to yield to the Senator from Minnesota, Ms. KLOBUCHAR.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, Senator CAPITO from West Virginia, who, in the spirit of today, has allowed me to take her place, and she will go next.

I rise to join my colleagues to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment. I thank Senator COLLINS and Senator FEINSTEIN for taking the lead in bringing us together today.

Just think. One hundred years ago today, the Senate voted to guarantee and protect a woman's constitutional right to vote, marking an important milestone in our democracy. My home State of Minnesota was the 15th State to ratify the 19th Amendment, and women like Dr. Mary Jackman Colburn, Sarah Burger Stearns, Clara Ueland, and Sarah Tarleton Colvin fought to make it happen.

By the way, on a historical note, when President Wilson refused at first to support a constitutional amendment to grant women equal voting rights, suffragists like Sarah Colvin of Minnesota chained themselves to the fence of the White House and burned an effigy of the President. After weeks of similar protest fires and intense pressure to support equal rights, he announced his support of a constitutional amendment.

We also must remember, in addition to people like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Susan B. Anthony, the African-American suffragists who were in the league—Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, and Margaret Murray Washington.

The women's suffrage movement encountered strong opposition. It doesn't feel like that would have happened now, but it did back then, and those who opposed equality came up with creative reasons to keep women from voting.

The National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage was a real organization and published a pamphlet full of propaganda. The pamphlet read that if women were granted the right to vote, some States would be under "petticoat rule." The pamphlet also provided a list of household cleaning tips for women, such as not needing a ballot to clean out your sink spout and that there is no method known by which a mud-stained reputation may be cleaned after bitter political campaigns. Posters were scattered across cities that depicted men at home taking care of babies and cooking and cleaning because they had been abandoned by their voting wives.

One hundred years later, I think we can safely say that none of the dire warnings described in the propaganda came to pass and that the United States of America did not perish under the "petticoat rule." What did happen is, in 1920, in the first Federal election in which women could vote, the total popular vote increased dramatically from 18.5 million to 26.8 million by 1920.

When I arrived in the Senate, there were only 16 women, led by the dean of the women Senators, who is here with us today, Senator Barbara Mikulski. As noted by my colleagues, we now have 25 women Senators. That is an alltime high because, when you look at the history of the Senate, there have been nearly 2,000 male Senators and only 56 women. I was on the Trevor Noah show a few months ago, and he said that if a nightclub had that kind of ratio, they would shut it down. Yet, in fact, we are at an alltime high with 25 women Senators and with more to come.

Someone once said that women should speak softly and carry a big statistic. Well, I don't agree with the "speak softly" part, but there is some merit to the big statistic. Maybe because it was harder for them to get where they are, I have found women Senators to be accountable, to say what they are going to do, and to get it done. There was actually a study from Harvard—the University of Minnesota of the East—that showed that it was, in fact, true.

My colleagues have mentioned the challenges ahead. We have to make sure that more people can vote and that we don't suppress votes. We need to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. We need to make sure that we have

equal pay. There are many, many challenges ahead.

We celebrate today because we all stand on the shoulders of those before us. In our case, we stand on the very broad shoulders of our friend Barbara Mikulski, who once said—and I still remember this—when we took up a woman's issue on the floor, to put on your suits, square your shoulders, put on your lipstick, and get ready for a revolution. I don't know what revolution she was talking about, but hers was the voice of those before us. We all stand on their shoulders, and we are happy to take up their torch.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I yield to the Senator from West Virginia, Mrs. CAPITO.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I thank all of my colleagues, particularly my colleague from Maine, Senator COLLINS, for her leadership on this issue and many others.

It is great to be here with our former colleague Senator Mikulski, who taught me how to be tough on the Appropriations Committee—if I could only be that tough.

I join my colleagues today to commemorate and celebrate the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment. We all know the history—at least we should—and we have talked a lot about it today. We have heard the names in documentaries and have read about them in history books—Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, and so many others. These suffragists, these leaders paved the way for women to exercise their right to vote, changing history and the fabric of our Nation in the process. I think it goes without saying that this was no small or easy feat. In fact, it was a pretty tough fight, and it wasn't won overnight. It took a total of 9 years for the amendment to reach the Senate floor.

In 1887, the vote for suffrage was actually defeated—hard for us to imagine. I think experiencing legislative defeat is something we all have experienced with in this body. But that was not the end. It certainly took too much time, and things started to really heat up around 1916. That year, the people of Montana made the monumental move of electing Jeannette Rankin to the House of Representatives. Interestingly enough, with a woman finally serving in Congress, it didn't seem so crazy that a woman should be able to have a say when it comes to who serves.

Eventually, the Senate passed the resolution proposing the 19th Amendment. The date was June 4, 1919, exactly 100 years ago. I am proud to say that both of West Virginia's Senators at the time, Senator Howard Sutherland and Senator Davis Elkins, voted in favor of the resolution—I would expect nothing more from tough moun-

taineer men—and that language was adopted and ratified to the Constitution on August 18, 1920, marking the moment that women were given the opportunity to have their voices heard at the ballot box.

Finally, our country was acknowledging that women had a voice and that their voice was needed to be a part of this democracy. Don't get me wrong—women were not instantly made political equals of men overnight, at least not in practice. Even today, despite making up more than half of the population, women do not make up half of the Congress, and that is something we are working hard on every day. Over the years, thanks to the pioneering efforts of the suffragists and others who came before them, we have made progress, yes, and we have celebrated many victories, from the very small to the very significant.

Just think, when I first came to Congress in 2001—I saw my colleague from Tennessee, but I don't believe she was here then—we had to work to just get a woman's restroom put in off the floor of the House of Representatives. Today, I am one of 127 women who have the honor of serving our districts and our States and our country in Congress. That is the most women to ever serve in the Congress. And across the Nation, there are countless future leaders. That is why I think this day is so important.

I am very proud of the history my home State of West Virginia has already made when it comes to having women participate in our democracy.

In 1951, Elizabeth Kee of Bluefield took the place of her husband, the Honorable Congressman John Kee, to be the first woman to represent West Virginia in the U.S. Congress.

I am also proud to say we have CAROL MILLER—another woman—on the other side representing our State.

Elizabeth Kee had been her husband's longtime secretary—which, by the way, is not allowed today—and actually stood up against party leaders who said she should retain her position as secretary for the incoming appointee. She didn't listen to that, thank goodness.

When the 26th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified in 1971, changing the voting age from 21 to 18, this was done at the dogged insistence of my predecessor, Senator Jennings Randolph. But a proud West Virginian, Ella Mae Thompson Haddix, was the first person in the United States of America—a young woman from West Virginia—to register to vote as an 18-year-old.

I am very honored to be the first woman to represent my State, and many of us are that in our States. With that honor, I feel a special obligation to help the next generation of young leaders. I started a program called West Virginia Girls Rise Up, and with that program, I travel and talk to fifth grade girls, encouraging them to set goals for themselves and then work to achieve them. We talk about what it

means to be a leader in whatever career or field they love or are passionate about. My hope is that eventually these girls will grow into engaged citizens and leaders—not only women who vote but women who aren't afraid to run for office or run a boardroom or pursue a STEM career or anything else they might desire.

The 19th Amendment—hard fought—brought women more than just the right to vote; in many ways, it gave us women more courage to run, to advocate, and to lead.

I thank my colleagues for taking time today to celebrate the 19th Amendment, to celebrate civic-minded women, courageous women, and to celebrate that our country is stronger now and will be stronger in the future because women are voting and leading.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MCSALLY). The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, earlier, I recognized Senator Barbara Mikulski, an outstanding leader and former colleague and member of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission. I also want to acknowledge that there are other members of the Commission who are here with us today. We welcome them as they observe this debate, and we thank them for their hard work to make sure this significant occasion is recognized.

It is now my great pleasure to yield time to the Senator from Washington, Senator CANTWELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Maine for helping us coordinate this very important moment today, and I, too, want to recognize the presence of our former colleague, who is playing such a great role in helping us commemorate next year as such a very important time for us to recognize the important role of women's voices in American politics.

I join my colleagues today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Senate's passing of the 19th Amendment and to honor all the women who struggled hard and long to make sure our democracy included our voices, the voices of all women, all those women who saw the promise of the United States and fought for their place in it. Those women helped craft a more perfect union. For nearly a century, these women fought to be heard, and their efforts fundamentally transformed our democracy and our country.

I am very proud to represent a State with a long tradition of women activists and leaders. Today, I want to recognize two influential suffragists from my State—Emma Smith DeVoe and May Hutton. Both women were pioneers in the struggle to get the right to vote. In an era when women were given few opportunities, these two women refused to be held back. They instead paved a way for women to fully engage in the political process.

Tacoma resident Emma Smith DeVoe built the Washington Equal Suffrage

Association and led the successful campaign to enshrine women's suffrage in Washington's State Constitution a full 10 years ahead of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. She helped win the right to vote for women in Idaho in 1896 and led campaigns in other States, speaking and organizing rallies and sit-ins, and she helped found the National Council of Women Voters to continue the nationwide suffrage movement and educate newly enfranchised women about politics across the country. Her efforts got her the nickname "the Mother of Woman's Suffrage."

May Hutton, the other activist from our State, overcame a very difficult childhood. She and her husband became successful entrepreneurs and devoted much of their self-made wealth to activism.

When they moved to Spokane from Idaho in 1906, May actually lost her right to vote in the process. She quickly set out to work to change that injustice and win the franchise for women in every State in the territory.

She wrote:

Women should vote because they have the intelligence to vote. They should vote because it gives them responsibilities, and responsibilities better fit women for all conditions of life. Equality before the law gives women a fair chance with men in a question of wages for the same work.

There you go—a century ago, someone standing up for women to have the same wage in work, and that is the work we continue here today.

She continued:

In other words, the enfranchisement of women means a square deal for all.

May stood tall for more than just women's rights; she proposed extending the franchise to all adults, regardless of sex, race, or color.

Washington's territorial legislature gave women the right to vote in 1883, but it was struck down by the courts. Because of the continuous efforts of Ms. DeVoe, Ms. Hutton, and so many others, women finally gained the franchise in Washington in 1910—a full decade before this right was guaranteed nationally. Emma Smith DeVoe and May Hutton paved the way for so many women. Washington State is proud of their work, and we are proud of their accomplishments.

As we honor them today, we must also recognize that the struggle for equal rights is still not over. We have more to do. We know that our country is stronger, more representative, and more successful when we include women at every table and in every boardroom and at every ballot box and in every discussion in our families and in our communities, but we need to be reminded of the example of Emma and May so that other suffragists know that we remember their work and are grateful for it and that we are going to continue the fight to get equal access and equal representation in all issues in the United States.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I simply want to thank my colleagues for their participation today in bringing to the attention of the American people that this truly is a historic occasion, a date on which we celebrate the Senate's passage of the 19th Amendment granting women a long-overdue right to vote. I want to thank all of my colleagues who participated in the speeches. The history they brought from their individual States was fascinating indeed.

It is my understanding that we will now move to pass commemorative coin legislation introduced by the Senator from Tennessee.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 1235 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1235) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Barrasso amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 251) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To add Esther Hobart Morris to a list of suffrage activists)

On page 2, line 18, insert "Esther Hobart Morris," before "and".

The bill (S. 1235), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 1235

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 "Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York.

Sixty-eight women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments at the Convention in July 1848.

(2) The Declaration of Sentiments was modeled after the Declaration of Independence and declared that “all men and women are created equal”, linking women’s rights directly to the founding ideals of the United States.

(3) Suffrage activists, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells, Jovita Idar, Inez Millholland, Mary Church Terrell, Anne Dallas Dudley, Carrie Chapman Cat, Alice Paul, Lucy Burns, Esther Hobart Morris, and many others, conducted over 900 local, State, and Federal campaigns over a 72-year time span to win women the right to vote.

(4) On November 6, 1917, New York granted women the right to vote, which was an act that created momentum for the national movement that culminated in the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States 3 years later.

(5) The 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States (“The Susan B. Anthony Amendment”) guarantees all United States women the right to vote and was passed by the 66th Congress of the United States on June 4, 1919.

(6) On August 9, 1920, right before the ratification period was set to expire, Governor Albert H. Roberts called a special session of the Tennessee General Assembly to consider the amendment. Pro-suffrage and anti-suffrage activists from around the country descended on Nashville, Tennessee, intent on influencing the legislature.

(7) After the amendment was defeated in a 48-48 tie vote, Tennessee State Representative Harry T. Burn from McMinn County cast the deciding favorable vote after receiving a note from his mother, Phoebe Ensminger Burn, imploring him to vote yes for ratification.

(8) On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th and final State needed to pass the 19th Amendment, ensuring its ratification pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States.

(9) The 19th Amendment was ratified on August 26, 1920, when Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby issued a proclamation announcing it has become part of the Constitution of the United States.

(10) The ratification of the 19th Amendment marked the single largest extension of voting rights in United States history, enfranchising 27,000,000 American women in the United States.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is—

(1) to honor and commemorate the work of women suffrage activists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries;

(2) to increase public awareness and appreciation for the history of the women’s suffrage movement; and

(3) to encourage all women in the United States to exercise their hard-won franchise and to become involved in civic life if they so choose.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (1) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COIN.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the women who played a vital role in rallying support for the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

(2) DESIGNATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2020”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, “E Pluribus Unum.”

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall—

(1) contain motifs that honor Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Carrie Chapman Catt, Harriet Tubman, Mary Church Terrell, Alice Paul, Lide Meriwether, Ida B. Wells, and other suffrage activists of the late 19th century and early 20th centuries;

(2) be selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Smithsonian Institution’s American Women’s History Initiative, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(3) be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2020.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

(1) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin described under section 3(a)(1).

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and section 8(2), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Smithsonian Institution’s American Women’s History Initiative for the purpose of—

(1) collecting, studying, and establishing programs relating to women’s contributions to various fields and throughout different periods of history that have influenced the direction of the United States; and

(2) creating exhibitions and programs that recognize diverse perspectives on women’s history and contributions.

(c) AUDITS.—The Smithsonian Institution’s American Women’s History Initiative shall

be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

NOMINATION OF ANDREW M. SAUL

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I oppose the nomination of Andrew Saul to be Commissioner of Social Security. I am deeply concerned about the treatment of unions who represent workers at the Social Security Administration, and Mr. Saul declined to give meaningful assurances that anything will change under his leadership. Americans everywhere count on the Federal employees of the Social Security Administration to ensure fairness and efficiency in the benefits provided by Social Security for retirees, people with disabilities, and surviving spouses and dependents.

The Social Security Administration demonstrated particular hostility towards its workforce in the way it implemented Executive orders that were issued by President Trump on May 25, 2018, which would have undermined lawful civil service protections. Despite a court order striking down significant portions of these Executive orders, management at the Social Security Administration has continued to insist on positions in collective bargaining agreements that closely mirror the invalidated Executive orders. The Federal Service Impasses Panel recently imposed a contract on one of the unions representing Social Security workers that hews closely to the Executive orders, including provisions to deny the union use of office space in government buildings and slash the official time available to the union to fulfill their statutory duties to represent workers.

When asked about these attacks on the rights of Social Security workers, Mr. Saul provided only vague statements that included no commitments to take meaningful action to improve labor practices at Social Security. Workers at the Social Security Administration and the American people who are counting on Social Security deserve better, and I hope Mr. Saul will prove me wrong by proactively engaging with his workforce and reversing the damage that has been done.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume legislative session.

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE FOR THE ACTS OF HEROISM AND VALOR BY THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE JUNE 6, 1944, AMPHIBIOUS LANDING AT NORMANDY, FRANCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 98, S. Res. 135.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 135) expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the acts of heroism and valor by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending those individuals for leadership and bravery in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment, and with an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

Whereas June 6, 2019, marks the 75th anniversary of the Allied assault at Normandy, France, by troops of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Free France, known as "Operation Overlord";

Whereas, before Operation Overlord, the German Army still occupied France and the Nazi government still had access to the raw materials and industrial capacity of Western Europe;

Whereas the naval phase of the Allied assault at Normandy was code-named "Operation Neptune", and the date of June 6, 1944, is referred to as "D-Day" to denote the day on which the combat attack was initiated;

Whereas the D-Day landing was the largest combined arms amphibious assault in history, consisting of—

(1) approximately 132,600 members of the Allied Expeditionary Force, including 57,500 members of the United States Armed Forces;

(2) more than 23,000 airborne troops supporting the seaborne landings;

(3) approximately 7,000 naval vessels; and

(4) more than 14,000 sorties by Allied aircraft;
Whereas soldiers of 6 divisions (3 from the United States, 2 from the United Kingdom, which included troops of Free France, and 1 from Canada) and 3 British armored brigades stormed ashore in 5 main landing areas on beaches in Normandy, which were code-named "Utah", "Omaha", "Gold", "Juno", and "Sword";

Whereas, of the approximately 10,000 Allied casualties incurred on the first day of the landing, more than 6,000 were members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the Allied assault and following operations were supported by ships, aircraft, and troops from Australia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Free Norway, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the Polish Armed Forces in the West;

Whereas the advanced age of the last remaining veterans of, and the gradual disappearance of any living memory of, World War II and the Normandy landings make it necessary to increase activities intended to pass on the history of those events, particularly to younger generations;

Whereas the young people of Normandy and the United States have displayed unprecedented commitment to, and involvement in, celebrating—

(1) the veterans of the Normandy landings; and

(2) the freedom brought by those veterans in 1944;

Whereas the significant material remains of the Normandy landings found on the Normandy beaches and at the bottom of the sea in the territorial waters of France, such as shipwrecks and various items of military equipment, bear witness to the remarkable and unique nature of the material resources used by the Allied forces to execute the Normandy landings;

Whereas 5 Normandy beaches and a number of sites on the Normandy coast, including Pointe du Hoc, were the scene of the D-Day landings and constitute, and will for all time constitute—

(1) a unique piece of world heritage; and

(2) a symbol of peace and freedom, the unspoiled nature, integrity, and authenticity of which must be protected at all costs; and

Whereas the world owes a debt of gratitude to the members of the "Greatest Generation" who assumed the task of freeing the world from Nazi and Fascist regimes and restoring liberty to Europe: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the amphibious landing of the Allies on D-Day, June 6, 1944, at Normandy, France, during World War II;

(2) expresses gratitude and appreciation to the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the D-Day operations;

(3) thanks the young people of Normandy and the United States for their involvement in events celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings with the aim of making future generations aware of the acts of heroism and sacrifice performed by the Allied forces;

(4) recognizes the efforts of France and the people of Normandy to preserve for future generations the unique world heritage represented by the Normandy beaches and the sunken material remains of the Normandy landings by inscribing those beaches and remains on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (commonly referred to as "UNESCO") World Heritage List; and

(5) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings with appropriate ceremonies and programs to honor the sacrifices made by their fellow countrymen to liberate Europe.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 135) was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble, as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 135

Whereas June 6, 2019, marks the 75th anniversary of the Allied assault at Normandy, France, by troops of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Free France, known as "Operation Overlord";

Whereas, before Operation Overlord, the German Army still occupied France and the Nazi government still had access to the raw materials and industrial capacity of Western Europe;

Whereas the naval phase of the Allied assault at Normandy was code-named "Operation Neptune", and the date of June 6, 1944, is referred to as "D-Day" to denote the day on which the combat attack was initiated;

Whereas the D-Day landing was the largest combined arms amphibious assault in history, consisting of—

(1) approximately 132,600 members of the Allied Expeditionary Force, including 57,500 members of the United States Armed Forces;

(2) more than 23,000 airborne troops supporting the seaborne landings;

(3) approximately 7,000 naval vessels; and

(4) more than 14,000 sorties by Allied aircraft;

Whereas soldiers of 6 divisions (3 from the United States, 2 from the United Kingdom, which included troops of Free France, and 1 from Canada) and 3 British armored brigades stormed ashore in 5 main landing areas on beaches in Normandy, which were code-named "Utah", "Omaha", "Gold", "Juno", and "Sword";

Whereas, of the approximately 10,000 Allied casualties incurred on the first day of the landing, more than 6,000 were members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the Allied assault and following operations were supported by ships, aircraft, and troops from Australia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Free Norway, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the Polish Armed Forces in the West;

Whereas the advanced age of the last remaining veterans of, and the gradual disappearance of any living memory of, World War II and the Normandy landings make it necessary to increase activities intended to pass on the history of those events, particularly to younger generations;

Whereas the young people of Normandy and the United States have displayed unprecedented commitment to, and involvement in, celebrating—

(1) the veterans of the Normandy landings; and

(2) the freedom brought by those veterans in 1944;

Whereas the significant material remains of the Normandy landings found on the Normandy beaches and at the bottom of the sea in the territorial waters of France, such as shipwrecks and various items of military equipment, bear witness to the remarkable and unique nature of the material resources used by the Allied forces to execute the Normandy landings;

Whereas 5 Normandy beaches and a number of sites on the Normandy coast, including Pointe du Hoc, were the scene of the D-Day landings and constitute, and will for all time constitute—

(1) a unique piece of world heritage; and

(2) a symbol of peace and freedom, the unspoiled nature, integrity, and authenticity of which must be protected at all costs; and

Whereas the world owes a debt of gratitude to the members of the "Greatest Generation" who assumed the task of freeing the world from Nazi and Fascist regimes and restoring liberty to Europe: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the amphibious landing of the Allies on D-Day,

June 6, 1944, at Normandy, France, during World War II;

(2) expresses gratitude and appreciation to the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the D-Day operations;

(3) thanks the young people of Normandy and the United States for their involvement in events celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings with the aim of making future generations aware of the acts of heroism and sacrifice performed by the Allied forces;

(4) recognizes the efforts of France and the people of Normandy to preserve for future generations the unique world heritage represented by the Normandy beaches and the sunken material remains of the Normandy landings by inscribing those beaches and remains on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (commonly referred to as "UNESCO") World Heritage List; and

(5) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings with appropriate ceremonies and programs to honor the sacrifices made by their fellow countrymen to liberate Europe.

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM THAD COCHRAN, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 229, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 229) relative to the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former United States Senator for the State of Mississippi.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 229) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE AND RATIFICATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT, PROVIDING FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, S. Res. 212 is discharged from the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Senate will proceed to its immediate consideration.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 212) celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 132 Leg.]

YEAS—93

Baldwin	Gardner	Peters
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Bennet	Grassley	Reed
Blackburn	Hassan	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Roberts
Booker	Heinrich	Romney
Boozman	Hirono	Rosen
Braun	Hoeben	Rounds
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Cantwell	Isakson	Schatz
Capito	Johnson	Schumer
Cardin	Jones	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Shelby
Collins	Klobuchar	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Smith
Cornyn	Leahy	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Manchin	Tester
Cramer	Markey	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	McSally	Toomey
Daines	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Enzi	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murray	Wicker
Feinstein	Paul	Wyden
Fischer	Perdue	Young

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Harris	Warren
Blumenthal	Moran	
Gillibrand	Sanders	

The resolution was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the preamble is agreed to, and the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session to consider the Saul nomination.

All postcloture time is expired.

The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the remaining votes be 10 minutes in length.

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

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 77, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 133 Ex.]

YEAS—77

Barrasso	Fischer	Peters
Bennet	Gardner	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hassan	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Brown	Hoeben	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Carper	Jones	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kaine	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Stabenow
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Lee	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Toomey
Cruz	Menendez	Warner
Daines	Murkowski	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Enzi	Paul	Young
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—16

Baldwin	Feinstein	Klobuchar
Booker	Heinrich	Markey
Duckworth	Hirono	Merkley

Murray Smith Whitehouse
Reed Udall
Schatz Van Hollen

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander Harris Warren
Blumenthal Moran
Gillibrand Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Rick Scott, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs), shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 83, nays 10, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 134 Ex.]

YEAS—83

Barrasso Blackburn Boozman
Bennet Blunt Braun

Burr Hawley Risch
Cantwell Heinrich Roberts
Capito Hoeven Romney
Cardin Hyde-Smith Rosen
Carper Inhofe Rounds
Casey Isakson Rubio
Cassidy Johnson Sasse
Collins Jones Schatz
Cooms Kennedy Schumer
Cornyn King Scott (FL)
Cortez Masto Lankford Scott (SC)
Cotton Leahy Shaheen
Cramer Lee Shelby
Crapo Manchin Sinema
Cruz McConnell Sullivan
Daines McSally Tester
Duckworth Menendez Thune
Durbin Merkley Tillis
Enzi Murkowski Toomey
Ernst Murphy Van Hollen
Feinstein Murray Warner
Fischer Paul Whitehouse
Gardner Perdue Wicker
Graham Peters Wyden
Grassley Portman Young
Hassan Reed

NAYS—10

Baldwin Kaine Stabenow
Booker Klobuchar Udall
Brown Markey
Hirono Smith

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander Harris Warren
Blumenthal Moran
Gillibrand Sanders

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 83, the nays are 10.

The motion is agreed to.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Rick Scott, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 9, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 135 Ex.]

YEAS—82

Baldwin Fischer Peters
Barrasso Gardner Portman
Bennet Graham Risch
Blackburn Grassley Roberts
Blunt Hassan Romney
Boozman Hawley Rosen
Braun Heinrich Rounds
Brown Hoeven Rubio
Burr Hyde-Smith Sasse
Cantwell Inhofe Scott (FL)
Capito Isakson Scott (SC)
Cardin Johnson Shaheen
Casey Jones Shelby
Cassidy Kaine Sinema
Collins Kennedy Smith
Cooms King Stabenow
Cornyn Lankford Sullivan
Cortez Masto Leahy
Cotton Lee Tester
Cramer Manchin Thune
Crapo McConnell Tillis
Cruz McSally Toomey
Daines Menendez Warner
Duckworth Murkowski Whitehouse
Durbin Murphy Wicker
Enzi Murray Wyden
Ernst Paul Young
Feinstein Perdue

NAYS—9

Booker Markey Schatz
Hirono Merkley Schumer
Klobuchar Reed Udall

NOT VOTING—9

Alexander Gillibrand Sanders
Blumenthal Harris Van Hollen
Carper Moran Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 82, the nays are 9.

The motion is agreed to.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2024.

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Rick Scott, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2024, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 83, nays 10, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 136 Ex.]

YEAS—83

Baldwin	Fischer	Peters
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Roberts
Blunt	Hassan	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rosen
Braun	Heinrich	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cantwell	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Isakson	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Johnson	Shaheen
Casey	Jones	Shelby
Cassidy	Kaine	Sinema
Collins	Kennedy	Smith
Coons	King	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Tester
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Toomey
Cruz	McSally	Van Hollen
Daines	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murphy	Wicker
Enzi	Murray	Wyden
Ernst	Paul	Young
Feinstein	Perdue	

NAYS—10

Blumenthal	Markey	Schumer
Booker	Merkley	Udall
Hirono	Reed	
Klobuchar	Schatz	

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Harris	Warren
Carper	Moran	
Gillibrand	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 83, the nays are 10.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Com-

modity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2024.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, tomorrow, a number of us will be traveling from Washington to France, to Normandy, for the 75th anniversary of D-Day on Thursday. We will commemorate the heroic, selfless efforts of a courageous group of Allied forces, and we will honor all of our World War II veterans.

The 156,000 Americans and British and Canadian troops who stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, on that fateful day, June 6, 1944, turned the tide to win the war in Europe.

Launched from England, the Allies' landing in France was carefully planned and really brilliantly executed. In his D-Day message to the troops, General Dwight David Eisenhower instilled confidence. His message was this:

The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you.

In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

That was the message from General Eisenhower.

Well, because of the tremendous sacrifices of our Allied forces, Nazi Germany surrendered unconditionally less than a year later, on May 7, 1945.

The price for European peace and security proved high. In all, there were 4,414 Allied deaths on D-Day alone, and 2,501 Americans were killed that day. Allied deaths in the Battle of Normandy, which lasted until August, topped 226,000.

Now, 75 years later, thousands of veterans and world leaders will gather on this hallowed ground to honor the self-sacrificing soldiers who fought for our freedom.

My home State of Wyoming lost five of its finest sons on D-Day. I want to recognize these heroes who never made it home: Private Raymond Dahlman, PFC Thompson Dicks, Private Thomas Offutt, Jr., PFC Steven Serkovich, and Private Jack Simpson.

I also salute Wyoming's 602 living World War II veterans, including my wife Bobbie's father, Bob Brown of Thermopolis, WY, who served not only in World War II in Europe and then was sent to the Pacific, but he was also called up to serve our Nation once again in the Korean war.

In all, 16 million Americans fought in World War II; more than 400,000 U.S. servicemembers were killed in the war; and most of those who returned home have now passed away.

So today I want to highlight one of my home State's D-Day heroes who died 5 years ago at the age of 92: SSG Chester "Chet" Stephens of Glenrock, WY.

Chet was born in Casper, WY, in 1911 and moved with his family to a ranch south of Glenrock.

At 21, he was called to serve in the Army in World War II, joining the 161st Field Artillery Battalion. Chet supplied ammunition to the battery throughout the war. The 161st landed in Normandy's Omaha Beach in the third wave and fought the Nazis for months.

Chet was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism in crossing a flooded road to deliver ammunition to his stranded comrades.

His battalion stopped only 7 miles from Berlin, Germany, before he returned home to Glenrock and to his lifelong love of family ranching. In fact, he was still ranching at the age of 92 when he died in 2014.

So I will be thinking of Wyoming's D-Day heroes and all of our State's World War II veterans during the tribute at Normandy.

I will also be thinking of my dad. He was part of the liberation of France, fighting in the pivotal Battle of the Bulge.

I will carry his dog tags with me when I go overseas, the dog tags that he wore during World War II in the liberation of France.

I will also carry with me the medal that was given to the brave soldiers who fought in the liberation of France. The medal says "1944." There is a chain around France with breaks in the chain, and on the back, it says "la France"; it says "liberateurs"—the liberation of France.

I will also have with me the missal he carried, his prayer book. It says: My military missal. There is a crucifix on the front and on the back, a rosary, the crucifix, and then the beads that were elevated in the printing so that one could, in a foxhole, in a time of war, with this in your pocket, pray to your Lord and God.

You know, from the time I was a little boy, my dad would always say: John, you should thank God every day because you live in America. You don't know how fortunate you are.

We are truly blessed to live in this great country, and it is due to the selfless actions of our troops—those brave soldiers who risked their lives—and many gave their lives for the rest of us.

As President Franklin Roosevelt said in his D-Day prayer: "Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our Nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization."

We must never forget those who fought for our freedoms. So many gave their lives to protect our way of life.

We owe an incredible debt of gratitude to our Gold Star families and the sacrifices of those families and of their loved ones.

So on the 75th anniversary of D-Day, it is a time to remember all of our brave service men and women, to reflect on their faithful service to this country, and to recall the sacrifices that they have made and continue to make in defense of this great Nation.

Let me close by saying God bless our troops who fought and died in World

War II. God bless our servicemembers, veterans, and their families, and God bless, yes, the United States of America.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, if cloture is invoked on the Combs nomination, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Combs nomination at 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, June 5. I further ask that following disposition of the Combs nomination, the Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the Holte, Alston Jr., and Hertling nominations in the order listed; finally, that if cloture is invoked on those nominations, the confirmation votes on the nominations occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader and that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, on May 24, 2019, pursuant to section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Secretary of State determined "that an emergency exists which requires the immediate sale of the following military sales" to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The Arms Export Control Act indicates that, in the Senate, the notification of such a determination shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the Secretary's determination and transmittals submitted to the committee by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency regarding sales under section 36(b). The Secretary's emergency determination and transmittals for sales conducted pursu-

ant to other sections of the Arms Export Control Act were included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD via separate executive communications on June 3, 2019.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On May 23, 2019, the Secretary of State, pursuant to section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, determined that an emergency exists which requires the immediate sale of the defense articles and defense services identified in the attached transmittals to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates through the Foreign Military Sales process, including any further amendments specific to costs, quantity, or requirements, occurring within the duration of circumstances giving rise to these emergency sales, in order to deter further the malign influence of the Government of Iran throughout the Middle East region.

Please find attached (Tab 1) the Secretary of State Determination and Justification waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b)(1) and 36 (b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, for the attached list of Transmittals of proposed Letters of Offer and Acceptance to the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services pursuant to the notification requirements of Section 36(b)(1) and Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended. The determination and detailed justification are a part of each Transmittal. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of the proposed sales.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

DETERMINATION UNDER THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT

Subject: Emergency Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Jordan

Pursuant to sections 36(b)(1), 36(c)(2), and 36(d)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act, 22 U.S.C. 2776, I hereby state that an emergency exists which requires the immediate sale of the following foreign military sales and direct commercial sales cases, including any further amendments specific to the cost, quantity, or requirements of these cases, in the national security interest of the United States:

For the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:
F-15 Support
Paveway Precision Guided Munitions (sale and co-production)
Aircraft Maintenance Support
Aurora Bomb Fuzing System
120mm M933A1 Mortar Bombs
F110 Engines for F-15s
F/A-18 Panel Manufacture in Saudi Arabia for other end-users

Advising and support of Ministry of Defense reform

Continuation of follow-on logistics support and services for Royal Saudi Air Force, including Tactical Air Surveillance System support

For the United Arab Emirates:
AH-64 Equipment
APK WS Laser-guided Rockets
Javelin Anti-Tank Missiles

Paveway Precision Guided Munitions and Maverick missile support
RQ-21 Blackjack UAS
M107A1 .50 caliber Rifles
FMU-152A/B Programmable Bomb Fuse
Patriot Guidance Enhanced Missile—Tactical Ballistic Missile
U.S. Marine Corps training of UAE Presidential Guard
F-16 engine parts
Amendment to previously Congressionally notified case for ScanEagle and Integrator Unmanned Aerial Systems
For Jordan:

Transfer of Paveway II Precision Guided Munitions from the United Arab Emirates.

This determination shall be published in the Federal Register and, along with the accompanying Memorandum of Justification, shall be transmitted to Congress.

(U) MEMORANDUM OF JUSTIFICATION FOR EMERGENCY ARMS TRANSFERS AND AUTHORIZATIONS TO THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AND THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN TO DETER IRANIAN MALIGN INFLUENCE

(U) Iranian malign activity poses a fundamental threat to the stability of the Middle East and to American security at home and abroad. Iran's actions have led directly to the deaths of over six hundred U.S. military personnel in Iraq, untold suffering in Syria, and significant threats to Israeli security. In Yemen, Iran helps fuel a conflict creating the world's greatest humanitarian crisis. Iran directed repeated attacks on civilian and military infrastructure in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates by Iranian-designed explosives-laden drones and ballistic missiles fired by the Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah, who receive financial, technical, and materiel support from Iran.

(U) Current threat reporting indicates Iran engages in preparations for further malign activities throughout the Middle East region, including potential targeting of U.S. and allied military forces in the region. As the Administration publicly noted and briefed to Congress in greater detail in the appropriate setting, a number of troubling and escalatory indications and warnings from the Iranian regime have prompted an increased U.S. force posture in the region. The Iran-backed Houthis publicly threatened to increase operations targeting vital military targets in the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Saudi-Led Coalition positions in Yemen. The rapidly-evolving security situation in the region requires an accelerated delivery of certain capabilities to U.S. partners in the region.

(U) As President Trump noted in National Security Memorandum 11 of May 8, 2018, "the actions and policies of the Government of Iran, including its proliferation and development of missiles and other asymmetric and conventional weapons capabilities, its network and campaign of regional aggression, its support for terrorist groups, and the malign activities of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and its surrogates continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States."

(U) Iran's actions pose a critical threat to regional stability and the national security of the United States, which has been long acknowledged. Since 1984, Iran remains designated by the United States as a State Sponsor of Terrorism pursuant to section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, and section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act. In addition, the recent designation of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act notes the Government of Iran, through the IRGC-Quds Force, provides material support

to the Taliban, Lebanese Hizballah, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC). Iran is also identified as constituting an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy and economy of the United States under Executive Orders dating back to the Carter and Clinton Administrations.

(U) In 2014, the Houthis, an Iran-supported force increasingly contributing to the Iranian regime's efforts to destabilize the Arabian Peninsula, attempted to overthrow the internationally recognized government of Yemen. The Houthis have greatly increased regional instability, threatened the global economy, destroyed infrastructure, and terrorized the Yemeni people.

(U) The Houthis have attacked civilian areas within Saudi Arabia and the UAE with ballistic missile and unmanned aerial vehicle attacks in addition to cross-border raids; these have resulted in the deaths of over five hundred Saudi civilians, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was fortunate in 2017 to have intercepted a ballistic missile aimed at Mecca which could have led to a regional conflagration.

(U) The Houthi threat to stability extends beyond the security of their immediate neighbors. Over 10% of global shipping passes through the Bab-el-Mandeb straits separating Yemen from Africa, including an estimated 4.8 million barrels of oil per day, or about 5% of the global oil trade. Since 2016, the Houthis have repeatedly targeted international shipping transiting these straits to or from the Suez Canal. Houthi-controlled media recently announced the Houthis' intent to target Saudi ARAMCO infrastructure. Utilizing anti-ship cruise missiles, small boat attacks, and remote-controlled explosive vessels, the Houthis continue to strike not only commercial oil tankers, but also struck a cargo ship carrying grain to a Yemeni port. The Houthis conducted maritime attacks on the USS *Mason* and the USS *Ponce*, demonstrating the direct nature of the Houthi threat to U.S. personnel, assets, and our national security.

(U) Within Yemen, the Houthis severely limited the ability of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the population under their control. International humanitarian organizations report the "Houthi forces' widespread use of landmines along Yemen's western coast since mid-2017 has killed and injured hundreds of civilians and prevented aid groups from reaching vulnerable communities." Despite the humanitarian catastrophe, the Houthis continue to escalate the conflict in Yemen, most recently disregarding their own commitments under the UN-sponsored ceasefire deal regarding the port city of Hudaydah.

(U) The United States strongly backs peace efforts brokered by UN Special Envoy Martin Griffiths. Griffiths' painstaking endeavor to have parties reach agreements in peace talks in Sweden in 2018 would lay a solid track for a political process to end the conflict.

(U) For the reasons cited above, an emergency exists requiring immediate provision of certain defense systems to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Jordan in the national security interest of the United States. Such transfers, whether provided via the Foreign Military Sales system, or through the licensing of Direct Commercial Sales, must occur as quickly as possible in order to deter further Iranian adventurism in the Gulf and throughout the Middle East. The Secretary of State, therefore, has certified an emergency exists under sections 36(b)(1), 36(c)(2), and 36(d)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act, 22 U.S.C. 2776, thereby waiving the congressional review requirements of those provisions.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-0B

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(8)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 16-15.

Date: 8 December 2016.

Military Department: Army.

(iii) Description: On December 8, 2016, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 16-15 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of twenty-eight (28) AH-64E Remanufactured Apache Attack Helicopters; nine (9) new AH-64E Apache Attack Helicopters; seventy-six (76) T700-GE-701D Engines (56 remanufactured, 18 new, 2 spares); thirty-nine (39) AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAR-11 Modernized Pilot Night Vision Sensors (28 remanufactured, 9 new, 2 spares); thirty-two (32) remanufactured AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers; forty-six (46) AAR-57 Common Missile Warning Systems (31 remanufactured, 9 new, 6 spares); eighty-eight (88) Embedded Global Positioning Systems with Inertial Navigation (72 new, 16 spares); forty-four (44) Manned-Unmanned Teaming-International (MUMTI) systems (28 remanufactured, 9 new, 7 spares); and fifteen (15) new MUMTI System Upper Receivers, training devices, helmets, simulators, generators, transportation, wheeled vehicles and organization equipment, spare and repair parts, support equipment, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost was \$3.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.68 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports:

1. the addition of thirty (30) Radar Electronic Units (REU) as MDE, which were included in the total value of the original transmittal, but were not properly identified as MDE; and

2. the inclusion of additional quantities of the following items: one (1) new AH-64E Apache Attack Helicopter, six (6) T700-GE-701D engines (2 installed, 4 spares), one (1) new AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAR-11 Modernized Pilot Night Vision Sensor, one (1) new AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System, sixty-two (62) Embedded Global Positioning Systems with Inertial Navigation (EGIs) (60 remanufactured, 2 new), and one (1) new Manned-Unmanned Teaming-International (MUMTI) system. The total MDE value of these items is \$101,518,591. The addition will not add to the total notified value of MDE, which will remain \$1.68 billion. The total notified case value will remain \$3.5 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided to report the inclusion of MDE and non-MDE items that were not included in the original notification. The UAE lost a helicopter during recent operations and has requested to replace this loss.

(v) Justification: The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the United Arab Emirates of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended. This equipment will support the capabilities of UAE's Apache fleet

and enhance interoperability with the United States.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The AH-64E Apache Attack Helicopter weapon system contains communications and target identification equipment, navigation equipment, aircraft survivability equipment, displays, and sensors. The airframe itself does not contain sensitive technology; however, the pertinent equipment listed below will be either installed on the aircraft or included in the sale:

a. The Radar Electronic Unit (REU) is a component upgrade to the AN/APO-78 Fire Control Radar (FCR). The REU replaces two legacy Line Replaceable Units (Programmable Signal Processor and Low Power Radio Frequency), achieving a weight reduction of approximately 85 pounds, with improved reliability, increased processing power, growth for new modes/capabilities and replacement of obsolete components. Critical system information is stored in the FCR/REU in the form of mission executable code, target detection, classification algorithms and coded threat parametric. This information is provided in a form that cannot be extracted by the foreign user via anti-tamper provisions built into the system.

b. The AN/APG-78 Fire Control Radar (FCR) is an active, low probability of intercept, millimeter-wave radar, combined with a passive AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometer (M-RFI) mounted on top of the helicopter mast. The FCR Ground Targeting Mode detects, locates, classifies and prioritizes stationary or moving armored vehicles, tanks and mobile air defense systems as well as hovering helicopters, helicopters, and fixed wing aircraft in normal flight. If desired, the radar data can be used to refer targets to the regular electro-optical Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight (MTADS). This information is provided in a form that cannot be extracted by the foreign user. The content of these items is classified SECRET. User Data Module (UDM) on the RFI processor, contains the Radio Frequency threat library. The UDM, which is a hardware assemblage, is classified CONFIDENTIAL when programmed with threat parameters, threat priorities and/or techniques derived from U.S. intelligence information.

c. The AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAQ-11 Pilot Night Vision Sensor (MTADS/PNVS) provides day, night, and limited adverse weather target information, as well as night navigation capabilities. The PNVS provides thermal imaging that permits nap-of-the-earth flight to, from, and within the battle area, while TADS provides the co-pilot gunner with search, detection, recognition, and designation by means of Direct View Optics (DVO), EI2 television, and Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sighting systems that may be used singularly or in combinations. Hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. Technical manuals for authorized maintenance levels are UNCLASSIFIED. Reverse engineering is not a major concern.

d. The AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) detects energy emitted by threat missiles in-flight, evaluates potential false alarm emitters in the environment, declares validity of threat and selects appropriate countermeasures. The CMWS consists of an Electronic Control Unit (ECU), Electro-Optic Missile Sensors (EOMSs), and Sequencer and Improved Countermeasures Dispenser (ICMD). The ECU hardware is classified CONFIDENTIAL; releasable technical manuals for operation and maintenance are classified SECRET.

e. The Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System plus Multi-Mode Receiver (EGI+MMR) The aircraft has

two EGIs which use internal accelerometers, rate gyro measurements, and external sensor measurements to estimate the aircraft state, provides aircraft flight and position data to aircraft systems. The EGI is a velocity-aided, strap down, ring laser gyro based inertial unit. The EGI unit houses a GPS receiver. The receiver is capable of operating in either non-encrypted or encrypted. When keyed, the GPS receiver will automatically use anti-spoof/jam capabilities when they are in use. The EGI will retain the key through power on/off/on cycles. Because of safeguards built into the EGI, it is not considered classified when keyed. Integrated within the EGI is an Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) for processing functions. Each EGI also houses a Multi-Mode Receiver (MMR). The MMR is incorporated to provide for reception of ground based NAVAID signals for instrument aided flight. Provides IMC I IFR integration and certification of improved Embedded Global Positioning System and Inertial (EGI) unit, with attached MMR, with specific cockpit instrumentation allows Apaches to operate within the worldwide IFR route structure. Also includes integration of the Common Army Aviation Map (CAAM), Area Navigation (RNAV), Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File (DAFIF) and Global Air Traffic Management (GATM) compliance.

f. Manned-Unmanned Teaming-International (MUMT-I) provides Manned-Unmanned Teaming with Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs), other Apaches and other interoperable aircraft and land platforms. Provides ability to display real-time UAS sensor information to aircraft and transmit MTADS video. Capability to receive video and metadata from Interoperability Profile compliant (IOP) as well as legacy systems. It is a data link for the AH-64E that provides a fully integrated multiband, interoperable capability that allows pilots to receive off-board sensor video streaming from different platforms in non-Tactical Common Data Link (TCDL) bands. The MUMT-I data link can retransmit UAS or Apache Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight full-motion sensor video and metadata to another MUMT-I-equipped Apache. It can also transmit to ground forces equipped with the One Station Remote Video Terminal. It provides Apache aircrews with increased situational awareness and net-centric interoperability while significantly reducing sensor-to-shooter timelines. This combination results in increased survivability of Apache aircrews and ground forces by decreasing their exposure to hostile fire.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-39

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: United Arab Emirates.

- (ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * \$35 million.
Other \$45 million.
Total \$80 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty (20) RQ-21A Blackjack Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs).

Non-MDE: This request also includes the following Non-MDE: Forty (40) Global Positioning Systems (GPS) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) Type II (MPE-S), air vehicle support equipment to include eight (8) Ground Control Stations (GCS), four (4) launchers, and four (4) retrievers, spare and repair parts, publications, training and technical support services.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (AE-P-SAW).

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

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Arab Emirates (UAE)—RQ-21A
Blackjack Unmanned Air Vehicles

The Government of the UAE has requested to buy twenty (20) RQ-21A Blackjack Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs). Also included are forty (40) Global Positioning Systems (GPS) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) Type II (MPE-S); air vehicle support equipment including eight (8) Ground Control Stations (GCS), four (4) launchers, and four (4) retrievers; spare and repair parts; publications; training; and technical support services. The estimated total case value is \$80 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the United Arab Emirates of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign and national security of the United States by improving the security of an important ally in the Middle East. This sale is consistent with U.S. national security objectives of assisting the UAE in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability and enhancing interoperability with U.S. forces. The UAE will have no difficulty absorbing these UAVs into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be Insitu, Bingen, WA, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Boeing Company. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips by U.S. Government and contractor representatives to participate in program and technical reviews plus training and maintenance support in country, on a temporary basis, for a period of twenty-four (24) months. It will also require one (1) contractor representative to reside in country for a period of two (2) years to support this program.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-39

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The following components and technical documentation for the program are classified as listed below:

a. The RQ-21 unmanned aircraft system (UAS) is a runway-independent, modular unmanned aircraft system that is designed for a variety of missions. The RQ-21 UAS has four subsystems: RQ-21A air vehicle (AV), launcher, retriever, and ground control stations (GCS).

1) The RQ-21A AV is a fixed-wing, single engine AV remotely controlled by an operator via the GCS.

2) The launcher is a pneumatically-controlled launch device that accelerates the RQ-21A AV to flying speed.

3) The retriever is a hydraulically-controlled telescoping crane that captures the RQ-21A AV at the end of the flight.

4) The GCS is a workstation that is used to plan missions, control and monitor the RQ-21A AV, and manage the data received from the air vehicle.

b. The RQ-21 UAS is capable of transport via ground, air, or ship. The RQ-21 UAS performs a wide variety of reconnaissance, intelligence, and special missions. Operationally or tactically vital data may be obtained cost-effectively by exploiting the UAS mission systems and payload options. The RQ-21A AV is designed to perform air reconnaissance (AR) based missions. It is equipped to carry a forward turret to support the primary mission of reconnaissance and an assortment of specialized, mission specific, payloads within the center payload bay. The Electro Optical/Infrared (EO/IR) Imager Counter Countermeasures sensor ball is the Alticam 11 EOIR4, which provides exceptional day/night capability in a small, lightweight, low power solution, or the EOIR5 which adds a laser designator capability. It uses mid-wave infrared (MWIR) electro-optical image, a gyrostabilized gimbal system, has multiple operating modes, is compatible with the Alticam video processing board (AVS), and has a laser pointer and rangefinder. It is designed for small unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and is also used on piloted airplanes, blimps, ground vehicles, and unmanned surface vehicles.

c. The imagery and electronic reconnaissance functions of the RQ-21A AV support intelligence functions and operational warfighting missions. Intelligence-based support functions range from intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) to intelligence preparation of the battlefield (IPB) including imagery associated sub-tasks. Operational functions are enhanced by a laser rangefinder and infrared marking system. The turret, with laser system, facilitates target acquisition and terminal guidance operations in support of a wide breadth of aviation support to MAGTF operations mission. These include but are not limited to point, area, and route reconnaissance; convoy escort; call for indirect fires; battle damage assessment; and tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel. The aircraft also passively supports radio communications relay and the vessel traffic function of automatic identification.

d. The GCS includes an operator work station (OWS), a ground data terminal for C2 communication and video downlink, and a GPS electronics module (GEM) integration kit for navigation. The GCS is composed of a standard component package. If installed on a ship, the GCS will be composed of the same components as the land based system, but the number and arrangement of each of the components will vary depending on the specific class of ship on which the GCS is installed. The RQ-21 GCS is comprised of the following components:

1) Two operator work stations. The OWS consist of four modules: electronics power module (EPM), network computer module (NCM), user interface module (UIM), and the data storage module (DSM). The EPM provides the power source for the GCS. The EPM is the bottom module in the OWS. The UIM is not installed in the GCS for ship-based operations.

2) Ground data terminal. The GDT includes the antenna interface module (AIM), directional antenna, and omni antennas (for ship-board operations only). The AIM models are different between land and ship-based configurations.

3) GEM integration kit. The GEM integration kit includes the GEM itself and the ground GPS antenna.

4) Moving platform module (MPM) integration kit (ship-based only).

5) Selective availability and anti-spoofing module (SAASM) GPS antenna.

6) Systems check laptop.

7) GCS cables.

e. The launcher provides the initial RQ-21A AV speed required for air vehicle flight over a wide range of wind and density altitude conditions, and enables expeditionary employment of the UAS in locations without suitable runways. The launcher is designed for transport by air, ship, or towed by light vehicles into rugged terrain. The launcher is made up of the launcher core and systems and the accessory components. The launcher core is attached lengthwise on the launcher trailer deck at two interface towers. The trailer is used to transport the launcher components and serves as a platform for the launcher core and systems.

f. The retriever system is comprised of the recovery system and trailer. The recovery system is a hydraulically-controlled telescoping crane mast that uses a vertical capture rope to catch the RQ-21A AV. The vertical capture rope features a bungee and rope energy dissipation system. The retriever is mounted to a modified MIL-STD trailer chassis. The trailer frame and hitch assembly connects the retriever to a towing vehicle. The trailer has one axle and four outriggers that are installed for use.

g. While no part of the RQ-21A UAS is itself classified, the following performance data and technical characteristics are classified as annotated:

RQ-21 Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)

GPS P/Y Code navigation equipment: SECRET

UAS when keyed.

UAS Susceptibility to Jamming: SECRET.

UAS TEMPEST Characteristics: SECRET.

UAS Vulnerabilities: SECRET.

UAS Survivability: SECRET.

UAS Radar Cross Section: Up to SECRET.

UAS Infrared Signature: SECRET.

UAS Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) Vulnerability: SECRET.

UAS Threat Data: SECRET.

Communications Relay Tactical Employment: CONFIDENTIAL.

Electro Optical/Infrared (EO/IR) Imager Countermeasures: SECRET.

EO/IR Imager Operational Characteristics: Up to SECRET.

Automatic Information System Vulnerabilities: SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary obtains knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that the United Arab Emirates can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale of the RQ-21 UAS and associated equipment is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-70

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the United Arab Emirates.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$92 million.

Other \$10 million.

Total \$102 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Three hundred thirty-one (331) Javelin Guided Missiles with Containers.

Non-MDE: Also included are System Integration & Checkout (SICO) service; Field Service Representative; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistics support services' tools and test equipment; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; spare and repair parts; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (AE-B-ZAO, Amendment 3).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AE-B-ZUB.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

UAE—JAVELIN Guided Missiles and Associated Materiel and Services

The Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has requested to buy three hundred thirty-one (331) Javelin Guided Missiles with container. Also included are System Integration & Checkout (SICO) service; Field Service Representative; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistics support services' tools and test equipment; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; spare and repair parts; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total case value is \$102 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the United Arab Emirates of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of an important partner that has been, and continues to be, a force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East. This sale is consistent with U.S. initiatives to provide key partners in the region with modern systems that will enhance interoperability with U.S. forces and increase security.

The proposed program will enhance the UAE's capability to meet current and future enemy threats. The UAE will use the capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense. The UAE previously procured Javelin missiles and will have no difficulty absorbing these additional missiles into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be is Raytheon, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed program will not require additional Contractor or U.S. Government personnel in country for an extended period of time.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-70

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man portable, shoulder-launched, fire and forget, anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. It may also be mounted on a variety of platforms including vehicles, aircraft and watercraft. The system weighs 49.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 2,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors. The system possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology which allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. Additional special features are the top attack and/or direct fire modes, an advanced tandem warhead and imaging infrared seeker, target lock-on before launch, and soft launch from enclosures or covered fighting positions. The Javelin missile also has a minimum smoke motor thus decreasing its detection on the battlefield.

3. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, which are a reusable Command Launch Unit (CLU) and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The CLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The CLU may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The CLU's thermal sight is a second generation Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor. To facilitate initial loading and subsequent updating of software, all onboard missile software is uploaded via the CLU after mating and prior to launch.

4. The missile is autonomously guided to the target using an imaging infrared seeker and adaptive correlation tracking algorithms. This allows the gunner to take cover or reload and engage another target after firing a missile. The missile has an advanced tandem warhead and can be used in either the top attack or direct fire modes (for target undercover). An onboard flight computer guides the missile to the selected target.

5. The Javelin Missile System hardware and the documentation are UNCLASSIFIED. The missile software which resides in the CLU is considered SENSITIVE. The sensitivity is primarily in the software programs which instruct the system how to operate in the presence of countermeasures. The overall hardware is also considered sensitive in that the infrared wavelengths could be useful in attempted countermeasure development.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that the United Arab Emirates can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of United Arab Emirates.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-73

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the United Arab Emirates.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$850 million.

Other \$50 million.

Total \$900 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty thousand four (20,004) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon Systems (APKWS) II All-Up-Rounds.

Non-MDE: Also included is weapon support and test equipment, spares, technical publications, personnel training, other training equipment, transportation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (AE-P-ABL).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AE-P-ABH (P&A) and AE-P-ABI (P&A).

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Arab Emirates (UAE)—Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System (APKWS)

The Government of the United Arab Emirates has requested a possible sale of twenty thousand four (20,004) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon Systems (APKWS) II All-Up-Rounds. Also included is weapon support and test equipment, spares, technical publications, personnel training, other training equipment, transportation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total case value is \$900 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the United Arab Emirates of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of an important partner in the region. This sale is consistent with U.S. initiatives to provide key partners in the region with modern systems that will enhance interoperability with U.S. forces and increase security.

The APKWS will provide the UAE with flexibility in the use of proportional, precision fires when operating in remote and mountainous regions as well as populated areas. The APKWS will complement the Hellfire II missile as a secondary precision munition with lower collateral damage potential. These aspects make the APKWS, employed in conjunction with UAE's multiple types of helicopters and Hellfire II missiles, an appropriate munition for the UAE's counterterrorism operations. UAE will have no difficulty absorbing the APKWS into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be BAE Systems, Nashua, NH. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require up to 20 U.S. Government and up to 30 contractor representatives to travel to UAE.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-73

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The APKWS II All-Up-Round (AUR) is an air-to-ground weapon that consists of an APKWS II Guidance Section (GS), legacy 2.75-inch MK66 Mod 4 rocket motor and legacy MK152, MK282 and MK435/436 warhead/fuze. The APKWS II GS is installed between the rocket motor and warhead and provides a Semi-Active Laser (SAL) precision capability to legacy unguided 2.75-inch rockets. The APKWS II is procured as an independent component to be mated to the appropriate 2.75-inch warhead/fuze. The GS is manually set with the appropriate laser code during loading and is launched from any platform configured with a LAU-68F/A, or similar launcher(s). After launch, the GS activates and the seeker detects laser energy reflected from a target designated with a remote or autonomous laser. The control system then guides the rocket to the target. The only interface required with the host platform is a 28V direct current (DC) firing pulse.

2. APKWS II increases stowed kills by providing precise engagements at standoff ranges with sufficient accuracy for a high single-shot probability of hit against soft and lightly armored targets, thereby minimizing collateral damage. The APKWS II is capable of day and night operation and performance in many adverse environments.

3. The APKWS II requires no depot maintenance. Activities to prepare the APKWS II for use include setting the laser code switches, turning on the Electronic Thermal Battery Initiator, and loading the AUR into the launcher. Wing Slot Seals (WSS) may be replaced, if necessary, at an I-level maintenance facility.

4. All training for APKWS II is unclassified. The training required is:

a. Pilot training to effectively employ the APKWS II.

b. Ordnance Handler training for safe handling and preparation of the APKWS II and AUR, and

c. Maintenance training for replacement of WSS.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that the United Arab Emirates can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-21

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$0 million.

Other \$800 million.

Total \$800 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None

Non-MDE: Follow-on support and services for Royal Saudi Air Force aircraft, engines, and weapons; publications and technical documentation; support equipment; spare and repair parts; repair and return; calibration support and test equipment; personnel equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support, and other related elements of program support. Equipment and spares will be procured for support of, but not limited to, F-5, RG-5, F-15, C-130, KC-130, E-3, RE-3, and KE-3 aircraft.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (QAH).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FMS Case QAY-\$100,000,000-05 June 2010 and QAY Amendment 7-\$739,508,525-30 October 2016.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—Follow-on Support and Services for the Royal Saudi Air Force Aircraft

Saudi Arabia has requested to purchase follow-on support and services for Royal Saudi Air Force aircraft, engines, and weapons; publications and technical documentation; support equipment; spare and repair parts; repair and return; calibration support and test equipment; personnel equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support, and other related elements of program support. Equipment and spares will be procured for support of, but not limited to, F-5, RG-5, F-15, C-130, KC-130, E-3, RE-3, and KE-3 aircraft. The total estimated program cost will be \$800 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will support U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by helping to improve the security of a friendly country, which has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic growth in the Middle East. This potential sale is a continuation of current support. Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing this support and services into its armed forces.

Implementation of this sale will sustain Saudi Arabia's flight and maintenance activity. It will improve sustainability and continue support for the fleet.

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

There will be various contractors associated with the equipment involved with this case, and there is no prime contractor. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of a small number of additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia for maintenance, training, and sustainment.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-31

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Saudi Arabia.
 (ii) Total Estimated Value:
 Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.
 Other \$136 million.
 Total \$136 million.
 (iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MOE): None.
 Non-MOE: Continued spare and repair parts, U.S. Government and Contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of program support for the TASS (Tactical Air Surveillance System) aircraft program. Additionally, the sale will support the rehabilitation of the integrated lab located in the United States used for testing and troubleshooting.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SR-D-QDJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-D-QAS, SR-D-QCH.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—Sustainment Support for Tactical Air Surveillance System (TASS)

Saudi Arabia has requested to purchase spare and repair parts, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of program support for their TASS (Tactical Air Surveillance System) aircraft program. Additionally, the sale will support rehabilitation of the integrated lab located in the United States used for testing and troubleshooting. The total estimated program cost will be \$136 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a key regional ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's surveillance capability to counter current and future regional threats and strengthen its homeland defense. This is a continuation of a previous sustainment case and Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing addition support in country.

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

The prime contractor will be L3 Technologies, Greenville, Texas. There are no known offsets proposed with this sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of up to 25 additional L3 contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-18

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the United Arab Emirates.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
 Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.
 Other \$100 million.
 Total \$100 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MOE): None.

Non-MDE: Follow-on blanket order U.S. Marine Corps training, training support, and other training related services in support of the United Arab Emirates Presidential Guard Command.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (AE-P-TAM).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AE-P-TAM.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Arab Emirates (UAE)—Follow-On Blanket Order Training

The Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has requested follow-on blanket order U.S. Marine Corps training, training support, and other training related services in support of the UAE Presidential Guard Command. The total value for this sale is \$100 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the United Arab Emirates of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important partner in the region.

The proposed sale will provide the continuation of U.S. Marine Corps training of the UAE's Presidential Guard for counterterrorism, counter-piracy, critical infrastructure protection, and national defense. This training also provides engagement opportunities through military exercises, training, and common equipment. UAE will have no difficulty absorbing this training.

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

There will be no principal contractor associated with this proposed sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed amendment to a current sale will allow for the continued permanent assignment of thirty-four (34) U.S. Marine Corps active duty personnel to the UAE.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-01

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

Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Total Estimated Value:
 Major Defense Equipment* \$0 billion.
 Other \$1.8 billion.

Total \$1.8 billion.
 (iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Follow-on logistics support and services for the Royal Saudi Air Force aircraft, engines, and weapons; publications and technical documentation; support equipment; spare and repair parts; repair and return; calibration support and test equipment; personnel equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support, and other related elements of program support. Equipment and spares will be procured for support of, but not limited to, F-5, F-15, KA-350, C-130, KC-130, E-3, RE-3, and KE-3 aircraft. The total estimated program cost is \$1.8 billion.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-D-QAY, SR-D-QDE, SR-D-QBO, SR-D-QBD, SR-D-QBI, SR-D-QDF, SR-D-QAH.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 24, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—Follow-on Logistics Support and Services

Saudi Arabia has requested to buy follow-on logistics support and services for the Royal Saudi Air Force aircraft, engines, and weapons; publications and technical documentation; support equipment; spare and repair parts; repair and return; calibration support and test equipment; personnel equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support, and other related elements of program support. Equipment and spares will be procured for support of, but not limited to, F-5, F-15, KA-350, C-130, KC-130, E-3, RE-3, and KE-3 aircraft. The total estimated program cost will be \$1.8 billion.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

This proposed sale will support U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic growth in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing this support and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale will sustain Saudi Arabia's operations and maintenance activity, improve sustainability and ensure capability for near and long term air operations across the fleet.

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

There will be various contractors associated with the equipment involved with this case, and there is no prime contractor. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of a small number of additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia for maintenance, training, and sustainment.

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

REMEMBERING THAD COCHRAN

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of the late Senator Thad Cochran.

I appreciate having this opportunity to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Senator Cochran. His loss will be deeply felt by all of us here in the Senate, not only by those of us who served with him, but also by the many staff and individuals he has worked with over time. Elected to the House of Representatives in 1972, Senator Cochran touched many lives in his 46 years faithfully serving his State of Mississippi in Congress.

As the son of a school principal and a math teacher, Senator Cochran understood the value of hard work and dedication. He emerged as a leader among his peers from a young age. He was an Eagle Scout who helped establish a new troop and valedictorian of his class in high school where he earned varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball, and tennis. At the University of Mississippi, Senator Cochran was a fraternity president, student body vice president, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honorary leadership fraternity. Senator Cochran began his service to our country while at the University of Mississippi as a company commander in the Navy ROTC and, once graduated, was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve and assigned to duty aboard the USS *Maccon*.

As a fellow Eagle Scout, Senator Cochran demonstrated core scouting values like trust, loyalty, courtesy, and reverence. He displayed these values not only in his nearly five-decade-long career in Congress, but also as a father to his two children, Kate and Clayton.

Described as gentle and soft-spoken, Senator Cochran was a defender of Senate procedure and often worked across the aisle. Senator Cochran was known to hold strong opinions; yet he developed close working relationships with members of both parties. Senator Cochran was determined that, if you look hard enough, there is common ground to be found with everyone. He earned his nickname of the Quiet Persuader through a determined yet respectful approach to negotiations.

I had the honor of working with Senator Cochran in his role as chairman of the Appropriations Committee while I was chairman of the Budget Committee. He was a hard worker and always guided by his core values. As a good statesman, he didn't let party politics get in the way and always did what he thought was right.

In a nearly five-decade-long career in Congress, it is difficult to pinpoint Senator Cochran's single greatest achievement. Following Hurricane Katrina's devastation, Senator Coch-

ran played a central role in security relief funds for Gulf States, especially for his home State of Mississippi. During his tenure as chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator Cochran was a champion of the farm bill's nutrition programs. Senator Cochran served as a tireless advocate for farm families and America's agricultural industry.

Senator Cochran authored the Mississippi Wilderness Act, which was the first Federal legislation ever passed for the perpetual protection of lands in the State of Mississippi. He was greatly involved in land and wildlife conservation in Mississippi, a legacy of his that will endure for future generations to enjoy.

Senator Cochran was an effective lawmaker who was a tireless advocate for his constituents. His model of public service was that the constituents are always right. He said we are in Congress to serve, not to be served. Senator Cochran's model of public service is one to look up to and his style of leadership will serve as an inspiration for future generations to come.

Senator Cochran was a committed man of faith. A member of the Southern Baptist Church, he was always one to do what he thought was right rather than what was easiest.

My wife Diana joins me in sending our deepest condolences to his loved ones and know he will find eternal peace and happiness knowing he had a profound effect on all that knew him a colleague, as a father, and as a friend.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL ERIK H. TORRING

• Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I am proud to recognize BG Erik H. Torring III, who is retiring after 30 years in the U.S. Army. General Torring has been a leader in not only our soldiers' health, but the health of all the service animals that support our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines on the battlefield.

General Torring's career culminated in his current post as both Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations in the Army's Office of the Surgeon General and Chief of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, where he oversees the recruitment, training, and equipment of almost 3,000 veterinary personnel in the U.S. Army. He spearheaded the development of the Army's electronic veterinary records program and maintained standards for food safety across the Armed Forces.

For his service to the United States of America, I am proud to recognize Brigadier General Torring and welcome him home to Texas.●

REMEMBERING STAFF SERGEANT JORDY SOESBE

• Mr. ROUNDS. Madam President, today I would like to remember the life

of retired U.S. Army National Guard SSG Jordy James Soesbe. Staff Sergeant Soesbe passed away on May 20, 2019, at the age of 44.

Jordy Soesbe was born in Burke, SD, and raised on his family's farm and ranch in Gregory, SD.

Soesbe spent more than 20 years in the U.S. Army and Army National Guard, retiring in 2017 at the rank of staff sergeant in the National Guard. He completed two tours of duty in Afghanistan, serving as a gunner on a Humvee, sniper, and prison guard. He served with the Army's 82nd Airborne Division and 25th Infantry Division and the South Dakota National Guard's 235th Military Police Company.

During his time in the military, he earned numerous commendations and medals, including the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device and 10-year Hourglass Device, Army Commendation Medal, and four Army Achievement Medals.

Aside from his career in the military, he also served as a reserve sheriff's deputy with the Meade County Sheriff's Office.

In his spare time, he was an avid pheasant and deer hunter. He also enjoyed spending time at his local shooting range.

Staff Sergeant Soesbe was not only a hero in life, but also a hero in death. As an organ donor, he saved at least three lives. I commend this hero for his service, both in life and death, and offer my sincerest condolences to his family and friends. He is survived by his mother Virginia; brother Brett; daughters Alexandra, McKenna, and Alyssa; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and in-laws.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 559. An act to amend section 6 of the Joint Resolution entitled "A Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes".

H.R. 1261. An act to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 30 Elevation Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2940. An act to extend the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and related programs through September 30, 2019.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2157.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2157) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1467. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pyriofenone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL 9993-11-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1468. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clofentezine; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL 9993-48-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1469. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2018 Operational Energy Annual Report"; to the Committees on Appropriations; and Armed Services.

EC-1470. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Right to Financial Privacy Act" (RIN0790-AK01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1471. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1472. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13712 of November 22, 2015, with respect to Burundi; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1473. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1474. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1475. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1476. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, NeighborWorks America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2019 operating plan and performance goals; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1477. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Industry and Analysis, Bu-

reau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Certain New Controls on Emerging Technologies Agreed at Wassenaar Arrangement 2018 Plenary" (RIN0694-AH69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1478. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Country Group Designations for Venezuela and Conforming Changes for License Requirements" (RIN0694-AH78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1479. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Industry and Analysis, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary General License" (RIN0694-AH86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1480. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf—Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems; Corrections" (RIN1014-AA37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1481. A communication from the Division Director for Policy, Legislation, and Regulation, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Labor Certification Process for Temporary Employment in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CW-1 Workers)" (RIN1205-AB92) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1482. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Resacas Ecosystem Restoration Project in the vicinity of the City of Brownsville, Texas; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1483. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the navigational improvement project for the Norfolk Harbor, Virginia; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1484. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Little Colorado River at Winslow, Flood Risk Management Project, Navajo County, Arizona; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1485. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Nonattainment New Source Review Program Revisions; Infrastructure Provisions for National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Nonattainment New Source Review Require-

ments for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9993-84-Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1486. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Michigan, Permit to Install Public Hearing Provisions" (FRL No. 9994-64-Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1487. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware, Revision to the Regulatory Definition of a Volatile Organic Compound" (FRL No. 9994-42-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1488. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Commercial Fuel Oil Sulfur Limits for Combustion Units in Philadelphia County" (FRL No. 9994-40-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1489. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plan, Louisiana; Attainment Demonstration for the St. Bernard Parish 2010 SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard Nonattainment Area: Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" (FRL No. 9988-27-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1490. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of Source Specific Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Jersey" (FRL No. 9994-39-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1491. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plan, Louisiana; Attainment Demonstration for the St. Bernard Parish 2010 SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard Nonattainment Area" (FRL No. 9993-79-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1492. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; AK; Updates to Curtailment Program" (FRL No. 9994-32-Region 10) received during adjournment of the

Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1493. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; OR; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9994-49-Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1494. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles" (FRL No. 9994-06-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1495. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modifications to Fuel Regulations to Provide Flexibility for E15; Modifications to RFS RIN Market Regulations" (FRL No. 9994-87-OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1496. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of New Reactors, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Toughness Fracture Requirements—Reactor Coolant Systems and Connected Systems" (NUREG-0800, Chapter 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1497. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of New Reactors, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Physical Security—Combined Licensing and Operating Reactors" (NUREG-0800, Chapter 13) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1498. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of New Reactors, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Operational Programs—Combined Licensing and Operating Reactors" (NUREG-0800, Chapter 13) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1499. A communication from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a draft Statement of Administrative Action (SSA) to implement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and a current copy of the final legal text; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1500. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Current Refundings for Certain Targeted State, Local, and Indian Tribal Government Bond Programs" (Notice 2019-39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1501. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amount Determined Under Section 956 for Corporate United States Shareholders" (RIN1545-BO88) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1502. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certified Professional Employer Organizations; Final Regulations" (RIN1545-BN19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1503. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report of the Attorney General to the Congress of the United States on the Administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, for the six months ending June 30, 2018"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1504. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report of the Attorney General to the Congress of the United States on the Administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, for the six months ending June 30, 2018"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1505. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to telecommunications in Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1506. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Outdated Regulations—Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)—Grants for Credit Enhancement for Charter School Facilities" (RIN1810-AB56) received in the Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1507. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1508. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Veterans Affairs' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1509. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Postal Services' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1510. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1511. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1512. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the six-month period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1513. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1514. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1515. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report on the Status of Audits for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1516. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report on the Status of Audits for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1517. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1518. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1519. A communication from the Agency Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2018 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1520. A communication from the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1521. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of

Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1522. A communication from the Administrator, United States Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1523. A communication from the Regulation Policy Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removing Net Worth Requirement from Health Care Enrollment" (RIN2900-AP37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1524. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Improving Video Relay Service and Direct Video Calling, Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" (CG Docket Nos. 10-51 and 03-123) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1525. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Part 74 of the Commission's Rules Regarding FM Translator Interference, Report and Order" (MB Docket No. 18-119) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1526. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to United States Air Force Launches and Operations and Vandenberg Air Force Base California" (RIN0648-BI44) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1527. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XF534) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1528. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XF606) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1529. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer" (RIN0648-XF721) received during

adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1530. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish Managed Under the Individual Fishing Quota Program" (RIN0648-XG019) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1531. A communication from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XF646) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1532. A communication from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2017 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Apportionments" (RIN0648-XF647) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1533. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2017 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Apportionments" (RIN0648-XF725) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1534. A communication from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XF762) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1535. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XF767) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 30, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1536. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3851" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1537. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3852" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1538. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 546" (RIN2120-AA63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1539. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aviation Safety Organization Changes" ((RIN2120-AL05) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0119)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1540. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Hawaiian Islands High and the Hawaiian Islands Low Offshore Airspace Areas; Hawaii" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2017-1013)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1541. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hawaiian Islands; Hawaii" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2018-1074)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1542. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0790)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1543. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Finmeccanica S.p.A., AgustaWestland S.p.A.) Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0726)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1544. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0350)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1545. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc., de Havilland) Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0410) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM-75. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designating May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122

Whereas, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and

Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the upper and lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horn of the spinal cord; and

Whereas, The initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

Whereas, As ALS progresses, the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking and breathing; and

Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

Whereas, Patients with ALS typically remain alert and are aware of their loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

Whereas, ALS affects military veterans at twice the rate of the general population; and

Whereas, ALS occurs in adulthood, most commonly between 40 and 70 years of age, peaking at approximately 55 years of age, and affects both men and women without bias; and

Whereas, More than 5,000 new ALS patients are diagnosed throughout the nation each year; and

Whereas, In Pennsylvania there are currently more than 1,000 individuals who have been formally diagnosed with ALS; and

Whereas, The \$750,000 in State funding appropriated by the General Assembly for ALS support services for 2018-2019 provided services to nearly 1,000 constituents and a substantial savings to the State budget and taxpayers; and

Whereas, The ALS Association reports that on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

Whereas, ALS has no known cause, prevention or cure; and

Whereas, "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the negative impact this disease has on ALS patients and their families and recognizes the research being done to eradicate ALS; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate the month of May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-76. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Tennessee urging the President of the United States to designate a state funeral for the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II when such recipient passes away; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 96

Whereas, World War II, the most widespread war in history, lasted from 1939 until 1945; and

Whereas, the United States entered the war in 1941, following an attack on Pearl Harbor by Japanese fighter planes; and

Whereas, over sixteen million Americans served their country and the Allied powers over the course of the war; and

Whereas, the men and women who served our country in World War II have been collectively called the "greatest generation" for their selfless sacrifice; and

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration that is awarded by the United States government; and

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is presented by the President of the United States, in the name of Congress; and

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is only conferred upon members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves through conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States was not a belligerent party; and

Whereas, more than 3,400 Medals of Honor have been awarded to our nation's bravest soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen since the creation of the award in 1861; and

Whereas, the Medal of Honor was awarded to 353 Americans during World War II; and

Whereas, only four of those 353 Americans are still alive today; and

Whereas, each of these courageous servicemen, Charles H. Coolidge of Tennessee, Francis S. Currey of New York, Robert D. Maxwell of Oregon, and Hershel Woodrow Williams of West Virginia, risked his life while serving his country with conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity and therefore deserves the gratitude of the American people; and

Whereas, the President of the United States has the sole authority to designate a state funeral; and

Whereas, historically, the President of the United States has designated state funerals for former presidents, generals, and other extraordinary Americans; and

Whereas, our nation is currently divided and yearns for a unifying national event; and

Whereas, designating a state funeral when the last surviving World War II Medal of Honor recipient dies would be a wonderful way for the American people to unite and honor all sixteen million soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen who served in our Armed Forces from 1941 to 1945: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the One Hundred Eleventh General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the House of Representatives concurring, That this General Assembly urges the President of the United States to designate a state funeral for the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II when such recipient passes away; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Senate is instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the

United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and all members of the Tennessee congressional delegation.

POM-77. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the United States Congress to take action to appropriate funds and resources as necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by excessive sedimentation in the wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

It is a known fact that Puerto Rico has no natural lakes. Hence, in the early 20th century, it was necessary to build the first reservoir or artificial lake, so as to address fundamental needs such as water storage for residential or industrial consumption, hydro-power generation, irrigation of agricultural lands, and flooding control and mitigation, among other important uses. Today, we have thirty-six (36) main reservoirs formed by the dams built in the rivers located in the mountain region in the center of the Island, and two (2) outside of the main riverbeds in the eastern region.

It is true that reservoirs are Puerto Rico's most important source of water, however, issues such as sedimentation, the lack of reforestation plans, and the accelerated erosion caused by urban development, among other aspects, have seriously affected the storage capacity of these bodies of water.

In addition to the foregoing, after hurricanes Irma and Maria made landfall on September 2017, many of our lakes were severely affected by a sudden accumulation of sediment. The path followed by hurricane Irma—a category-5 hurricane—brought it really close to the island, and two weeks later, hurricane Maria made landfall on the island. Hurricane Maria has been classified as one of the most powerful natural disasters to ever affect Puerto Rico in recent history. The latter left a lot of devastation, flooding, torrential rain, and severe damage across the island.

The catastrophic effects of these weather events had a significant impact on four (4) of our most important reservoirs. Out of the lakes that supply our drinking water, Loiza (Carraizo) is one of the most affected by sedimentation. Said sedimentation has reduced the depth of the lake thus impairing its capacity to collect water, despite being fed primarily by the Río Grande de Loiza, which is the largest river on the island. The storage capacity of the Loiza reservoir (Carraizo) has been nearly halved as a result of sedimentation.

Sedimentation is also the main problem affecting the Dos Bocas, Lucchetti, and Loco Lakes, all of which are at critical levels, threatening their storage capacity and water quality, because water turbidity increases as reservoir levels decrease. The rapid sediment accumulation has reduced the useful life of the most important reservoirs by sixty (60) percent. Therefore, the United States Congress failure to take immediate action and appropriate the funds needed to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs would hinder the hydro-power generation and drinking water supply for the thousands U.S. citizens who reside on the Island. The critical levels of these four (4) reservoirs calls for the urgent dredging and restoration of these bodies of water, so that they may serve the purposes for which they were built, as well as to mitigate and

control future flooding in the communities surrounding these bodies of water.

For all of the foregoing, this Legislative Assembly deems it necessary and convenient to request the Congress of the United States of America, on behalf of the U.S. citizens born in this U.S. Territory, to appropriate funds and resources as are necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—The Congress of the United States of America is hereby requested to take action to appropriate funds and resources as are necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by excessive sedimentation in the catastrophic wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Puerto Rico.

Section 2.—It is hereby directed that a true and correct copy of this Concurrent Resolution, certified and translated into English, be delivered to the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the Leadership of the Congress of the United States of America.

Section 3.—It is hereby directed that a true and correct copy of this Concurrent Resolution, certified and translated into English, be delivered to the President of the United States of America.

Section 4.—Provided, further, that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be delivered to the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (PRFAA) and the Office of the Resident Commissioner in Washington, D.C., the Honorable Jennifer A. González-Colón, to join the efforts of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico to promote and to achieve that funds be appropriated to Puerto Rico for the dredging of these important bodies of water.

Section 5.—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect upon its approval.

POM-78. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the United States Congress to take action to appropriate funds and resources as necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by excessive sedimentation in the wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

It is a known fact that Puerto Rico has no natural lakes. Hence, in the early 20th century, it was necessary to build the first reservoir or artificial lake, so as to address fundamental needs such as water storage for residential or industrial consumption, hydro-power generation, irrigation of agricultural lands, and flooding control and mitigation, among other important uses. Today, we have thirty-six (36) main reservoirs formed by the dams built in the rivers located in the mountain region in the center of the Island, and two (2) outside of the main riverbeds in the eastern region.

It is true that reservoirs are Puerto Rico's most important source of water, however, issues such as sedimentation, the lack of reforestation plans, and the accelerated erosion caused by urban development, among other aspects, have seriously affected the storage capacity of these bodies of water.

In addition to the foregoing, after hurricanes Irma and Maria made landfall on September 2017, many of our lakes were severely affected by a sudden accumulation of sedi-

ment. The path followed by hurricane Irma—a category-5 hurricane—brought it really close to the island, and two weeks later, hurricane Maria made landfall on the island. Hurricane Maria has been classified as one of the most powerful natural disasters to ever affect Puerto Rico in recent history. The latter left a lot of devastation, flooding, torrential rain, and severe damage across the island.

The catastrophic effects of these weather events had a significant impact on four (4) of our most important reservoirs. Out of the lakes that supply our drinking water, Loiza (Carraizo) is one of the most affected by sedimentation. Said sedimentation has reduced the depth of the lake thus impairing its capacity to collect water, despite being fed primarily by the Río Grande de Loiza, which is the largest river on the island. The storage capacity of the Loiza reservoir (Carraizo) has been nearly halved as a result of sedimentation.

Sedimentation is also the main problem affecting the Dos Bocas, Lucchetti, and Loco Lakes, all of which are at critical levels, threatening their storage capacity and water quality, because water turbidity increases as reservoir levels decrease. The rapid sediment accumulation has reduced the useful life of the most important reservoirs by sixty (60) percent. Therefore, the United States Congress failure to take immediate action and appropriate the funds needed to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs would hinder the hydro-power generation and drinking water supply for the thousands U.S. citizens who reside on the Island. The critical levels of these four (4) reservoirs calls for the urgent dredging and restoration of these bodies of water, so that they may serve the purposes for which they were built, as well as to mitigate and control future flooding in the communities surrounding these bodies of water.

For all of the foregoing, this Legislative Assembly deems it necessary and convenient to request the Congress of the United States of America, on behalf of the U.S. citizens born in this U.S. Territory, to appropriate funds and resources as are necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—The Congress of the United States of America is hereby requested to take action to appropriate funds and resources as are necessary to dredge the Dos Bocas, Loco, Loiza (Carraizo), and Lucchetti reservoirs, which were adversely affected by excessive sedimentation in the catastrophic wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Puerto Rico.

Section 2.—It is hereby directed that a true and correct copy of this Concurrent Resolution, certified and translated into English, be delivered to the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the Leadership of the Congress of the United States of America.

Section 3.—It is hereby directed that a true and correct copy of this Concurrent Resolution, certified and translated into English, be delivered to the President of the United States of America.

Section 4.—Provided, further, that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be delivered to the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (PRFAA) and the Office of the Resident Commissioner in Washington, DC, the Honorable Jennifer A. González-Colón, to join the efforts of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico to promote and to achieve that funds be appro-

riated to Puerto Rico for the dredging of these important bodies of water.

Section 5.—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect upon its approval.

POM-79. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to continue full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

Whereas, the Great Lakes are a critical resource for our nation, supporting the economy and a way of life in Michigan and the other seven states within the Great Lakes region. The Great Lakes hold 20 percent of the world's surface freshwater and 90 percent of the United States' surface freshwater. This globally significant freshwater resource provides drinking water for more than 30 million people and directly supports 1.5 million jobs, generating \$62 billion in wages; and

Whereas, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) has provided crucial funding to support long overdue work to protect and restore the Great Lakes. In partnership with the states, local governments, and other organizations, the federal government has invested more than \$3 billion and supported over 4,700 projects over the last decade, including around \$600 million for more than 1,100 projects in Michigan. These projects have cleaned up toxic pollution, reduced runoff from cities and farms, combatted invasive species, and restored fish and wildlife habitat; and

Whereas, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has made a significant difference and represents a sound investment in both the environment and the economies of the Great Lakes region. A 2018 study calculated that for every federal dollar invested in Great Lakes restoration there is \$3.35 in additional economic activity, with older industrial cities like Detroit seeing an even higher return on investment; and

Whereas, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has made a particular difference in addressing toxic hot spots around the Great Lakes. Prior to the GLRI, only one of these 31 "areas of concern" within the United States had been cleaned up in more than 20 years. Since 2010, GLRI funding has facilitated the cleanup of six additional areas of concern, five in Michigan. Cleaning up these areas of concerns makes a real difference to the environment as well as local economies by improving water quality, restoring fish and wildlife habitat, enhancing recreational opportunities, and facilitating new development; and

Whereas, far more work needs to be done. Whether toxic algal blooms shutting down Toledo's drinking water supply, invasive carp threatening billion-dollar fisheries, or contaminated sediments restricting recreational opportunities, substantial limitations and threats to the use of the Great Lakes remain. Twenty-four areas of concern still need additional cleanup work done, including eight in Michigan. These problems require a collaborative effort to solve; and

Whereas, less than 40 percent of the available funds have been spent in recent years cleaning up the federally designated areas of concern. Greater emphasis should be placed on addressing these sites, including having most of the available dollars designated towards completing cleanup of the remaining areas of concern. While other needs have merit as well, cleaning up these sites would bring significant benefits to impacted communities; and

Whereas, the President's Fiscal Year 2020 federal budget proposes to reduce funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative by 90

percent, though later commitments pledged to continue funding at past levels. This continued funding is appreciated as restoration efforts will only become more expensive and more difficult if they are not addressed in the coming years. The federal government needs to remain an active partner with the Great Lakes region; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to continue full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage that funding be prioritized towards cleaning up and delisting the remaining Great Lakes areas of concern and that a detailed comprehensive strategy and schedule be developed to direct the use of funding for the areas of concern; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-80. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, urging the Ohio congressional delegation to support the proposed Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. Con. Res. 15. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2019, as "Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day" (Rept. No. 116-43).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1703. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 1704. A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students in the middle grades are taught an academically rigorous curriculum with effective supports so that students complete the middle grades prepared for success in secondary school and postsecondary endeavors, to improve State and local educational agency policies and program relating to the academic achievement of students in the middle grades, to develop and implement effective middle grades models for struggling students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 1705. A bill to authorize the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 1706. A bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage

the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KING, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1707. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to assist States to rehabilitate or replace certain bridges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JONES:

S. 1708. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a refundable tax credit for the installation of a storm shelter at a qualified residence; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1709. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to improve evacuation routes in rural communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 1710. A bill to prohibit funds made available under the airport improvement program from being provided to entities that have violated the intellectual property rights of United States entities and therefore pose a threat to national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1711. A bill to require online retailers to disclose the country of origin of products imported into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1712. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to encourage the development and use of DISARM antimicrobial drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1713. A bill to secure the technological edge of the United States in civil and military aviation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 1714. A bill to amend the charter of the Gold Star Wives of America to remove the restriction on the federally chartered corporation, and directors and officers of the corporation, attempting to influence legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1715. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to all Gold Star Families in recognition of their sacrifice and service to the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1716. A bill to provide for the issuance of a "Gold Star Families Forever Stamp" to honor the sacrifices of families who have lost a loved one who was a member of the Armed Forces in combat; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 228. A resolution supporting measures taken by the Government of Taiwan to deter, or if so compelled, defeat, aggression by the Government of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Res. 229. A resolution relative to the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former United States Senator for the State of Mississippi; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. JONES, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. MCSALLY):

S. Res. 230. A resolution recognizing the significant milestone of Senior Corps volunteers serving 50,000,000 hours in 2018; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 9

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 9, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing and distribution of traditional and premium cigars.

S. 10

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

S. 80

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 80, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 91

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 91, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize per diem payments under comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans to furnish care to dependents of homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

S. 192

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 192, a bill to provide extensions for community health centers, the National Health Service Corps, teaching health centers that operate GME programs, and the special diabetes programs.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit, and for other purposes.

S. 215

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 215, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 237

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 237, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes.

S. 238

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 238, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

S. 286

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 286, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 287

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 287, a bill to amend the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to impose limitations on the authority of the President to adjust imports that are determined to threaten to impair national security, and for other purposes.

S. 289

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to support rural residency training funding that is equitable for all States, and for other purposes.

S. 402

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 402, a bill to plan, develop, and make recommendations to increase access to sexual assault examinations for survivors by holding hospitals accountable and supporting the providers that serve them.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 457, a bill to require that \$1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.

S. 512

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 512, a bill to establish an advisory office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission to prevent fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 518, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 532

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 532, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide that an individual may remain eligible to participate in the teacher loan forgiveness program under title IV of such Act if the individual's period of consecutive years of employment as a full-time teacher is interrupted because the individual is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces who is relocated during the school year pursuant to military orders for a permanent change of duty station, or the individual works in a school of the defense dependents' edu-

cation system under the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 due to such a relocation, and for other purposes.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 569, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

S. 640

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 640, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require pharmacy-negotiated price concessions to be included in negotiated prices at the point-of-sale under part D of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 758

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 758, a bill to ensure affordable abortion coverage and care for every woman, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 814

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 814, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

S. 826

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 826, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify the final rule relating to flightcrew member duty and rest requirements for passenger operations of air carriers to apply to all-cargo operations of air carriers, and for other purposes.

S. 827

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to designate certain

National Forest System land and certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, wildland recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to limit certain rolling stock procurements, and for other purposes.

S. 851

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 851, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 901, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support individuals with younger onset Alzheimer's disease.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1007, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 1026, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee.

S. 1055

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1055, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security front-line operational components, and for other purposes.

S. 1077

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1077, a bill to establish a pilot program awarding competitive grants to organizations administering entrepreneurial development programming to formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1083

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1083, a bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 1102

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

S. 1218

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1218, a bill to require the review of the service of certain members of the Armed Forces during World War I to determine if such members should be awarded the Medal of Honor, to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor based on the results of the review, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to provide relief to community banks, to promote access to capital for community banks, and for other purposes.

S. 1273

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1273, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to reform prescription drug pricing and reduce out-of-pocket costs by ensuring consumers benefit from negotiated rebates.

S. 1394

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr.

KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 1401

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1401, a bill to establish eligibility requirements for education support professionals under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and for other purposes.

S. 1402

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1402, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to recognize employers with a commitment to helping employees balance workplace responsibilities and family obligations.

S. 1416

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1416, a bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anticompetitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to provide a coordinated regional response to manage effectively the endemic violence and humanitarian crisis in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

S. 1472

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1472, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require paper ballots and risk-limiting audits in all Federal elections, and for other purposes.

S. 1475

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1475, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend and modify certain charitable tax provisions.

S. 1481

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1481, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a special enrollment period for pregnant women, and for other purposes.

S. 1531

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1531, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide protections for health insurance consumers from surprise billing.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment for services of radiologist assistants under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1564

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1564, a bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission and certain Federal agencies to carry out a study relating to accounting standards, and for other purposes.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1615, a bill to amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to provide compensation and credit for retired pay purposes for maternity leave taken by members of the reserve components, and for other purposes.

S. 1664

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1664, a bill to require reporting on prescription drug expenditures under group health plans and on prescription drug price changes, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 99, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 120, a resolution opposing efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement targeting Israel.

S. RES. 184

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 184, a resolution condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka.

S. RES. 195

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 195, a resolution opposing the lift-

ing of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran without addressing Iran's nuclear program, ballistic missile development, support for terrorism, and other destabilizing activities.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 212, a resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States.

At the request of Mr. SASSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, supra.

S. RES. 221

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 221, a resolution recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre and condemning the intensifying repression and human rights violations by the Chinese Communist Party and the use of surveillance by Chinese authorities, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1703. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the introduction of Senate legislation to help us deal with the affordable housing crisis in the United States of America.

Many of my colleagues know how pervasive this problem is. Not only is affordable housing a crisis, but the homeless population that results from not having enough housing stock in the United States of America is also a crisis and ends up costing us more money to deal with the same population.

This is not a new issue. It is not a new problem. We have been trying to fight to address this issue in the U.S. Senate and to deal with the affordable housing crisis for years, but the magnitude of the problem is getting worse. We need to respond by helping to increase supply. That is because we have so many demographic trends which we see in report after report citing and documenting what is happening in the United States of America.

We have an ever-increasing senior population that is living longer and baby boomers reaching retirement, many of whom need more affordable housing than there is in the marketplace.

We have returning veterans from our overseas missions who are coming

home and who also need affordable housing.

We need workforce housing. Many parts of the United States of America have had great economic success but have not kept pace with the amount of housing stock, and, thus, the supply and pricing has resulted in astronomical challenges to provide affordable housing within a region that doesn't leave people driving hours a day just to commute to their jobs.

We have the remnants of our economic crisis during the great recession that left so many people without affordable housing and the fact that we did not keep pace with supply.

Over the last 2 years, I have worked with many organizations at the national level and participated in the announcement of many reports done by practically every institution of any significance in the United States. They all came to the same conclusion: We need to increase supply.

That is why I am introducing the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Improvement Act of 2019, along with my colleagues Senator YOUNG of Indiana, Senator ISAKSON of Georgia, and Senator WYDEN of Oregon, to strengthen and improve the affordable tax credit that we already have in place. My colleagues in the House—Representatives DELBENE, MARCHANT, BEYER, and WALORSKI—are also introducing companion legislation today.

We did make progress in the last Congress in increasing the affordable tax credit. This tax credit helps provide resources for 90 percent of the federally-funded affordable housing that is built in the United States of America. That is because it takes the tax credit to incent people to build at this more affordable rate.

I have always said to my colleagues that I am willing to consider any other ideas that we have to increase affordable housing and will work with anybody to increase supply in the United States, and I am open to any ideas. But until we have ideas that are more successful than this, I am going to continue to push the affordable housing tax credit and push to increase the supply of the tax credit so that we can increase the supply of affordable housing.

We have a housing crisis in the State of Washington. It doesn't matter whether you are in Spokane or Walla Walla or Yakima or Vancouver. Our urban areas feel it the most and are most pinched. It causes problems for our law enforcement. It causes problems for our healthcare delivery system. It causes problems for our transportation system. The way out of this problem is to build more affordable housing.

Increasing the amount of tax credit by 50 percent over the next 10 years will give our States, our cities, and our counties more resources to build affordable housing. It will also provide stability in the value of affordable housing tax credits used in the bond finance markets and place a 4-percent

floor under the credit. This gives more certainty to those who are building housing and producing it and rehabilitating that in the market.

It also maximizes the availability of the private activity bonds by recycling any multifamily bonds that are used along with housing credits to build affordable housing. Together, these steps would help us build hundreds of thousands of new units of affordable housing over the next 10 years.

In my State and other States, it would mean that we would see a 50-percent increase in the amount of credit available over the next 10 years. That is so important because each housing project that is built takes more people out of the dire situations they are in, takes the vulnerable population and gives them the opportunity to move forward.

It also saves us dollars. The Senate Finance Committee has heard time and again from those testifying—whether it is the homebuilders or the health insurance industry—that it is more costly to deal with this population while they are homeless. That is to say, you can't deliver job training to a tent. And somebody who doesn't have proper home and a stable place to live is more likely to show up in our healthcare delivery system, costing us more money.

This legislation will also make it easier for formerly homeless students to also get help from the affordable housing tax credit under current HUD rules of the program.

It also helps those who are protected under the Violence Against Women Act can also qualify for affordable housing as they have in the past.

We know that the challenge of moving forward on affordable housing is something that is a bipartisan issue. The tax credit has had bipartisan support for many, many years in the U.S. Congress. We just need to put the pedal to the metal and provide more of the tax credit so that we can get more affordable housing built in the United States of America.

I hope my colleagues will help by signing on to this legislation, and as we discuss various proposals in the Finance Committee regarding tax policy, I hope my colleagues will help us push to our States and communities more solutions that will deal with this crisis.

By Mr. JONES:

S. 1708. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a refundable tax credit for the installation of a storm shelter at a qualified residence; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, the second bill I have introduced today would create a one-time refundable tax credit of up to \$2,500 for homeowners to build or purchase a storm shelter for their home. It would ensure that people won't have to travel dangerous distances to seek shelter in the event of sudden severe weather.

Alabamians know all too well that extreme weather can strike at any

time, especially now as we move from the spring tornado season into the summer hurricane season. That is why I want to use this opportunity today to urge every single one of my colleagues to support these bills and these efforts so that all of our communities can be better prepared when natural disasters strike, and they will.

In Lee County, I have been discussing with local officials these two bills, which are just a step. They are obvious steps to me. Not everybody can afford to buy a storm shelter, so the tax credit would not be available. So, working with the Lee County M.A. and officials on the ground, we are trying to learn best practices. What can we better do to harden those areas where people live in the rural communities so they will not lose their lives, much less all of their possessions? That is what we are planning to do, and the two bills today are first steps.

I sincerely hope going forward that helping fellow Americans who have suffered disasters will no longer be the partisan issue that it suddenly became this year and that we can get back to the business of taking care of our citizens and those who have sent us here to represent them.

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1709. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to improve evacuation routes in rural communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, while it is critical that communities get the disaster relief they need after the fact, it is also important that folks can better prepare for natural disasters and help make our communities safer so that we can reduce the impact and costs of the inevitable severe weather we will have in this country.

The 2019 hurricane season is upon us. It started just last Saturday. Folks in my neck of the woods and especially down in South Alabama know that means storms can come at any time. Fortunately with hurricanes, they can get some warning, but for tornadoes like the ones that hit Lee County, it is just minutes.

It is not a question of whether severe weather will happen; it is a question of when and where. It is also a question of whether we will be prepared when it strikes again. That is why today I am introducing two bills. The first is co-sponsored by my Louisiana colleagues, Senators KENNEDY and CASSIDY. It would establish a new grant program through the U.S. Department of Transportation that would award up to \$100 million for projects to improve emergency evacuation routes in small and rural communities.

Generally in our State and in a lot of the coastal States, there is only one or two major evacuation routes, which is just not enough to handle the situation should another hurricane hit the gulf.

This grant money would help expand those routes.

The grants would be used for two purposes: to build State and local connector roads that would improve access to the broader thoroughfares and to expand existing roads and bridges so that folks can evacuate safely during extreme weather events. These infrastructure investments would also have the additional benefit of serving rural Alabama communities year-round and expanding and improving some of our aging roadways. With expanding and improving aging roadways and giving better access to rural communities, economic expansion will follow.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 228—SUPPORTING MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TAIWAN TO DETER, OR IF SO COMPELLED, DEFEAT, AGGRESSION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 228

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China has reaffirmed its intent to seize control of Taiwan, including by force;

Whereas, on May 28, 2019, Taiwan conducted the annual Han Kuang Exercise, demonstrating the ability of Taiwanese forces to defend against invasion and other military threats;

Whereas, in May 2019, United States and Taiwanese national security advisors met in Washington for the first time since Taiwan and the United States ended formal diplomatic ties in 1979;

Whereas the Government of Taiwan has gone to great lengths to cooperate and build relations with the Government of the United States and other nations; and

Whereas the United States and Taiwan have continued to strengthen their relationship, even as the Government of the People's Republic of China has intensified its threats against the Government of Taiwan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms and encourages strengthening of United States-Taiwanese relations;

(2) condemns threats by the Government of the People's Republic of China against the Government of Taiwan, including—

(A) continued rhetoric that could insinuate an attack on the people or the Government of Taiwan;

(B) military exercises demonstrating intent to invade or otherwise attack Taiwan; and

(C) propaganda used by the Government of the People's Republic of China;

(3) applauds the Government of Taiwan's adoption of the Overall Defense Concept;

(4) urges the Government of Taiwan to continue development of a more lethal and resilient defensive posture in accordance with the new Overall Defense Concept; and

(5) calls on the governments of all nations to support a strong, prosperous, and democratic Taiwan as part of a shared commitment to the security and stability of the Indo-Pacific region.

SENATE RESOLUTION 229—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM THAD COCHRAN, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 229

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, in 1937;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran graduated from Byram High School in Hinds County, Mississippi, as valedictorian, an Eagle Scout, a member of 4-H, and a student athlete;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi;

Whereas, while a student at the University of Mississippi, the Honorable William Thad Cochran was president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, vice president of the student body, company commander in the Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and head cheerleader;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve, served aboard the USS MACON from 1959 to 1961, served on staff of the Commandant of the Eighth Naval District in New Orleans, Louisiana, taught military law and naval orientation at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, from 1962 to 1964, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford, Mississippi, and at Trinity College, University of Dublin, in Dublin, Ireland, on a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran joined the law firm of Watkins & Eager in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1964, was made a partner at that firm in less than 3 years, and served as chairman of the Mississippi Law Institute, lawyers' chairman for the Heart Fund and United Givers Fund, president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Mississippi Bar Association, a board member of the Jackson Rotary Club, and chairman of the Legal Services program of the Jackson Junior Bar;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the House of Representatives to represent the Fourth District of Mississippi in 1972, and was reelected in 1974 and 1976;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the Senate in 1978, becoming the first Republican in more than 100 years to win a statewide election in the State of Mississippi, and was reelected in 1984, 1990, 1996, 2002, 2008, and 2014, with a total period of service lasting from December 27, 1978, to April 1, 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chair of the Senate Republican Conference from 1991 to 1997;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate from 2003 to 2005;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate from 2005 to 2007 and from 2015 to 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran championed education programs, including programs to increase educational achievement among disadvantaged children,

particularly in rural areas, to build the research capabilities of universities, and to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran worked to strengthen the Armed Forces by supporting shipbuilding programs for the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and other critical Federal organizations and the military bases and installations in the State of Mississippi and across the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was the chief sponsor of the National Missile Defense Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-38; 113 Stat. 205), which made the United States exponentially safer by creating the missile defense system used by the United States as of June 2019;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a leader in agriculture and worked to promote United States agricultural innovation around the world through the development of the Cochran Fellowship Program of the Department of Agriculture, which trains fellows from middle-income countries to strengthen and enhance trade linkages between the countries of the fellows and agricultural interests in the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran led the effort to provide critical Federal assistance to the State of Mississippi and other Gulf Coast States devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a devoted father, grandfather, and husband;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was awarded honorary degrees from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Mississippi College, Blue Mountain College, the University of Richmond, Belhaven University, and Tougaloo College;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was recognized as the tenth-longest serving Senator in the history of the United States;

Whereas the service of the Honorable William Thad Cochran on behalf of the people of the State of Mississippi and all people of the United States earned the Honorable William Thad Cochran the respect and devotion of colleagues and the title "the Quiet Persuader"; and

Whereas the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran has deprived the State of Mississippi and the United States of one of the most distinguished statesmen: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former Senator for the State of Mississippi; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(A) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable William Thad Cochran.

SENATE RESOLUTION 230—RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE OF SENIOR CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING 50,000,000 HOURS IN 2018

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. JONES, Ms. SMITH,

Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. MCSALLY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 230

Whereas volunteers in the United States who are 55 years of age and older (referred to in this preamble as "senior volunteers") provide much needed services to their communities, neighbors, and friends;

Whereas Senior Corps, through the RSVP, Foster Grandparent, and Senior Companion programs administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, provides meaningful volunteer opportunities to 220,000 senior volunteers and recruits thousands of additional community volunteers;

Whereas, for more than 5 decades, RSVP volunteers, Foster Grandparents, and Senior Companions have played an important role in strengthening communities by contributing their experience, knowledge, and accomplishments in order to—

- (1) help their neighbors recover from natural and manmade disasters;
- (2) provide nutrition services;
- (3) mentor and tutor schoolchildren;
- (4) support veterans and military families; and

(5) provide respite care to caregivers;

Whereas in 2018, Senior Corps volunteers provided more than 50,000,000 hours of direct service through more than 23,000 nonprofit, educational, and faith-based community groups nationwide;

Whereas structured volunteering by senior volunteers—

- (1) keeps those senior volunteers active, healthy, and engaged;
- (2) helps communities across the United States by solving local problems;
- (3) helps the United States by saving taxpayer dollars, reducing health care costs, and strengthening democracy; and
- (4) helps seniors live independent and productive lives;

Whereas the RSVP, Foster Grandparent, and Senior Companion programs have proven to be cost-effective ways to engage senior volunteers in volunteer service that meets pressing community needs;

Whereas recent research suggests that—

(1) volunteering not only slows the cognitive decline of aging for older individuals in the United States, but also provides an important pathway for alleviating loneliness; and

(2) throughout the United States, and especially in rural areas, older individuals are "aging in place" and are thereby particularly susceptible to loneliness, which undermines health and is linked to early mortality;

Whereas the United States should expand senior volunteer service opportunities to take advantage of the talents and experiences of the 10,000 baby boomers who will retire each day for the next 20 years;

Whereas, at a time of mounting social need and growing interest in service by older individuals in the United States, the United States has an unprecedented opportunity to harness the talents of senior volunteers to address community challenges; and

Whereas the people of the United States should join in the celebration of Senior Corps volunteers during "Older Americans Month" in May 2019: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the contributions that Senior Corps volunteers make to—

- (A) the communities in which those volunteers live and serve; and
- (B) the United States; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to recognize the contributions of senior volunteers.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 251. Mrs. BLACKBURN (for Mr. BARRASSO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1235, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 251. Mrs. BLACKBURN (for Mr. BARRASSO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1235, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote; as follows:

On page 2, line 18, insert “Esther Hobart Morris,” before “and”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 9 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is au-

thorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed roundtable.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

The Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 11:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Subcommittee on Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Anthony Spanos and Edith Spear, interns from my office, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the year.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Marli Pasternak, a member of my staff, during today’s session of the Senate.

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

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE OF SENIOR CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING 50,000,000 HOURS IN 2018

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 230, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 230) recognizing the significant milestone of Senior Corps volunteers serving 50,000,000 hours in 2018.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 230) was agreed to.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to. (The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 5; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Schenker nomination under the previous order.

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

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, for the information of all Senators, at 11 a.m., tomorrow, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Schenker, Tarbert nominations in the order listed.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, and under the provisions of S. Res. 229, as a further mark of respect for the late Thad Cochran, former Senator from Mississippi.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:43 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 4, 2019:

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

ANDREW M. SAUL, OF NEW YORK, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2025.