United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019 No. 94

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. The Members of this people's House will be leaving for an extended weekend. Many will be traveling to Normandy on the 75th anniversary of D-Day, a day when thousands of American soldiers joined forces with our allies to begin the liberation of Europe.

As the world remembers that offensive in that great war, may we here at home be truly grateful for the sacrifices of so many whose efforts helped to guarantee the conflict-free North Atlantic world we have all lived with through these 70-odd years since that fateful day.

May we never forget the danger of hypernationalism that can lead to a reduced respect for those who are the ''other,'' and a world where nations when acting only in their own self-interest, can fail to see Your presence in their neighborhoods.

May all that is done this day, and in the days to come, be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

HONORING ALL SERVICEMEMBERS FOR THEIR SACRIFICES

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in gratitude for the bravery and sacrifices made by American and Allied Armed Forces on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

This week marks the 75th anniversary of that longest day, a moment in history when servicemembers from across the globe stormed the shores of Normandy, France, to defend liberty and fight against the tyranny of Nazi Germany.

And as we pause to honor and express our gratitude to the tens of thousands of American soldiers, sailors, and airmen who bore the battle that day and for many days after until victory was achieved, we are reminded again that the cost of freedom can be very high.

As chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, it is my duty to ensure the promises we made to veterans and their survivors are kept.

To those veterans that remain with us still to those D-Day veterans who perished on that longest day and to those who lived to tell the stories of that day, I say to you that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs is committed to honoring your legacies by improving VA healthcare, providing accountability for the fair and timely delivery of benefits, and to ensure that we honor your memories.

Today I ask that all Americans reflect on the sacrifices made by the greatest generation in Europe 75 years ago and to join me in thanking those of this generation who have stepped up and every intervening generation who have answered the call to serve.

RECOGNIZING FORT STEWART-HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield for winning the 2019 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence.

Conferred by the Department of Defense, installations compete based on a number of categories, including unit morale, installation management, safety, health, community relations, and environmental stewardship. Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield has won the award a staggering seven times, most recently in 2015.

I want to thank everyone at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, but especially Garrison Commander Colonel Jason Wolter, whose hard work enabled the installation to reach such a consistent height of quality.

This award is the culmination of his statement: ''There's no place other than Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield our soldiers would rather call home.''

I am proud to have them in the First Congressional District of Georgia and proud of the work they are doing serving our country.

BRINGING SANCTUARY AND SAFETY BACK TO AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

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

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Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate D-Day and express our heartfelt gratitude to veterans across our great Nation, it is also an appropriate time to think of civilians and security threats at home.

June is Gun Violence Awareness Month and a time to reflect on the lives we have lost to gun violence and reinvigorate our fight to end senseless suffering.

Just this past week, 52 people were shot in Chicago, resulting in 10 deaths, and 12 lives were taken in Virginia Beach. The shooting in Virginia Beach was the 150th mass shooting in 2019. Just think about that and the lives lost. Americans like Ryan Keith Cox, a hero who helped his coworkers to safety, Mary Louise Gayle, a devoted mother and grandmother known for her holiday gingerbread houses, Richard Nettleton, a veteran and a die-hard Red Sox fan, Katherine, Christopher, Bert, Laquita, Bobby, Missy, Joshua, Alexander, and Tara.

We are not powerless. 100 days ago House Democrats passed two gun safety reform bills supported by over 90 percent of Americans. These bills can save lives. We can bring sanctuary and safety back to our communities.

We ask our Senate colleagues to do their job and bring these life-saving measures up for a vote.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

COASTAL AND OCEAN ACIDIFICATION STRESSORS AND THREATS RESEARCH ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1237) to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 to establish an Ocean Acidification Advisory Board, to expand and improve the research on Ocean Acidification and Coastal Acidification, to establish and maintain a data archive system for Ocean Acidification data and Coastal Acidification data, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1237

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 ''Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats Research Act of 2019'' or the ''COAST Research Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 12402(a) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3701(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''development and coordination'' and inserting ''coordination and implementation'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''acidification on marine organisms'' and inserting ''acidification and coastal acidification on marine organisms''; and

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''establish'' and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting ''maintain and advise an interagency research, monitoring, and public outreach program on ocean acidification and coastal acidification;'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''establishment'' and inserting ''maintenance'';

(3) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification''; and

(4) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''and coastal acidification that take into account other environmental and anthropogenic stressors'' after ''ocean acidification''.

*(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 12402 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3701(a)) is amended by striking ''**(a) PURPOSES.—**''.*

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 12403 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3702) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''of the Earth's oceans'' and all that follows before the period at the end and inserting ''and changes in the water chemistry of the Earth's oceans, coastal estuaries, and waterways caused by carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and the breakdown of organic matter'';

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking ''Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council'' and inserting ''National Science and Technology Council Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology'';

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively;

(4) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following new paragraph:

''(1) COASTAL ACIDIFICATION.—The term 'coastal acidification' means the combined decrease in pH and changes in the water chemistry of coastal oceans, estuaries, and other bodies of water from chemical inputs (including carbon dioxide from the atmosphere), freshwater inputs, and excess nutrient run-off from land and coastal atmospheric pollution that result in processes that release carbon dioxide, acidic nitrogen, and sulfur compounds as byproducts which end up in coastal waters.''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) STATE.—The term 'State' means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and any other territory or possession of the United States.''.

SEC. 4. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.

Section 12404 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703) is amended—

*(1) in the heading, by striking ''**SUBCOMMITTEE**'' and inserting ''**WORKING GROUP**'';*

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council shall coordinate Federal activities on ocean acidification and'' and insert ''Subcommittee shall'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''Wildlife Service,'' and inserting ''Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State, the Department of Energy, the Department of the Navy, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Smithsonian Institution,''; and

(C) in paragraph (3), in the heading, by striking ''CHAIRMAN'' and inserting ''CHAIR'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting '', including the efforts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to facilitate such implementation'' after ''of the plan'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification'';

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(D) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking ''developed'' and inserting ''and coastal acidification developed''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''and coastal acidification; and''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) ensure that each of the Federal agencies represented on the interagency working group—

''(A) participates in the Ocean Acidification Information Exchange established under paragraph (5); and

''(B) delivers data and information to support the data archive system established under section 12406(d).'';

(4) in subsection (c), in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting '', and to the Office of Management and Budget,'' after ''House of Representatives''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''the interagency research'' and inserting ''interagency strategic research'';

(5) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(6) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) ADVISORY BOARD.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Chair of the Subcommittee shall establish an Ocean Acidification Advisory Board.

''(2) DUTIES.—The Advisory Board shall—

''(A) not later than 180 days before the Subcommittee submits the most recent report under subsection (d)(2)—

''(i) review such report;

''(ii) submit an analysis of such report to the Subcommittee for consideration in the final report submitted under subsection (d)(2); and

''(iii) concurrently with the Subcommittee's final submission of the report under subsection (d)(2), the Advisory Board shall submit a copy of the analysis provided to the Subcommittee to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives;

''(B) not later than 180 days before the Subcommittee submits the most recent strategic research plan under subsection (d)(3) to Congress—

''(i) review such plan;

''(ii) submit an analysis of such plan and the implementation thereof to the Subcommittee for consideration in the final strategic research plan submitted under subsection (d)(3); and

''(iii) concurrently with the Subcommittee's final submission of the strategic research plan under subsection (d)(3), the Advisory Board shall submit a copy of the analysis provided to the Subcommittee to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the

Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives;

''(C) provide ongoing advice to the Subcommittee and the interagency working group on matters related to Federal activities on ocean acidification and coastal acidification;

''(D) advise the Subcommittee and the interagency working group on—

''(i) efforts to coordinate research and monitoring activities related to ocean acidification and coastal acidification; and

''(ii) the best practices for the standards developed for data archiving under section 12406(e);

''(E) publish in the Federal Register a charter;

''(F) provide the Library of Congress with—

''(i) the charter described in subparagraph (E);

''(ii) any schedules and minutes for meetings of the Advisory Board;

''(iii) any documents that are approved by the Advisory Board; and

''(iv) any reports and analysis prepared by the Advisory Board; and

''(G) establish a publicly accessible web page on the website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, that contains the information described in clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (F).

''(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Board shall consist of 24 members as follows:

''(A) 2 representatives of the shellfish and crab industry.

''(B) 1 representative of the finfish industry.

''(C) 1 representative of seafood processors.

''(D) 3 representatives from academia, including both natural and social sciences.

''(E) 1 representative of recreational fishing.

''(F) 1 representative of relevant nongovernmental organizations.

''(G) 6 representatives from relevant State, local, and Tribal governments.

''(H) 1 representative from the Alaska Ocean Acidification Network.

''(I) 1 representative from the California Current Acidification Network.

''(J) 1 representative from the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network.

''(K) 1 representative from the Southeast Coastal Acidification Network.

''(L) 1 representative from the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Acidification Network.

''(M) 1 representative from the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Acidification Network.

''(N) 1 representative from the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System or similar entity representing the island territories and possessions of the United States in the Pacific Ocean, and the State of Hawaii.

''(O) 1 representative from the Caribbean Regional Association for Coastal Ocean Observing or a similar entity representing Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

''(P) 1 representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Advisory Board without a vote.

''(4) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—The Chair of the Subcommittee shall—

''(A) appoint members to the Advisory Board (taking into account the geographical interests of each individual to be appointed as a member of the Advisory Board to ensure that an appropriate balance of geographical interests are represented by the members of the Advisory Board) who—

''(i) represent the interest group for which each seat is designated;

''(ii) demonstrate expertise on ocean acidification or coastal acidification and its scientific, economic, industry, cultural, and community impacts; and

''(iii) have a record of distinguished service with respect to ocean acidification or coastal acidification, and such impacts;

''(B) give consideration to nominations and recommendations from the members of the interagency working group and the public for such appointments; and

''(C) ensure that an appropriate balance of scientific, industry, and geographical interests are represented by the members of the Advisory Board.

''(5) TERM OF MEMBERSHIP.—Each member of the Advisory Board—

''(A) shall be appointed for a 5-year term; and

''(B) may be appointed to more than one term.

''(6) CHAIR.—The Chair of the Subcommittee shall appoint one member of the Advisory Board to serve as the Chair of the Advisory Board.

''(7) MEETINGS.—Not less than once each calendar year, the Advisory Board shall meet at such times and places as may be designated by the Chair of the Advisory Board, in consultation with the Chair of the Subcommittee and the Chair of the interagency working group.

''(8) BRIEFING.—The Chair of the Advisory Board shall brief the Subcommittee and the interagency working group on the progress of the Advisory Board as necessary.

''(9) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act shall not apply to the Advisory Board.''.

SEC. 5. STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.

Section 12405 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''acidification'' each place it appears and inserting ''acidification and coastal acidification'';

(B) in the first sentence—

(i) by inserting '', and not later than every 5 years thereafter'' after ''the date of enactment of this Act'';

(ii) by inserting ''address the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidification and to'' after ''mitigation strategies to''; and

(iii) by striking ''marine ecosystems'' each place it appears and inserting ''ecosystems''; and

(C) in the second sentence, by inserting ''and recommendations made by the Advisory Board in the review of the plan required under section 12404(c)(2)(B)(i)'' after ''subsection (d)'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and social sciences'' after ''among the ocean sciences'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''impacts'' and inserting ''impacts, including trends of changes in ocean chemistry,'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''improve the ability to assess the'' and inserting ''assess the short-term and long-term''; and

(II) by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(iii) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) provide information for the—

''(i) development of adaptation and mitigation strategies to address the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidification;

''(ii) conservation of marine organisms and ecosystems; and

''(iii) assessment of the effectiveness of such adaptation and mitigation strategies; and''; and

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

''(D) improve research on—

''(i) ocean acidification and coastal acidification;

''(ii) the interactions between and effects of multiple combined stressors including changes in water chemistry, changes in sediment delivery, hypoxia, and harmful algal blooms, on ocean acidification and coastal acidification; and

''(iii) the effect of environmental stressors on marine resources and ecosystems;'';

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''database development'' and inserting ''data management'';

(ii) in subparagraph (H) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

''(J) assessment of adaptation and mitigation strategies; and

''(K) education and outreach activities;'';

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking ''set forth'' and inserting ''ensure an appropriate balance of contribution in establishing'';

(E) in paragraph (5), by striking ''reports'' and inserting ''the best available peer-reviewed scientific reports'';

(F) in paragraph (6)—

(i) by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification''; and

(ii) by striking ''of the United States'' and inserting ''within the United States'';

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking ''outline budget requirements'' and inserting ''estimate costs associated for full implementation of each element of the plan by fiscal year'';

(H) in paragraph (8)—

(i) by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification'' each place it appears;

(ii) by striking ''its'' and inserting ''their''; and

(iii) by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(I) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(J) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) describe monitoring needs necessary to support potentially affected industry members, coastal stakeholders, fishery management councils and commissions, non-Federal resource managers, and scientific experts on decision-making and adaptation related to ocean acidification and coastal acidification.'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(C), by striking ''surface'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification'' each place it appears;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''input, and'' and inserting ''inputs,'';

(ii) by inserting '', marine food webs,'' after ''marine ecosystems''; and

(iii) by inserting '', and modeling that supports fisheries management'' after ''marine organisms'';

(D) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''and coastal acidification'' after ''ocean acidification''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) Research to understand related and cumulative stressors and other biogeochemical processes occurring in conjunction with ocean acidification and coastal acidification.''; and

(4) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) ADVISORY BOARD EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days before a plan is submitted to Congress, the Subcommittee shall provide the Advisory Board established under section 12404(c) a copy of the plan for purposes of review under paragraph (2)(B)(i) of such section.

''(f) PUBLICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—Not later than 90 days before the strategic research plan, or any revision thereof, is submitted to Congress, the Subcommittee shall publish the plan in the Federal Register and provide an opportunity for submission of public comments for a period of not less than 60 days.''.

SEC. 6. NOAA OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACTIVITIES.

Section 12406 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''coordination,'' after ''research, monitoring,'';

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting ''including the Integrated Ocean Observing System and the ocean observing assets of other Federal and State agencies,'' after ''ocean observing assets,''; and

(II) by inserting ''and agency and department missions, prioritizing the location of monitoring instruments, assets, and projects to maximize the efficiency of resources and to optimize understanding of socioeconomic impacts and ecosystem health'' after ''research program'';

(ii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) by striking ''adaptation'' and inserting ''adaptation and mitigation''; and

(II) by inserting ''and supporting socioeconomically vulnerable communities and industries'' after ''marine ecosystems'';

(iii) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''its impacts'' and inserting ''their respective impacts'';

(iv) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''monitoring and impacts research'' and inserting ''research, monitoring, and adaptation and mitigation strategies''; and

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

''(G) research to improve understanding of the effect of—

''(i) other environmental stressors on ocean acidification and coastal acidification;

''(ii) multiple environmental stressors on living marine resources and coastal ecosystems; and

''(iii) adaptation and mitigation strategies to address the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidification.'';

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''critical research projects that explore'' and inserting ''critical research and education projects that explore and communicate''; and

(D) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by striking ''acidification'' each place it appears and inserting ''acidification and coastal acidification''; and

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

''(c) RELATIONSHIP TO INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall serve as the lead Federal agency responsible for coordinating the Federal response to ocean acidification and coastal acidification, by—

''(1) leading the interagency working group in implementing the strategic research plan under section 12405;

''(2) coordinating monitoring and research efforts among Federal agencies in cooperation with State, local, and Tribal government and international partners;

''(3) maintaining an Ocean Acidification Information Exchange described under section 12404(b)(5) to allow for information to be electronically accessible, including information—

''(A) on ocean acidification developed through or used by the ocean acidification program described under section 12406(a); or

''(B) that would be useful to State governments, local governments, Tribal governments, resource managers, policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders in mitigating or adapting to the impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidification; and

''(4) establishing and maintaining the data archive system under subsection (d).

''(d) DATA ARCHIVE SYSTEM.—

''(1) MANAGEMENT.—The Secretary, in coordination with members of the interagency working group, shall provide for the long-term stewardship of, and access to, data relating to ocean acidification and coastal acidification by establishing and maintaining a data archive system that the National Center for Environmental Information uses to process, store, archive, provide access to, and incorporate to the extent possible, such data collected—

''(A) through relevant federally-funded research; and

''(B) by a Federal agency, State agency, local agency, Tribe, academic scientist, citizen scientist, or industry organization.

''(2) EXISTING GLOBAL OR NATIONAL DATA ASSETS.—In establishing and maintaining the data archive system under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that existing global or national data assets (including the data assets maintained by the National Centers for Environmental Information, the Integrated Ocean Observing System, and other existing data systems within Federal agencies) are incorporated to the greatest extent possible.

''(e) STANDARDS, PROTOCOLS, AND PROCEDURES.—With respect to the data described in subsection (d), the Secretary, in coordination with members of the interagency working group, shall establish and revise as necessary the standards, protocols, or procedures for—

''(1) processing, storing, archiving, and providing access to such data;

''(2) the interoperability and intercalibration of such data;

''(3) the collection of any metadata underlying such data; and

''(4) sharing such data with State, local, and Tribal government programs, potentially affected industry members, coastal stakeholders, fishery management councils and commissions, non-Federal resource managers, and academia.

''(f) DISSEMINATION OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION DATA AND COASTAL ACIDIFICATION DATA.—The Secretary, in coordination with members of the interagency working group, shall disseminate the data described under subsection (d) to the greatest extent practicable by sharing such data on full and open access exchanges, including the Ocean Acidification Information Exchange described in section 12404(b)(5).

''(g) REQUIREMENT.—Recipients of grants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under this subtitle that collect data described under subsection (d) shall—

''(1) collect such data in accordance with the standards, protocols, or procedures established pursuant to subsection (e); and

''(2) submit such data to the data archive system under subsection (d), in accordance with any rules promulgated by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 7. NSF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACTIVITIES.

Section 12407 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3706) is amended—

(1) by striking ''ocean acidification'' each place it appears and inserting ''ocean acidification and coastal acidification'';

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''continue'' and all that follows through ''which shall'' ;

(ii) by striking ''proposals for research'' and inserting ''proposals for the researching''; and

(iii) by striking ''its impacts'' and inserting ''their respective impacts'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''marine ecosystems'' and inserting ''ecosystems'';

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''and its impacts'' and inserting ''and their respective impacts''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) adaptation and mitigation strategies to address socioeconomic effects of ocean acidification and coastal acidification.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) REQUIREMENT.—Recipients of grants from the National Science Foundation under this subtitle that collect data described under section 12406(d) shall—

''(1) collect data in accordance with the standards, protocols, or procedures established pursuant to section 12406(e); and

''(2) submit such data to the Director and the Secretary, in accordance with any rules promulgated by the Director or the Secretary.''.

SEC. 8. NASA OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACTIVITIES.

Section 12408 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3707) is amended—

(1) by striking ''ocean acidification'' each place it appears and inserting ''ocean acidification and coastal acidification'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''its impacts'' and inserting ''their respective impacts''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) REQUIREMENT.—Researchers from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under this subtitle that collect data described under section 12406(d) shall—

''(1) collect such data in accordance with the standards, protocols, or procedures established pursuant to section 12406(e); and

''(2) submit such data to the Administrator and the Secretary, in accordance with any rules promulgated by the Administrator or the Secretary.''.

SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 12409 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3708) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''subtitle—'' and all that follows through paragraph (4) and inserting the following: ''subtitle $30,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024.''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''subtitle—'' and all that follows through paragraph (4) and inserting the following: ''subtitle $20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 1237, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1237, the COAST Research Act of 2019. Our Nation is facing an invisible but growing threat: ocean acidification. For the last 200 years, the oceans have soaked up about one-third of the excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels causing the oceans to become more acidic.

The science is clear. As spelled out in the Fourth National Climate Assessment and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report, ocean acidification is causing the chemistry of the oceans to change at an unprecedented rate.

Ocean acidification makes it more difficult for shelled organisms like oysters, mussels, clams, and corals to build their shells and skeletons and has potentially devastating effects on marine ecosystems.

The effects of ocean acidification are already being seen and felt today in our coastal communities around the Nation.

Congress acted and passed the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act in 2009, which catalyzed research and monitoring efforts

to better understand ocean acidification and its impacts. While this bill has successfully increased our understanding of ocean acidification, the Federal investment in research has been relatively small compared to the size of the problem.

□ 0915

H.R. 1237 updates and reauthorizes our Federal ocean acidification response and expands the scope of the Federal efforts on this important issue.

H.R. 1237 also designates the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as the lead Federal agency, which formalizes the leadership role it has played in conducting ocean acidification research and monitoring over the last decade.

Ocean acidification threatens the vitality of our coastal economies. We need to get ahead of the problem of ocean acidification before it causes even greater economic harm to our coast. We need to have a much better understanding of ocean acidification in order to mitigate and adapt to its effects.

H.R. 1237, along with the three other ocean acidification bills being considered today, offers a path toward solutions. If we don't act now, we risk going down an irreversible path.

June is World Oceans Month, and I see no better time for the U.S. House of Representatives to pass legislation to support the health of the oceans than now.

I want to take a brief moment to recognize the efforts of the sponsor of the bill, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI). She has been a champion of this issue during her time here in the House and has been relentless in her efforts to authorize this program.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from Earthjustice, Ocean Conservancy, the Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems, the Integrated Ocean Observing System Association, and the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association in support of this bill.

EARTHJUSTICE,
June 4, 2019.

Re Earthjustice supports H.R. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats Research Act of 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of our supporters and staff nationwide, we are writing to voice our strong support for the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Act of 2019 (H.R. 1237). Ocean acidification is a serious global threat, as our oceans calibrate our atmosphere and maintain the conditions that have supported human life for millennia. This vital legislation leads us towards solutions that secure our ecosystems, our economies, and our health.

Ocean acidification has devastated coastal communities by eroding the sources of their livelihood and protection against ocean events. Acidic waters imperil everything from cod larvae and lobsters, to plankton and coral reefs. The process acidification sets into motion will cause increasingly expensive damage on scales larger than we've already seen in our Pacific Northwest shellfish farms. Americans will take the hit, either in the grocery store, or—for coastal regions—in their jobs and their homes. However, immediate action can halt plunging pH levels and promote resilience in changing temperatures.

The COAST Research Act jumpstarts ocean recovery and helps communities cope with ocean acidification by updating the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act (FOARAM) to face current threats. Funding FOARAM through 2023 ensures we don't backslide in protecting ourselves against ocean acidification, just as the danger is increasing. Incorporating the best available data on the full effects of ocean acidification, including socioeconomic and regional variations, ensures our national response to the problem works for the whole nation. Establishing an advisory board that represents and coordinates the diverse stakeholders impacted by ocean acidification ensures interests at all level—including industry, recreation, and conservation—are accounted for in federal action.

Bipartisan support for the COAST Research Act speaks to the seriousness of the problem and the efficiency of this proposed solution. Neither Democrats nor Republicans are willing to watch our blue economy dissolve in increasingly acidic waters. Both parties support urgent action to stabilize our oceans and fortify them against future changes. This bill provides the funding and strategy to do just that.

Without action, our ocean ecosystems and dependent economies may be barren by the end of this century. Congress has the opportunity to reverse this trend and keep our coasts and oceans vibrant and bountiful. We greatly appreciate your leadership in crafting the bill that can make such reversal possible.

Sincerely,

MARJORIE MULHALL,
Legislative Director for Lands, Wildlife, and Oceans, Earthjustice.

OCEAN CONSERVANCY,
Washington, DC, February 27, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: On behalf of Ocean Conservancy, please accept this letter of support for H.R. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act of 2019. Americans depend on a healthy ocean, and ocean acidification threatens millions of jobs and livelihoods, cultures, and ways of life, from the Pacific Northwest's shellfish industry to Florida's coral reef tourism. We believe the COAST Research Act strengthens our nation's investments in ocean and coastal acidification, and we are proud to offer our support for this legislation.

From coast to coast, ocean acidification is having a broad range of impacts on the health of our ocean and coastal communities. Coastal industries are continuing to face the reality of an increasingly acidic ocean. In 2017, researchers at Oregon State University recorded some of the highest levels of ocean acidification in the world off the coast of the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, 63% of test sites on the west coast experienced levels of acidification known to cause commercial oyster production failures. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, ocean and coastal acidification has had extensive biological and socioeconomic impacts.

In 2009, Congress recognized the urgent need for federal investments in ocean acidification research and monitoring, and subsequently passed the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. FOARAM established the federal government's work on ocean acidification by creating the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program and an interagency working group on ocean acidification. Much of our knowledge and understanding of ocean acidification that has emerged in the last decade can be credited to the federal funding authorized by FOARAM. The law's authorization, however, expired in 2012, and there are changes that can be made to further improve our ability to understand acidification in the open ocean as well as in the coastal zone.

We believe the COAST Research Act will help our nation and coastal communities better prepare for the effects from ocean and coastal acidification. Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to craft solutions for our changing ocean environment.

Sincerely,

SARAH COOLEY, PH.D.,
Director, Ocean Acidification Program, Ocean Conservancy.

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF NETWORKED OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEMS,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: As the Director of the Northwest Association of Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS), I write in support of the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

NANOOS provides access to near-real time observations, forecasts, and other tools that can be used to observe water properties in the Salish Sea and the coastal waters off Washington and Oregon. NANOOS can only serve our stakeholders via NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), which links together Federal agencies with our collective of local universities, government agencies, tribes, nonprofits, and industry organizations who collect quality oceanographic and meteorological data from moorings, buoys, and satellites from across the Pacific Northwest region. But our resources are limited and this COAST Research Act would help to highlight the payoff investments can make.

In the Pacific Northwest, we know that ocean acidification is an issue already, as witnessed by the difference that monitoring water chemistry has made to shellfish growers. We know that impacts from ocean acidification may affect shellfish harvesters, fishermen, resource managers, and tribal and other coastal communities. NANOOS' work with IOOS and NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program have been instrumental in aiding adaptation.

The COAST Research Act will enhance these and other efforts to understand, monitor, and manage the nation's ability to respond and adapt to ocean acidification. NANOOS will be better able to meet the needs of our stakeholders if this Act is passed.

My thanks for your leadership and insights.

Sincerely,

JAN NEWTON,
NANOOS Executive Director.

IOOS ASSOCIATION,
March 5, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of the Integrated Ocean Observing System

(IOOS) Association and its national network of eleven coastal observing systems, I write to support the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) links together Federal agencies and eleven Regional Associations (RAs) to design and to operate regional observing systems to provide timely and reliable data and information on our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. Coastal acidification is becoming an even more pressing concern for many of our stakeholders and users, such as shellfish growers, shellfish harvesters, fishermen, resource managers, and coastal communities.

The impacts of coastal acidification vary, and each system must be tailored to the unique situation of the region. The IOOS RAs work closely with NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program to understand the regional context, to deploy and operate sensors, support the data that can detect and monitor acidification to support and improve warnings and alerts and to provide for the sharing and integration of data.

The COAST Research Act will enhance these and other efforts to understand, monitoring and manage the nation's ability to respond and adapt to ocean acidification. The Act does this be expanding the Advisory Board to include representatives of the variety of industries and stakeholder impacted by ocean acidification, expanding the strategic plan for research and monitoring, and expanding the role of the Federal agencies for addressing ocean acidification.

Sincerely,

ELLA (JOSIE) QUINTRELL,
Director.

PACIFIC COAST SHELLFISH GROWERS ASSOCIATION,
March 9, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: On behalf of the members of Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association (PCSGA), I am submitting this letter of support for H.B. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act of 2019. Shellfish growers were the first community to call attention to the problems associated with ocean acidification when, in 2007, they experienced sever oyster larvae mortality in two out of three major west coast shellfish hatcheries. Since then, PCSGA has engaged in several local, state, and federal efforts and initiatives to ensure a future for this historic industry.

Shellfish farming on the west coast began in the late 1800's, fueled the California Gold Rush and was the reason for the development of many coastal towns. Today, PCSGA proudly represents 120 shellfish farms in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii which farm mussels, clams, oysters and geoduck. Our members not only produce sustainable, healthy, food, but also provide significant ecosystem services such as aquatic habitat and water filtration, and support thousands of family-wage jobs within rural coastal communities.

For nearly a decade, the shellfish industry has benefited from NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program and the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), both of which relate to the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. These programs and the directives within FOARAM have influenced the way shellfish growers operate their farms among the uncertainty of changing ocean conditions. Historically, growers only consulting their tide charts. Now, growers rely upon a variety of real-time data and tools to understand the ocean changes and adapt methods and practices which allow them to continue farming in a productive and profitable manner. There much work ahead of us and much yet to learn. COAST Research Act provides an essential pathway forward.

We are excited by the intent of COAST Research Act and the opportunities it provides. Not only is it a reasonable follow up to FOARAM but it also allows us to continue asking questions and seek innovative approaches to mitigate the impacts related to ocean acidification.

Thank you very much for your leadership on this and for your commitment to ensuring the long-term health of our coastal and marine areas upon which shellfish growers depend.

Respectfully,

MARGARET A. PILARO,
Executive Director.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1237, the COAST Research Act of 2019. This bipartisan legislation would reauthorize and modernize ocean acidification research and monitoring programs.

Ocean acidification is the result of a gradual decrease in pH in ocean chemistry. A small shift in pH can have a serious effect on marine ecosystems, including shellfish habitat, coral reefs, and fisheries habitat.

Congress recognized the need for a better understanding of the cause and the effects of ocean acidification by passing the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009. This legislation created a framework for science organizations such as NOAA and the National Science Foundation to dedicate resources to studying the phenomenon. This program provided valuable information to the scientific community to better understand what caused ocean acidification and how to begin addressing this issue.

H.R. 1237 reauthorizes and modernizes those efforts by updating the strategic plan governing the Federal Government's research efforts, strengthening cooperation among scientific agencies. It designates NOAA as the lead agency for coordinating Federal efforts for addressing the Federal response to ocean acidification. Additionally, the bill clarifies that all federally funded research conducted in connection with the program is to be made publicly available.

This bill is the result of years of work in building a consensus among stakeholders, ranging from ocean conservation groups and sportsmen to coastal communities, about how best to address this problem moving forward.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman JOHNSON for yielding time, also for her leadership on the committee, and I thank Chairwoman JOHNSON and Ranking Member LUCAS for their support of this legislation.

I rise today in support of the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats, or COAST, Research Act, my bipartisan bill to expand scientific research and monitoring of ocean and coastal acidification.

According to the Fourth National Climate Assessment, catastrophic carbon dioxide concentrations are now higher than at any time in the last 3 million years. Approximately one-third of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere dissolves into our oceans and estuaries, causing them to become more acidic.

In addition to atmospheric carbon dioxide, our oceans, estuaries, and coastal waterways are absorbing chemical inputs and excess nutrient runoff from land and coastal pollution.

Our understanding of the long-term consequences of changes in water chemistry on our marine ecosystem is still limited, but we do know that ocean and coastal acidification make it difficult for marine organisms to build their shells and skeletal structures. Some finfish, including endangered salmon in the Pacific Northwest, lose their sense of smell that they use for identifying prey, reproducing, and navigating their habitats.

Ocean acidification events are only projected to become more intense, longer, and increasingly common, especially on the Pacific Coast.

The COAST Research Act would improve scientific research on ocean and coastal acidification in the context of other environmental stressors and direct Federal agencies to assess adaptation and mitigation strategies. Importantly, the bill also expands the definition of ocean acidification to include estuaries and to recognize mechanisms that cause changes in coastal chemistry.

As chair of the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Acidification, NOAA is already leading interdisciplinary efforts to expand our understanding of changing ocean conditions. This bill would designate NOAA as the lead Federal agency responsible for implementing the Federal response to ocean and coastal acidification. This is a pragmatic response to calls for an interdependent national ocean acidification program office and recommendations from a September 2014 Government Accountability Office report.

Ocean acidification research is still in its infancy, and the best way to mitigate its effects is through regionally coordinated scientific research. The COAST Research Act directs NOAA to maintain a data archive system to process, store, archive, and provide access to data on ocean and coastal acidification from federally funded research, including existing global or national datasets and research from

State and local agencies, Tribes, academic scientists, citizen scientists, and industry organizations.

Additionally, the COAST Research Act would increase our understanding of the socioeconomic effects of ocean and coastal acidification and engage stakeholders. The bill creates an advisory board comprised of representatives of the shellfish and crab industry; finfish industry; seafood processors; recreational fishing; academia; nongovernmental organizations; State, local, and Tribal governments; and regional coastal acidification networks. This regionally balanced group will advise the interagency working group on ocean and coastal acidification research and monitoring activities.

Our oceans and estuaries are facing the brunt of our inaction to reduce anthropogenic carbon emissions. We know that even if carbon dioxide emissions are halted today, many of the effects for our oceans will continue to occur over the course of the next few decades.

The COAST Research Act will support vulnerable communities, industries, and coastal and ocean managers by strengthening research on how they can best prepare and, when possible, adapt to ocean and coastal acidification. Oregon's shellfish industry and researchers at Oregon State University have collaborated on ocean acidification mitigation strategies that have helped the shellfish industry survive. Their research demonstrates what is possible when we invest in science and research to help coastal communities adapt to climate change.

Our oceans and estuaries are resilient, and we can help them heal, but we cannot afford to wait any longer. This is National Ocean Month and Capitol Hill Ocean Week, a good time to act to help protect the oceans and our planet.

Mr. Speaker, I want to close by thanking, again, my colleagues, Representative YOUNG, Representative POSEY, and Representative PINGREE, for their leadership on this issue. I truly appreciate the support from my fellow House Oceans Caucus and Congressional Estuary Caucus co-chairs. I also want to, again, thank Chairwoman JOHNSON and Ranking Member LUCAS for their support.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia and Oregon State University in support of the COAST Research Act.

THE OREGON COORDINATING COUNCIL ON OCEAN ACIDIFICATION AND HYPOXIA,

March 8, 2019.

Re Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: As the Co-Chairs of the State legislatively mandated, Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (or ''Oregon OAH Council''), we appreciate the opportunity to provide you with a letter of strong support for the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act. Addressing intensifying ocean acidification (OA) conditions here in Oregon, as well as across the United States, is critical to our Nations understanding of larger impacts from CO2 emissions.

Oregon is among the first places in the world to observe direct impacts of ocean acidification and hypoxia (OAH), due to our unique geographic and oceanographic context, putting our fragile marine ecosystem at risk. Our coastal economies rely on our vibrant marine ecosystem. Our nearshore waters are home to sport and commercial fisheries, all of the State's mariculture operations, and contain critical nursery grounds for economically important species including rockfish, oysters, salmon, pink shrimp, and Dungeness crab. Oregon is not alone in experiencing the impacts from OA or hypoxia. Through actions such as those in the COAST Research Act we must act together as Americans to develop solutions for our coastal communities, economies, and ecosystems to prepare for future conditions.

In the coming years, the Oregon OAH Council will continue to take a thoughtful, collaborative, science-based approach to developing recommendations to address OAH in our state and beyond. Through further investments and initiatives, Oregon and the United States will benefit from adaptation and mitigation measures and will model to the world how to develop actionable solutions for OA adaptation and mitigation.

THE OREGON OAH COUNCIL HAS IDENTIFIED THREE URGENTLY NEEDED STRATEGIC ACTIONS, WHICH DIRECTLY ALIGN WITH OBJECTIVES WITHIN THE COAST RESEARCH ACT.

(1) Monitoring of key oceanographic and biological indicators of impacts from OAH.

At the same time that OA has been impacting our coasts, oxygen-depletion is on the rise; Oregon and much of the West coast has seen several seasons in a row with extended periods of hypoxia in our coastal waters. The Oregon OAH Council is encouraged that the COAST Research Act identifies the need to strengthen investments in OA research and monitoring in the context of other environmental stressors. Ocean acidification and hypoxia are compounding stressors for a wide range of marine animals, and as such must continue to be studied together. Through the COAST Research Acts reauthorization of funding of NOAA, NSF, and NASA, much needed resources will be made available to researchers across the United States to continue to expand our knowledge of OAH. The Oregon OAH Council also supports the initiative of the COAST Research Act to create data processing, storage, and archive facilities to provide for the long-term stewardship and standardization of data. By creating a central repository for OAH data it provides governments, scientists, and industry better access to the information need to inform their mitigation and adaption planning. Only by maximizing our current data and filling our knowledge gaps of OAH, can we as a Nation begin to be able to piece together for solutions for our coastal communities.

(2) Projects or programs that promote coastal economic and ecosystem resilience to OAH.

Fisheries and aquaculture are central to our history, are enjoyed by Americans across the nation year-round, and remain key to many of Oregon's coastal economies today. Yet, the future sustainability of these marine resources and communities' ability to rely on them, are uncertain in the face of significant ocean changes, including OAH, and uncertain in the face of our current state of preparation to adapt to those changes over time. This is why the Oregon OAH Council supports activities and initiatives that promote resilience to increased OAH conditions, for both human communities and ecosystems. The COAST Research Act also stresses the importance of increasing our understanding of the socioeconomic effects of OA by expanding federal research to assess adaptation and mitigation strategies. There will be costs of inaction relative to CO2 mitigation and the United States has an obligation to relieve these costs wherever possible for our citizens.

(3) Tools and strategies to increase awareness of OAH science, impacts and solutions.

As the impacts of OA intensify, it is going to be vitally important for our Nation to identify and advance opportunities to raise awareness of and communicate OAH science, impacts, and mitigation solutions. This is why the Oregon OAH Council is encouraged by the fact that the COAST Research Act recognizes the need to address the effects of OA on estuaries and integrate research, monitoring, and adaptation strategies. By integrating OA causes and effects, it better demonstrates the complexity of this climate issue, and provides a clearer message to communities. The Oregon OAH Council also supports the COAST Research Act establishment of an Advisory Board to increase coordination among stakeholders, including members of industry, to work with State and Federal governments to improve coordination. Recognizing the importance of a broad membership, our Oregon OAH Council includes members from industry, academia and state government agencies. For the benefit of our marine ecosystem and the human communities that rely on a healthy marine ecosystem, the Nation's adaptation and mitigation approaches to OA should include successful communication of new science, monitoring, and adaptation strategies.

As Co-Chairs of the Oregon OAH Council, we appreciate the opportunity to provide you with a letter of strong support for the COAST Research Act. The strategic investment and coordination opportunities outlined in this act are meaningful and will make a difference in our understanding of OAH science, impacts, and solutions. Through passage of this Act and the subsequent investment in science, adaptation and communications, the United States will demonstrate meaningful action in fighting OA and the global challenges of climate change, and preparing our citizens and economies for the changes ahead.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

JOHN BARTH, PH.D.,
Co-Chair, Oregon OAH Council, Executive Director, Marine Studies Initiative, Oregon State University.

CAREN BRABY, PH.D.,
Co-Chair, Oregon OAH Council, Marine Resources Program Manager, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY,

Corvallis, OR, March 8, 2019.

Re H.R. 1237—The COAST Research Act of 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: We write to offer Oregon State University's strong support for H.R. 1237, the COAST Research Act of 2019.

As marine habitats face new and daunting pressures threatening their sustainability, the COAST Research Act identifies the growing need for strategic and robust investments in ocean acidification (OA) research, monitoring and stakeholder collaboration.

Oregon State University is committed to interdisciplinary approaches to address the national and global challenges facing our oceans and coast communities. OSU has a deep history of global leadership in oceanography and engages in nationally ranked oceanographic monitoring programs and world-leading OA research. Further, the university recognizes that Oregon's estuaries and coastal regions are home to some of the world's most productive ecosystems and economically vital shellfish farms.

The university is encouraged that the COAST Research Act expands the definition of OA to include coastal and estuarine systems, and identifies OA as being affected by a combination of factors, including hypoxia. The university believes that by expanding federal definitions of OA and by increasing funding opportunities, researchers and managers will be able to best utilize resources to find solutions to address OA.

The university also is encouraged that this legislation recognizes the need for federal engagement to continue important investments. Doing so will enhance the integration of OA research, monitoring and adaptation strategies across principal federal research agencies, including the National Science Foundation, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Oregon State University understands that effective and collaborative partnerships and communication are essential for our state and nation to find adaptive and mitigation solutions to address OA. For example, the proposal to establish an Ocean Acidification Advisory Board will be essential for facilitating the important work still to be done.

The world's ocean belongs to everyone, and ocean health is critical to our future. In the coming decades, it will be essential for the nation and its universities to work collaboratively to improve and sustain the health of our oceans. Doing so, we will assure human wellness, environmental health and economic prosperity for future generations.

In closing, Oregon State University believes that the COAST Research Act proposes new strategic tools to expand understanding and address the problems facing our oceans and coastal communities.

Sincerely,

EDWARD FESER,
Provost and Executive Vice President.

IREM TUMER,
Interim Vice President for Research.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY), my colleague not only on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, but on the Financial Services Committee, ever thoughtful and ever strong spirited.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and his kind remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1237, the COAST Research Act, of which I am an original cosponsor.

Those of us who live on the coast understand that the coast is an essential part of our lives. In my own State of Florida, approximately 80 percent of the population lives along the coast. About 6 million people work in our coastal communities and produce nearly $280 billion a year in wages and contribute over $700 billion in gross domestic product.

Today, we face uncertainty about the sustainability and the resilience of our coasts. Parts of our coast have come under assault from the ocean itself, even before anyone imagined anything about sea level rise.

Acidification presents uncertainties in the ocean and could pose severe effects to the biodiversity of our marine wildlife.

Along the Space Coast, we have seen a recent plague of algal blooms that foul our estuaries and threaten our economy. It is serious and it is heartbreaking.

The message is clear: We need to take care of our precious coast so that we can continue to enjoy the lifestyle and the economic well-being that we all cherish.

We must work with the Federal Government in the interest of improving our coastal resilience. That is why I have joined Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI in directing NOAA to pick up the role of leading research for coastal acidification.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD four letters of support for the COAST Research Act from the following organizations: the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, the Surfrider Foundation, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Northwest fisheries groups.

CONSORTIUM FOR OCEAN LEADERSHIP,
Washington, DC, March 1, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL), which represents our nation's leading ocean science, research, and technology organizations from academia, industry, and aquariums, I am writing to express support for the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act (H.R. 6267). America relies on our ocean and coastal communities for our basic individual needs as well as our overall security and prosperity. Keeping these environments, and therefore their communities, safe from the myriad threats associated with ocean acidification is paramount to our ocean security. COL applauds the COAST Research Act in its mission to strengthen existing ocean acidification initiatives and introduce new strategies to better understand and manage this environmental stressor.

Ocean acidification, which occurs as the ocean absorbs higher concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide, threatens the health of the entire ocean. As corals, shellfish, and many types of plankton struggle to create and maintain their shells or exoskeletons in more acidic waters, ocean food webs are disrupted. This, in turn, threatens the crucial balance in many ecosystems, as well as our own food security, and jeopardizes the stability of those whose livelihoods depend on a healthy ocean. Combatting the causes and mitigating the effects of ocean acidification requires sustained congressional support and interagency collaboration, as well as engagement from stakeholders in the private sector and academia. I strongly commend the COAST Research Act's commitment to advancing ocean acidification research and monitoring efforts, as well as promoting cooperation among stakeholder groups.

I offer my sincere thanks to you, Congresswoman Bonamici, along with Congresswoman Chellie Pingree and Congressmen Don Young and Bill Posey, for your bipartisan efforts to help us better understand ocean acidification and improve overall ocean health by strengthening federal investments in the research and increasing monitoring of changing ocean conditions. Our lives and our future may well depend on it.

Respectfully,

JONATHAN W. WHITE,
RADM (RET.), USN,
President and CEO.

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION,
Clemente, CA, March 7, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
Washington, DC.

Re Support for Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

DEAR HONORABLE CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of Surfrider Foundation's 160 Chapters and student clubs and our 250,000 supporters, activists and members worldwide, we write to express our enthusiastic supports for Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act. The Surfrider Foundation (Surfrider) is a non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves and beaches.

As climate change continues to impact our ocean and coast, local communities need to plan ahead to better understand and plan for a changing climate. Ocean acidification (OA) is particularly concerning for Surfrider. The current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on ocean and estuarine ecosystems is inadequate and must be improved to fully prepare for and adapt to changing environmental conditions and manage our natural resources in nearshore locations. In addition, more integration and coordination is needed between local, state, and national entities to ensure adequate scientific research and investments in related topics such as nutrient loading, hypoxia, ocean acidification, and harmful algae bloom research and other observational systems are targeted to meet coastal communities' needs.

Surfrider is particularly pleased to see the legislation focuses on adaptation strategies for ocean acidification and expands the definition of ocean acidification to include estuaries. In addition, we are pleased to see that the bill would expand the Interagency Working Group's strategic research plan to also address socioeconomic effects of ocean and coastal acidification and assess adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Furthermore, establishing an Advisory Board to increase coordination among stakeholders, and requiring NOAA to facilitate an Interagency Working Group's strategic research plan, that coordinates monitoring and research efforts among federal and local agencies and stakeholders is critical to ensure success of this important piece of legislation.

Thank you for introducing such important legislation.

Sincerely,

STEFANIE SEKICH-QUINN,
Surfrider Foundation, Coastal Preservation Manager.

CHARLIE PLYBON,
Surfrider Foundation, Oregon Policy Manager.

PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION,
Portland, OR, March 4, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission has a standing resolution adopted by the Commissioners to support and encourage new funding should be identified to augment coastwide research and monitor changing ocean conditions, harmful algal blooms, and ocean acidification.

We have had an opportunity to review the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act. The bill would reauthorize the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act to continue funding research through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Science Foundation. The bill would designate NOAA as the lead federal agency in the coordination of the federal response to ocean acidification. The bill also broadens the program to include marine estuaries.

The bill, as introduced, strengthens the federal research programs that focus on ocean acidification. West Coast and Alaska ocean stakeholders are already feeling the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification. We view ocean acidification research as an important ongoing federal responsibility in seeking to address the negative impacts to these stakeholders. Pacific States therefore supports the your efforts and that of other Members of the Ocean Caucus in seeking to expeditiously move the Coast Research Act through the House of Representatives.

Regards,

RANDY FISHER,
Executive Director.

MARCH 10, 2019.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: From coast to coast, ocean acidification is having a broad range of impacts on the health of our ocean and coastal communities. Coastal industries are continuing to face the reality of an increasingly acidic ocean. In 2017, researchers at Oregon State University recorded some of the highest levels of ocean acidification in the world off the coast of the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, 63 percent of test sites on the west coast experienced levels of acidification known to cause commercial oyster production failures.

Our Pacific Northwest economies, our recreational and commercial fishing, and shellfish industry as well as our great northwest tourism economy—all depend on a healthy ocean. And because we are already seeing the effects of ocean acidification, we support your efforts and we support H.R. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act of 2019.

Much of our knowledge and understanding of ocean acidification that has emerged in the last decade can be credited to the federal funding authorized by Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. FOARAM established the federal government's work on ocean acidification by creating the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program and an interagency working group on ocean acidification. FOARAM's authorization expired in 2012. The COAST Research Act amends FOARAM to further improve our ability to understand acidification in the open ocean as well as in the coastal zone.

We support the COAST Research Act and believe it will help our coastal communities better prepare for the effects from ocean and coastal acidification. Thank you for your leadership to strengthen the nation's focus and investment in oceans and coastal acidification.

Sincerely,

LYF GILDERSLEEVE,
Owner, Flying Fish Company—Sustainable Seafood.

GRANT PUTNAM,
President, Northwest Guides and Anglers Association.

LIZ HAMILTON,
Executive Director, Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association.

JOSEPH BOGAARD,
Executive Director, Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition.

GREG BLOCK,
Executive Director, Sustainable Northwest.

DAVID MOSKOWITZ,
Executive Director, The Conservation Angler.

KURT BEARDSLEE,
Executive Director, Wild Fish Conservancy.

GUIDO RAHR,
Executive Director, Wild Salmon Center.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, we must not fail to preserve the sustainability and resilience of our coastal resources, our environments, and our economies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the COAST Research Act.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would simply urge the passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1237, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1716) to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1716

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 ''Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. STATE AND UNITED STATES DEFINED.

Section 12403 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3702) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) STATE.—The term 'State' means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and any other territory or possession of the United States.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' means the States, collectively.''.

SEC. 3. COASTAL COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 12406 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, through the program established under subsection (a), shall conduct an ocean acidification coastal community vulnerability assessment, and issue a corresponding public report, which shall be updated at least once every 7 years.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The assessment conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) identify the United States coastal communities, including island communities, low-population rural communities, and subsistence communities, that are most dependent on coastal and ocean resources that may be impacted by ocean acidification;

''(B) assess the nature of the social and economic vulnerabilities of those communities, including the economic impact on local or regional commercial fisheries and recreational opportunities;

''(C) identify the ocean acidification impacts that might harm those communities, including impacts from changes in ocean and coastal marine resources that are not managed by the Federal Government;

''(D) identify key knowledge gaps where research could be devoted to better understand the possible impacts of ocean acidification on those communities, the risks and threats facing those communities, and possible adaptation strategies for those communities; and

''(E) be conducted in collaboration with experts, indigenous knowledge groups, and stakeholders who are familiar with the unique economic, social, ecological, geographic, and resource concerns of coastal communities in the United States, including representatives of—

''(i) the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Office for Coastal Management of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

''(ii) National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System regional information coordination entities established under section 12304(c)(4) of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3603(c)(4));

''(iii) regional ocean acidification networks; and

''(iv) State sea grant programs (as defined in section 203 of the National Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1122)).

''(c) SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLANNING.—In carrying out the program established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall

collaborate with State, local, and tribal government entities that are conducting or have completed vulnerability assessments, strategic research planning, or other similar activities related to ocean acidification and its impacts on coastal communities, for the purpose of—

''(1) determining whether such activities can be used as a model for other communities; and

''(2) identifying opportunities for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other relevant Federal agencies to support such activities.''.

(b) ONGOING INPUT MECHANISM.—Section 12404(b)(5) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(b)(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''including information'' and inserting the following: ''including—

''(A) information'';

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) an ongoing mechanism that allows affected industry members, coastal stakeholders, non-Federal resource managers, community acidification networks, indigenous knowledge groups, and scientific experts not employed by the Federal Government to provide input on research, data, and monitoring that is necessary to support on-the-ground management, decisionmaking, and adaptation related to ocean acidification and its impacts.''.

(c) STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.—Section 12405 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (8), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(10) make recommendations for research that should be conducted, including in the social sciences and economics, to address the key knowledge gaps identified in the community vulnerability assessment report conducted under section 12406(b).''; and

(2) in subsection (e), by inserting '', tribal governments, indigenous knowledge groups,'' after ''industry''.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 12409(a) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3708(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) NOAA.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the purposes of this subtitle $2,700,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.''.

(e) REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLANNING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to support State, local, and tribal community vulnerability assessments, strategic research and planning, and monitoring needs, pursuant to section 12406(c) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 1716, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

□ 0930

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1716, the Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019, which is sponsored by the gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE).

The bill directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, to conduct vulnerability assessments to study socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification on coastal communities across the country.

As more coastal regions across the U.S. are negatively impacted by ocean acidification, it is critical that we work to understand these impacts and to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies. These strategies can help these communities adequately prepare and respond to a more acidic coastal environment.

In order to be successful, these assessments must involve all coastal communities in the U.S., which this bill does by including indigenous groups and Tribal governments.

The bill also includes language that ensures that all U.S. territories, which are highly reliant on coastal and marine resources, can also take advantage of NOAA's coastal vulnerability assessments. This will allow these island communities to protect their vibrant coastal economies in the face of an acidifying ocean.

The vulnerability assessments in this bill also include the economic impacts on commercial fisheries and outdoor recreation. These industries are significant contributors to many coastal economies, and it is important that they are part of the discussion when developing strategies to deal with ocean acidification.

I am glad that this bill passed out of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in a bipartisan fashion, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation to better prepare our coastal communities and economies against the growing threat of ocean acidification.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1716, the Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019.

This bill simply directs the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a vulnerability assessment of the impacts of ocean acidification on coastal communities. This assessment would identify those communities most likely to be affected by ocean acidification in the coming years.

Once these communities are identified, the assessment would examine the economic impacts of ocean acidification on these communities by directing Federal agencies to coordinate with local officials, community stakeholders, and local businesses. Once the assessment is complete, a corresponding report will be made publicly available and would be revised every 7 years.

Our Nation's coastal communities are dependent on the health of our oceans. A 2014 NOAA study found there were 149,000 ocean-dependent businesses in the United States that employ more than 3 million people in industries such as seafood and tourism.

Ocean acidification is a threat to the health and vitality of these communities, and this legislation is an important step to assist those communities most directly impacted by this phenomenon.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE).

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON), the committee chairwoman, for yielding me the time and for supporting this bill, as well as the ranking member from Oklahoma, both of whom have shown a true willingness to address the impact of climate change and the impact that it has had on our oceans.

The increased carbon absorbed by our oceans has presented a crisis that has touched coastal communities in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, as well as the connected water bodies in between. That is why it is encouraging to see the health of our oceans finally receive the attention from this Chamber that they have long deserved, with the four bipartisan bills before us today.

Despite congressional inaction, the Federal Government has done its best to address ocean acidification through existing programs and budgets.

I would particularly like to recognize the work of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, better known as NOAA, which has never shirked its responsibility to safeguard our seas in the face of climate change, even though the agency did not receive additional resources to meet this complex challenge. It is due to NOAA's research that we know that our oceans have increased in acidity by approximately 30 percent since the industrial revolution and could experience increases up to 150 percent by the end of the century.

Let's be clear. That data isn't just frightening on an environmental level. It also spells disaster for our economy.

America's coastal communities produce 45 percent of the Nation's gross domestic product, and nearly 3 million American jobs are directly dependent on the resources of our oceans and the Great Lakes. If we let this

problem intensify, the financial implications will ripple across all of our communities.

I remember hearing about the issue of ocean acidification taking hold in Maine during the summer of 2012. Maine had experienced a big spike in ocean temperatures that summer. Triggerfish, seahorses, and a lot of invasive species started showing up that year.

A little fishery for squid popped up in Penobscot Bay. Black sea bass, which are common south of Cape Cod, migrated north and became a major predator of small crustaceans, such as baby lobsters. In a State renowned for its lobster, you can imagine that the impacts on our economy were significant.

Meanwhile, our clammers and shellfish growers have reported similar impacts.

Bill Mook, an oyster farmer on Maine's Damariscotta River, told me that he has had to adjust operations to mitigate for ocean acidification and worries how future oyster production will be affected.

According to a recent study by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, the Gulf of Maine is more susceptible to pressures of ocean acidification than any other region on the East Coast.

These are only a few of the reasons why I introduced the bipartisan Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act, which is one of the four bills under consideration today. My bill would direct NOAA to study the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification on coastal communities nationwide and, better yet, finally provide the agency with the additional authorized funding needed to do this essential research.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the four bipartisan bills before the House today, including my own. It is critical that we protect our coastal economies and our oceans so that they are here for the next generation.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding time and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congresswoman PINGREE's Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, which would direct NOAA to conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify communities that are dependent on coastal and ocean resources that may be affected by ocean acidification.

The Pacific Coast is more vulnerable to ocean acidification than other coastal regions, and it can be used as a testing ground for different strategies and models to manage and adapt to ocean acidification.

But ocean acidification is fundamentally a global phenomenon. We must strengthen our understanding of the socioeconomic effects of ocean acidification on a range of geographically diverse coastal communities.

Importantly, this bill directs NOAA to work with States, like my home State of Oregon, that are already developing ocean acidification response plans.

I thank members of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee for including my amendment during the full markup to authorize $2.7 million annually for fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

I hope that my COAST Research Act will complement this bill and address some of the gaps in our understanding of the socioeconomic effects of ocean acidification. But there must be a separate authorization for vulnerability studies.

Finally, and importantly, I thank all the staff who worked on not only this bill but also the COAST Research Act and the other two ocean acidification bills, especially, in my office, Maxine Sugarman, but all the staff on both sides of the aisle in our offices and the hardworking committee staff.

Finally, I thank Congresswoman PINGREE for her continued leadership on protecting the health of oceans and improving research on ocean acidification.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask for support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I, too, advocate support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1716, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION INNOVATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1921) to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1921

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 ''Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Section 12404 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Federal agency with a representative serving on the interagency working group established under this section may, either individually or in cooperation with one or more agencies, carry out a program to award prizes competitively under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719). An agency seeking to carry out such a program shall carry out such program in coordination with the chair of such interagency working group.

''(2) PURPOSES.—Any prize competition carried out under this subsection shall be for the purpose of stimulating innovation to advance our Nation's ability to understand, research, or monitor ocean acidification or its impacts, or to develop management or adaptation options for responding to ocean acidification.

''(3) PRIORITY PROGRAMS.—Priority shall be given to establishing programs under this section that address communities, environments, or industries that are in distress due to the impacts of ocean acidification, including—

''(A) the development of monitoring or management options for communities or industries that are experiencing significant financial hardship;

''(B) the development of adaptation options to alleviate economic harm and job loss caused by ocean acidification;

''(C) the development of measures to help vulnerable communities or industries, with an emphasis on rural communities and businesses; and

''(D) the development of adaptation and management options for impacted shellfish industries.''.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 1921, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019, and I thank Mr. KILMER for introducing this important legislation and working with our committee.

Additionally, I thank the Science, Space, and Technology Committee members on both sides of the aisle for their work to advance this bill.

Ms. BONAMICI; Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER; Mr. CRIST; the Environment Subcommittee chair, Mrs. FLETCHER; the Environment Subcommittee ranking member, Mr. MARSHALL; and my friend, Ranking Member LUCAS.

Ocean acidification, as we have discussed today, is a serious problem. This bill would create Federal prize competitions to spur innovation in understanding ocean acidification and developing management strategies for responding to ocean acidification.

Federal prize competitions, while not a replacement for federally funded research, allow the government to transfer risk to prize participants and stimulate private-sector investment. This could enhance and augment our understanding of this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1921, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019.

This bipartisan legislation is sponsored by Representative DEREK KILMER and Representative JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER, who can speak firsthand to how ocean acidification is harming the shellfish population off Washington State.

H.R. 1921 would allow Federal science agencies to use existing funds to conduct prize competitions to increase our ability to research, monitor, and manage the impacts of ocean acidification.

By creating incentives, the legislation recognizes the need to engage nonprofit groups, private citizens, and the academic community in the development of solutions to address this problem. Establishment of this competition will enable us to leverage the ingenuity and resourcefulness of these communities.

Mr. Speaker, this bill represents an innovative approach to tackling this problem, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER), the sponsor of the bill.

□ 0945

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for yielding, and I thank her for her leadership on these issues and so many others in her committee's domain.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1921, the bipartisan Ocean Acidification Innovation Act. Ocean acidification is a rising threat to coastal communities throughout the Pacific Northwest and threatens entire livelihoods and industries in my home State of Washington.

There are generation of folks along the sound and in our coastal communities who have worked in fishing and in shellfish growing, but that is endangered if we don't maintain a healthy Pacific Ocean.

Growing evidence suggests that acidic ocean conditions harm the ability of many marine organisms to generate shells. These marine organisms, which include oysters, mussels, and pteropods are a key part of the food chain for salmon, herring, and other fish.

Scientists back home at the University of Washington recently discovered that ocean acidification also threatens the more than $220 million Dungeness crab fishery, raising serious concerns about future implications for species and ecosystems in the region.

In Washington State alone, the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry, which includes shellfish aquaculture, contribute nearly 16,000 jobs and $9.4 billion in revenue to our economy. According to a report by Washington Sea Grant, Washington State is the Nation's leading producer of farmed clams, oysters, and mussels, and not only are these products delicious, they support jobs.

So really, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act is really about jobs. This bill would allow Federal agencies to use existing funds to conduct prize competitions to increase the ability to research, monitor, and manage ocean acidification and its impacts. I agree with the chair that this can't and shouldn't replace direct investment in research. But this bill creates a strong incentive for experts to focus on developing innovative solutions to this serious challenge.

This legislation was created in collaboration with key stakeholders, including the XPRIZE Foundation, an innovative nonprofit organization that creates competitions designed to encourage increased investment in solutions to major societal problems. So, for example, the Ansari XPRIZE awarded for personal spaceflight technology helped launch a brand-new $2 billion private space industry.

Research also suggests that prize competitions often increase exponentially the amount of research focused on solving a problem. For example, the Ansari XPRIZE yielded over $100 million in private research as 26 teams competed for a $10 million prize.

So Federal agencies have increasingly viewed these prize competitions as a means of maximizing the return on taxpayer dollars, leveraging prizes to attract more resources to tackle different scientific challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Ocean Acidification and Innovation Act will encourage collaboration and spur innovative strategies to mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification. It will help communities, environments, and industries that rely on healthy oceans and are facing the hard realities of increasing ocean acidification.

I want to thank my colleague from the Pacific Northwest, Representative JAMIE HERRERA BEUTLER, as well as SUZANNE BONAMICI and DON YOUNG for cosponsoring this important legislation. I also want to thank the chair and the ranking member for their continued leadership and their support of this.

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I note to my colleague that I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairwoman for yielding and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congressman KILMER's bipartisan Ocean Acidification Innovation Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, along with Representative HERRERA BEUTLER from Washington, and my House Oceans Caucus co-chair Representative YOUNG from Alaska.

This bill would establish a prize competition for Federal agencies that serve on the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Acidification to increase efforts to research, monitor, and manage ocean acidification and its effects. Our understanding of ocean acidification and its interactions with other environmental stressors, such as hypoxia, harmful algal blooms, and warming waters is rapidly evolving, but still limited in scope.

A 2009 paper from the Ocean Carbon and Biochemistry's Ocean Acidification Subcommittee estimated that a U.S. national program on ocean acidification would need $50 million to $100 million per year to provide timely information for managers and decision-makers.

A 2012 report from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, based on informal conversations with various Federal agencies, estimated a need for approximately $95 million for all Federal ocean acidification research and monitoring by next year, 2020.

In fiscal year 2019, the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program received only $12 million, so there is no doubt that gaps in funding are a result of insufficient resources.

The prize competition established in this bill will encourage collaboration and spur innovative strategies to mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification. This will help the communities, environments, and industries that rely on a healthy ocean and are facing harsh realities of rising carbon emissions.

Again, I thank Congressman KILMER for his leadership, especially given the pervasive effects of ocean acidification on the Pacific Coast. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I would simply urge the support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1921, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

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.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1235. An act 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.

NATIONAL ESTUARIES AND ACIDIFICATION RESEARCH ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 988) to provide for a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 988

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019'' or the ''NEAR Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Ocean acidification impacts human health, natural resources, and the environmental, economic, and recreational uses of the coastline.

(2) The current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on estuarine ecosystems is inadequate to fully prepare and manage for changing environmental conditions in nearshore locations.

(3) While pH can be measured with high precision and accuracy in open ocean environments, more understanding of the carbonate system in estuarine ecosystems is needed for precise and accurate measurements and observations.

(4) The interaction of multiple stressors, including salinity, pH, temperature, sea level rise, and nutrient input, within estuarine ecosystems is inadequately understood for managing the health, economic, recreational, and environmental impacts driven by these interactions.

(5) A better understanding is needed of how anthropogenic influences in coastal environments affect estuarine ecosystems.

(6) More integration and coordination is needed among regional, national, and global environmental observations in estuarine environments, supporting prior investments in related topics such as nutrient loading, hypoxia, ocean acidification, and harmful algae bloom research and observational systems.

SEC. 3. STUDY EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS ON ESTUARINE ENVIRONMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall make appropriate arrangements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this Act as the ''National Academies'') under which the National Academies shall conduct a study that—

(1) examines the existing science of ocean acidification in estuarine environments;

(2) examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification and ocean acidification's interactions with other environment stressors in estuarine environments;

(3) provides recommendations for improving future research with respect to ocean acidification in estuarine environments; and

(4) identifies pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions relating to ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

(b) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The study described under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the behavior of the carbonate system within estuarine environments;

(2) the interactions of the carbonate system with other biotic and abiotic characteristics of estuarine ecosystems;

(3) how environmental and anthropogenic changes or disturbances could affect abiotic and biotic processes within estuaries;

(4) how estuarine biotic and abiotic processes will be affected under predicted environmental changes;

(5) the current state of data collection, interpretation, storage, and retrieval and observational infrastructure of abiotic and biotic parameters in estuarine ecosystems;

(6) the gaps that exist in understanding the socio-economic and health impacts of ocean acidification in estuaries;

(7) future directions for scientific research; and

(8) pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions.

(c) REPORT.—In entering into an arrangement under subsection (a), the Secretary shall request that the National Academies transmit to Congress a report on the results of the study not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 988, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019, or the NEAR Act.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to thank the sponsor of the legislation, Mr. POSEY, for his work on this bill and his general support and understanding in addressing the serious problem of ocean acidification.

Mr. POSEY's bill takes a focused look at a unique part of our coastal environment estuaries. Our estuaries are valuable and part of our marine community, both from an economic, as well as an ecological perspective. These environments are complex and the effects of ocean acidification on them is well understood.

H.R. 988 would address the gaps in our knowledge by commissioning a review by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the impacts of ocean acidification on estuaries.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this good, bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019, a bipartisan bill sponsored by Congressman BILL POSEY.

This legislation directs the Secretary of Commerce to coordinate a study with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to examine the effects of ocean acidification on estuary environments, and to submit the report to Congress within 2 years. Specifically, this study would provide Congress a greater understanding of the biological and economic impacts of ocean acidification on inland marine environments beyond what is called for under current law.

Estuaries are ecologically unique and economically important brackish water ecosystems that occur when inland rivers meet oceans. These areas possess unique biological characteristics and have not been the subject of studying the effects of ocean acidification to date.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard about the need for additional study for ocean acidification during the debate on the previous bills. However, this legislation would further improve our knowledge of this topic by utilizing the expertise and resources of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Ocean Studies Board to gain a better understanding of the importance of this issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairwoman for yielding me the time and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congressman POSEY's bipartisan National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, which would direct the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Ocean Studies Board to conduct a study that examines the existing science of ocean acidification and estuaries and provide recommendations to improve future research and management to inform mitigation decisions.

As co-chair of the House Oceans Caucus and the Congressional Estuary Caucus, I know that acidification is not only affecting open oceans. Estuaries and nearshore waters are also faced with environmental stressors. Ocean and coastal acidification often present itself in the context of other coastal processes like runoff, erosion, and upwelled water from the oceans making it difficult to measure its individual effects on estuaries.

We know that estuaries and nearshore waters are also experiencing the consequences of our inaction to address ocean and coastal acidification, and research has not kept pace with the needs of coastal communities.

The NEAR Act would address the significant research gaps and urgent need to improve our understanding of the effects of ocean and coastal acidification.

I want to thank Congressman POSEY for his leadership on this bill, and his efforts to preserve our Nation's estuaries. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY), the author of this outstanding piece of legislation and someone who has a tremendous working knowledge of all of these issues.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and his kind words.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act.

First, I want to thank Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI and Congressman BRIAN MAST for working with me and our staff to advance this important bipartisan legislation. I also want to thank the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for their valuable input.

The NEAR Act is a national proposal with a very special connection. People in my district, the Eighth Congressional District of Florida, understand in a very deep way the economic and environmental importance of the ocean and our estuary.

My district is bounded on the east by the Indian River Lagoon, which is North America's most diverse estuary. As the name implies, our estuary is a lagoon. It is an estuary separated from the ocean by barrier islands. The exchange of waters between the lagoon and the sea makes it an estuary.

□ 1000

The lagoon is 156 miles long, but it is only a half mile to 5 miles wide and averages just 3 feet in depth. Our lagoon is a wondrous nursery for sea life, but its physical features make it especially vulnerable to environmental threats. Unfortunately, the Indian River Lagoon and other valuable estuaries throughout our country are being threatened by ocean acidification, along with other stressors.

EPA tells us that, when carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere, about one-third of that carbon dioxide is absorbed by seawater, creating carbonic acid. We have seen this happen in the ocean, but this process is now seeming to occur in estuaries and coastal zones.

Ten years of Federal investments in ocean acidification research show that acidification hurts tourism, recreational fishing, and coastal communities that depend on healthy marine ecosystems. Shellfish are especially at peril.

The threats of coastal acidification to our environment and our economy

are significant. The story of my district and the Indian River Lagoon plays out along our entire national coastline. More than half of the U.S. population lives in coastal areas.

Coastal watershed counties provide an estimated 69 million U.S. jobs and contribute an estimated $7.9 trillion to the GDP, annually. That is why I joined with Congresswoman BONAMICI to cofound the bipartisan Congressional Estuary Caucus to work for policies that preserve and restore our estuaries and to help support other efforts like research and development to contribute to healthy estuaries.

Regrettably, we don't know a lot about how increasing ocean acidification affects a nearshore water body like the Indian River Lagoon. That is because acidification often acts, alongside other coastal processes, like runoff, erosion, and upwelled water from the ocean.

These estuary conditions aren't present in the same way in the open ocean, and they make it difficult to measure acidification's impact from what we know about the open ocean. As a result, we don't yet have a great way to measure how acidification plays out in estuaries. We need more research to support efforts to prevent and mitigate coastal acidification.

The NEAR Act is a great step toward increasing our knowledge of how acidification affects our estuaries. The study proposed in this bill can give us invaluable information to bolster our efforts to preserve and restore healthy estuaries.

Mr. Speaker, when we take care of our environment, we take care of ourselves; and, therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in taking this important step toward understanding how ocean acidification affects our precious estuaries and support this bill today.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 988, the "National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019."

H.R. 988 provides a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of $1 million for a report, to be completed in two years, that examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification, provides recommendations for improving future research, and identifies ways to apply science while mitigating and managing ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

Ocean acidification occurs when there are changes in ocean water chemistry from the absorption of excess carbon dioxide, but the current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on estuarine ecosystems is inadequate to fully prepare and manage for changing environmental conditions in nearshore locations.

It is critical that we better understand the interaction of multiple stressors, including salinity, pH, temperature, sea level rise, and nutrient input, within estuarine ecosystems so that the health, economic, recreational, and environmental impacts driven by these interactions can be effectively managed.

This bill will allow the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies to conduct a study that—examines the existing science of ocean acidification in estuarine environments; examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification and ocean acidification's interactions with other environment stressors in estuarine environments; provides recommendations for improving future research with respect to ocean acidification in estuarine environments; and identifies pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions relating to ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

Through transportation, recreation, tourism, and other port activities, healthy estuaries are critical to the economy of coastal communities and contribute $320 billion to our nation's GDP.

In addition, estuaries filter sediments and pollutants out before river water reaches the ocean and provide habitat for more than 75 percent of commercially caught fish in the United States.

When enacted, H.R. 988 will create a better understanding of coastal acidification, so we can better manage and mitigate its effects on our nation's estuaries and other natural treasures.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 988 to confront ocean acidification, which poses a strong threat to the estuaries that America's coastal residents depend on for nutrition, employment, and recreation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 988, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION INNOVATION ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1921) to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 22, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 241]

YEAS—395

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cloud
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Green (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Hartzler
Hayes
Heck
Hice (GA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunes

O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—22

Amash
Brooks (AL)
Burchett
Cline
Ferguson
Gohmert
Gosar
Grothman
Harris
Hern, Kevin
Higgins (LA)
Hunter
Jordan
Massie
McClintock
Meadows
Mooney (WV)
Perry
Rose, John W.
Roy
Sensenbrenner
Yoho

NOT VOTING—15

Biggs
Buck
Clyburn
Dean
Duncan
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Hastings
Herrera Beutler
Lawrence
Norman
Olson
Sherman
Swalwell (CA)
Wilson (FL)

□ 1031

Messrs. MEADOWS, GROTHMAN, and JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. KELLY of Mississippi, FULCHER, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DUNN, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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

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

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

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. I urge the Speaker and the majority leader to immediately schedule the born-alive bill.

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

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader the schedule for next week.

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the Republican whip, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the House will meet at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate and 12 p.m. for legislative business.

Members are reminded that when the House is considering appropriations bills, votes will occur after 7 p.m. and, obviously, before as well.

On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes on Thursday are expected to occur probably between 2 and 3 p.m. That is different, as I know most Members are used to leaving at 11. We are leaving at 10:30 today, but it will be somewhere between 2 and 3 p.m. on that Thursday.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by the close of business today.

The House will also consider a contempt resolution. This resolution would force Attorney General Barr and former White House Counsel McGahn to comply with congressional subpoenas that have been duly issued by the House Judiciary Committee. The resolution will authorize the Judiciary Committee to pursue civil action to seek enforcement of its subpoenas in Federal court.

Madam Speaker, it also authorizes House committees that have issued subpoenas as part of their oversight and investigation responsibilities to seek civil enforcement of those subpoenas when they are ignored.

Madam Speaker, in addition to that contempt resolution, the House will consider H.R. 2740, the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Legislative Branch, Defense, State, Foreign Operations, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2020.

This will be the first of several minibuses, Madam Speaker, that will be coming to the floor over this work period. It is my intention to pass all 12 appropriations bills through the House by the end of June. This package is the first step toward the House doing its work.

This is, as I said, the first step toward precluding the possibility of a shutdown at the end of this year, as occurred at the beginning of this year. I am hopeful that all Members will cooperate with Chair LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER, who have led their committees in working extraordinarily hard, 12 subcommittees, all of which will have marked up their bills by the middle of next week and be ready for floor action. This is one of the earliest times we have considered it.

My Republican colleagues passed a number of bills, as well, in the last year. It was in the Senate that we didn't get that done. But the fact of the matter is, hopefully, we will be able to get this done.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, as we start the appropriations process to, ultimately, get to the point where we are able to pass our appropriations bills prior to September 30, I think the gentleman recognizes that the only way we will have an opportunity to get to a point where we don't have a shutdown is if we are in agreement, both between the House and Senate as well as with the White House, on the actual number, the amount of money that the Federal Government would be able to spend in that year.

We have had agreements in prior years, budget agreements, on how we are going to do that. I think the gentleman understands that even within the Democratic-controlled House, there is not an agreement. The Budget Committee, the majority's Budget Committee, was not able to pass a budget. It was not even able to pass out of committee an amount of money to determine what we could spend in the House or the Senate. There is not an agreement at all.

In fact, if you look, it is the first time in 9 years that the House Budget Committee did not produce a budget. That budget, that is usually the document that says this is the amount of money that the appropriations bills can ultimately equal up to, whether it is defense or all the other bills.

Next week, more than half of the discretionary spending of the country is going to be on the House floor. The Department of Defense bill alone represents more than half of the discretionary spending, and there is not an agreement between the House and Senate or with the White House on how much we are going to fund defense.

I would like to see us get that agreement, but, clearly, the gentleman

knows we don't have one. Unfortunately, those bills are typically bipartisan, and the Appropriations Committee has produced a very partisan defense bill. That doesn't happen often.

I wish the Democrats on the committee would have worked with the Republicans on the Appropriations Committee to produce a bipartisan bill so that we would have a better chance of getting something that can get signed into law.

If we want to avoid a shutdown, the best way to do it is to work with both parties, not just produce a Democrat-only bill. That doesn't happen too often. Unfortunately, I think that is the direction we are headed.

I would like to ask the gentleman, number one, if he has any kind of idea on how we are going to get to a budget agreement, an agreement on some kind of spending forecast, so that we can have a picture of how we can get bills that can get signed into law and an amendment process that would be fair to both sides.

I think we have talked about this before, how so far this Congress, it has been very tilted, where the lion's share of amendments that are coming out of the Rules Committee are only Democratic amendments. There has been a history this Congress of shutting out Republican amendments on the floor, and I would hope there would be a more fair process as these important bills—DOD, Labor-H, and some of the other bills—are going to be coming to the floor, where the Rules Committee would at least allow both sides to speak as we try to produce a bill that could be bipartisan but, so far, has not been.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCALISE. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

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

First of all, of course, there was no budget last year. There was a budget that was passed in the latter part of the year before, but that was for reconciliation purposes so that Republicans could pass their tax bill with less than 60 votes in the United States Senate. So I wouldn't go too far on the budget.

Republicans were in charge for 8 years, and they never had a budget. That doesn't mean we didn't pass one through the House, but there was never a budget. There was never a budget that was implemented, that I can remember, in the long term.

□ 1045

But that aside, as the gentleman probably knows, I, in January, started talking with his leadership, with Ranking Member GRANGER, with Senator MCCONNELL, with Senator SHELBY, with Senator LEAHY, with Mrs. LOWEY, and with our leadership about the necessity to reach an agreement on the level of discretionary spending, which we call the caps.

Clearly, as Senator MCCONNELL pointed out in our discussions, the White House was a critical component of that because, as the gentleman knows, in order to change the sequester, which I think is one of the stupidest policies that we put in place, but in order to change the sequester, we would have to have a bill signed by the President. So, clearly, the President would have to be involved.

Unfortunately, sometime thereafter, Mr. Vought and Mr. Mulvaney suggested that we ought to go to sequester, that we ought to just march to the sequester numbers.

For the Members who may not know exactly what that means, that means a $54 billion cut in defense spending. I don't really think anybody in this House thinks that is an appropriate step for us to take, but that is what Mr. Mulvaney and Mr. Vought of OMB suggested, except, by the way, they crossed their fingers to say we will use $180 billion of additional deficit spending out of the overseas contingency operations to fund defense.

In other words, yes, we will do the sequester, but it will really only have an effect on the nondefense, education, healthcare, medical research, law enforcement, et cetera. It would only have an effect on that side of the budget.

I didn't think that made much sense. And, very frankly, I think all of the people that I just mentioned that I had talked to didn't think it made sense either.

Obviously, Paul Ryan, when he was Speaker, didn't think it made sense, because he led a deal with Senator MURRAY to give us numbers that we thought were reasonable, and we came to an agreement.

I would hope that we could do that now. I know there are some negotiations at the top four level and in the White House that have not reached agreement yet. I think that is unfortunate.

Now, the gentleman observed that we haven't passed a budget. He is correct. But we did pass the exact same number that the Budget Committee reported out for discretionary spending, and we adopted it in the rule.

He is right; we did not adopt it in the budget as it was offered, but that wasn't necessary, because in either event, that wouldn't have solved the problem.

But we adopted the same exact number, the Democrats voted for that number, to which the committee marked its bills. As the gentleman knows, that was $733 billion on defense and $639 billion on nondefense. There was some argument on our side as to whether those numbers ought to be closer together, but that aside, that is what those bills have been.

So there is a number, and it was a number that was used by the Appropriations Committee, and it is a number that is reflected in the bills that we will be bringing to the floor.

Now, of course we could wait, as I think, frankly, the White House wants us to wait, until September, maybe September 27, 28, or 29, and then they would say: Well, we are going to do a CR at last year's numbers.

Now, that would be a little more than sequester, no doubt about that, but it would not be a number that I think the Members of this House on either side of the aisle would be happy with—maybe for different reasons but, nevertheless, not happy with.

So I am in agreement that we need to reach a number. We need to pass a bill, because, if we do not, under the law that we passed some years ago, 15 days after the first session of this Congress adjourns, sequester will automatically go into effect.

Nobody would be happy. America will not be happy. Our security will suffer and our people will suffer under those numbers. So I am in full agreement that we ought to reach a number.

Now, with respect to the appropriations bills, I think we need to move them. Obviously, there is going to be a lot of negotiation back and forth, a lot of different steps will need to be taken. But this is a first step; it is an important step; and it sets a marker as to where we are going to start negotiations.

Hopefully, those negotiations will bear fruit with the Senate and with the White House, because I know the gentleman shares my view that shutting down the government is not an option that we ought to be pursuing. Hopefully, we, through these actions, can preclude that from happening, and I think that will be a positive result.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I share the majority leader's understanding that there is a negotiation going on to see if we can get an agreement on the budget numbers. We are not there yet.

I understand the gentleman that the majority has to move, at some point, on those appropriations bills next week. We all know that the bills that are being moved are not bills that we have an agreement on and, unfortunately, started off on a very partisan nature. Hopefully, we can get to a more bipartisan nature in the bills, bills like defense, that are coming up.

We want our military to be properly funded, and we want our military to have the certainty that they don't have to operate under a CR, they don't have to operate under a cloud of potential shutdown.

Our men and women in uniform, as we get ready to honor the brave sacrifices that were made on D-Day—tomorrow, of course, marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day and the heroic efforts that so many made, sacrificing their lives. Over 10,000 American soldiers died, and, of course, we reflect and pause to thank them for their sacrifice, to recognize that sacrifice that they made.

And just as they did, today we have men and women in uniform risking

their lives for our country. And we don't want to have this potential that, if we get to September 30 and can't get an agreement on what that proper level should be, that they should worry whether or not they are going to get paid.

So, hopefully, we can keep that work going, those conversations and negotiations going to finalize an agreement that we can get. We are not there yet. We will see where it goes next week.

We then want to shift over now and talk about what else is going to be on the floor next week, and that is going to be this contempt resolution. I haven't seen the language. I don't know when the gentleman's side plans to file.

I would ask the majority leader, it is clear that there is a march to impeachment, that this starts, maybe, the formal march to impeachment on the House floor. But just this Sunday, the majority whip was asked on a TV show if he felt the House was going to impeach the President of the United States, and he said yes.

There has been no evidence that would necessitate an impeachment. We had this nearly 2-year investigation by Mr. Mueller, and it was all about whether or not there was collusion between the President and Russia. They looked into whether or not there was any kind of interference by Russia in our elections.

Of course, he did find that there was interference by Russia. Russia tried to interfere with our elections while Barack Obama was President of the United States.

Now, what did Barack Obama do to stop that? I don't know. I don't know if that is going to be investigated—it should be—whether or not the President did everything in his powers at the time to stop Russia from interfering with our elections.

We need to work together to make sure it doesn't happen again. That should be our focus.

There was no collusion, by the way, and he found that. There was no obstruction of justice.

I know the committee wants to keep focusing and looking into everything that they can to try to find more evidence that wasn't there, but if they start bringing and you start bringing resolutions to hold, for example, the Attorney General in contempt—we haven't seen what the charges are, but some of the things that the Judiciary Committee has asked the Attorney General to produce, if the Attorney General produced that information, he would be violating law.

Why would you hold the Attorney General of the United States in contempt of Congress for not breaking the law?

Those are some of the things we have seen. Again, we haven't seen the final language. We have heard some conjecture by the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, by others who want to start this impeachment drumbeat.

Madam Speaker, I would just urge caution to the gentleman as the House floor becomes politicized to just try to impeach the President because some people just don't like the fact that he was elected in 2016.

There will be an election next year. There are a whole lot of people on the Democratic side who are already trying to get the nomination to unseat the President, and that debate is already going on in the country, and it will happen in full next year.

Let's let the people of this country decide who the President of the United States is. Let's respect the fact that the people of this country, in 2016, said they wanted Donald Trump to be the President of the United States, and he is the President of the United States, and he is carrying out his duties, and he is carrying out the agenda that he campaigned on, as it should be.

If somebody wants to carry out a different agenda, next year they are going to have that opportunity to present it to the people of this country.

But even though there was no collusion identified by the special counsel, this idea that we are still going to just start bringing legislative instruments to the floor like contempt and then, ultimately, as the majority whip said Sunday that he felt that there would be impeachment on the House floor, I would just urge caution to the gentleman. This next week, this legislation that is going to be brought forward is all a part of that.

We should respect this process more. We should respect the fact that the Attorney General of the United States has an obligation to enforce the laws of this country. And when he is asked by Congress to do something that would actually violate laws, we ought to respect the fact that he said he would come and testify to the Judiciary Committee, to the members of the Judiciary Committee.

Then the Judiciary Committee changed the rules of the game and said they didn't want Members of Congress to question him; they wanted staff to question, which would be unprecedented, so he didn't come. But he did say he would come and testify to the committee under the normal processes that have always been in place.

So with that, again, we haven't seen the legislation yet. Once we do, we will review it, but I would just urge caution.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Very frankly, the person who rejected the premise that this matter was over was Robert Mueller in a relatively short press conference in which he answered no questions, but he clearly demonstrated that he thought Mr. BARR misrepresented the fact that this was over. In fact, he said:

> If we thought the President had not done anything wrong and we were convinced of that, we would have said so. We did not say so.

Now, having said that, this is not related to impeachment. This is related to the Congress' authority, under the Constitution of the United States, to receive information from the executive on behalf of the American people.

Now, if Mr. BARR believes that the information requested need not be submitted, then he had nothing to fear, because what we are seeking is a court ruling, an independent body's ruling as to whether or not he ought to be held in contempt and directed by a court to provide the information to the Congress of the United States, acting pursuant to its constitutional duty.

Madam Speaker, I will tell my friend that it is a sad day when the Republicans and Democrats do not stand together on behalf of not only this institution's constitutional authority, but responsibility to get the information it needs both with respect to, as, again, Mr. Mueller pointed out, the very serious issue of the Russians trying to affect our democracy and our elections.

There is no dispute of that fact. In fact, nine Russians were indicted by the Mueller special counsel for exactly that purpose.

□ 1100

Now, this resolution to which the gentleman refers authorizes the Judiciary Committee to pursue civil action to seek enforcement in Federal court of its subpoenas to Attorney General Barr and former White House Counsel McGahn, who is no longer a Federal employee. It also authorizes House committees that have issued subpoenas as part of their oversight and investigation responsibilities. Let me emphasize that: Investigation responsibilities, oversight. That is part of the constitutional responsibility of the Congress of the United States, which, by the way, your party pursued extraordinarily vigorously over the last 8 years of the Obama administration, and, very frankly, in previous administrations.

We are seeking civil enforcement to have a determination as to whether or not Attorney General Barr, Mr. McGahn, and indeed others, who have refused to comply with constitutionally sanctioned requests by the Congress of the United States for information on behalf of the American people. The President of the United States, like Barr, said it is over.

Mr. Mueller says it is not over. Mr. Mueller says he did not have the authority pursuant to Justice policy to go further, but he pointed out that there are other bodies that have the authority and responsibility to do so. Who is that? Us, the Congress of the United States.

Now, one of the problems that we are having is that the President has instructed almost all of government not to respond to the Congress of the United States, not to answer questions, not to testify, not to appear. I have called that perhaps the biggest coverup in the history of any President who

has, in effect, given a blanket suggestion, and in some cases order, that people ought not to testify. He said there is no reason to go any further. He has made that decision. And especially in Congress where it is very partisan, obviously very partisan. We did think this is not partisan. This is our responsibility to the American people.

By refusing to cooperate with Congress, the Trump administration has engaged in a refusal to allow the Congress to exercise its responsibility, and therefore, we are going to continue to pursue the facts on behalf of the American people. And that is what this is about. You will note that we have not sought criminal contempt. We have, however, found it to be untenable, unacceptable to have an administration, any administration, Republican or Democrat, tell the Congress whether it is a Republican Congress or a Democratic Congress that it will not respond to requests for information, to subpoenas to testify, and for other information that Congress needs. So that is what we are going to do.

Mr. SCALISE. Well, the gentleman mentioned a lot of things that I think need to be addressed.

First, the idea that there is some coverup. Let's recognize and remember that for nearly 2 years of the Mueller investigation, President Trump fully complied with all of the requests that were made, and when the Mueller investigation was completed, first of all, Mr. Barr, the Attorney General, had an opportunity to review that report and give a summary to Congress.

During that period, Mr. Barr invited Mr. Mueller to review the report, to review his summary. Mr. Mueller chose not to participate in that. And so ultimately the Attorney General then gave Congress a summary, which made it crystal clear there was no collusion after almost 2 years and over $30 million of taxpayer money looking into this where the President fully complied, his administration fully complied, and they were probing everything.

Mr. HOYER. Will my friend yield?

Mr. SCALISE. The gentleman will yield, but after I first go through this because these are important points to make because anybody that wants to use the term ''coverup'' ought to be very cognizant of what they are talking about when we talk about that investigation. Because that investigation was as thorough as any that we have seen, and the Attorney General and the special counsel were both involved in reviewing it, but the special counsel had an opportunity if he found wrongdoing to file charges. And the gentleman from Maryland knows that.

Mr. HOYER. No, I do not know that.

Mr. SCALISE. He could have filed charges, and he filed absolutely no charges. There were no charges filed, because there was nothing wrong that was found.

Mr. HOYER. And he said why he did not.

Mr. SCALISE. The task was to see if there was any collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign while Russia was interfering with the elections. We know Russia interfered with the elections.

Why did the Obama administration allow Russia to interfere with the elections? That is a question we should be probing. Why? Not just to go back in time, but to make sure it doesn't happen again. And how much time is being spent going and looking and seeing just exactly what Russia did to interfere with our election while Barack Obama was President? They are not doing that. They want to go after all these witch hunts, and was there more collusion. There was no collusion.

And so instead of saying, okay, they tried for 2 years. You had members of your own leadership team saying they had evidence of collusion, and yet, there was no evidence of collusion and they have never come forth and said they were wrong. They have never brought forward what their mysterious evidence was, because there was no evidence, because there was no collusion. And so instead of that, they are continuing to say, let's just hold contempt hearings for the Attorney General here on the House floor.

The majority whip says the House will impeach the President. The gentleman hasn't answered that. Well, where is that going to happen? When is that going to happen? Why don't we actually focus on the problems of this country? Because the same committee that continues down these rabbit holes and on these witch hunts, that same committee that has jurisdiction over this whole Mueller investigation that found no collusion, no charges filed by the special counsel, that is the same committee that has jurisdiction over the border crisis.

And the gentleman knows we have a crisis at our border. It is a serious crisis because we don't have control over our border yet. We need to get control over our border, but in the next 2 weeks—literally, in the next 2 weeks the department of DHS is about to run out of money to deal with this crisis.

And the President of the United States submitted a supplemental request to this majority asking to give additional funding so that we can take care of those kids that are coming over every day in the thousands, the unaccompanied children where the Department of Health and Human Services is about to run out of money to take care of those kids.

And so what happens to those kids? If they come over illegally, the law says what Homeland Security has to do. And if they come over and they are sick, which some of them are coming over very sick, they are turned over to DHS where DHS takes care of them, and DHS has told you they are about to run out of money and not a thing has been done.

In fact, when the Labor-HHS bill was in subcommittee, one of our Members actually filed an amendment to try to include the money, so that we can keep taking care of the health needs of those kids that are coming over illegally, and that was rejected on a party line vote. Your party voted against that. And the committee of jurisdiction, instead of focusing on how to solve this problem, how we can help resolve this problem in a bipartisan way, which it should be bipartisan, we all ought to care about these kids that are coming over that have a lot of health issues that we are trying address, but they are about to run out of money. And what are we going to do about it? We have asked that this majority do something to address that request that was sent down from the President weeks ago.

But we are literally facing a crisis in a matter of days where they will run out of money. When is that going to be addressed by this majority? We have asked for it to be addressed, and it hasn't. So when is the Speaker going to bring legislation? Would the majority leader be willing to bring legislation? For weeks we have talked about it right here in this colloquy, and it hasn't been addressed. And so before it becomes a crisis where literally DHS cannot take and care for the health needs of these kids that are coming over, why don't we address it now, instead of waiting until they truly run out of money, can no longer take care of those kids and bad things would happen. I don't want those bad things to happen. I know you don't want those bad things to happen. And the President doesn't want those bad things to happen. That is why he sent that supplemental request weeks ago, and it hasn't been dealt with.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Let me deal with the question of the supplemental, first. There is a humanitarian crisis at the border. We need to deal with it. The President came down with a request some two-plus weeks ago.

Mr. SCALISE. Four.

Mr. HOYER. The Republicans held up consideration of a disaster bill that we passed in January. Now, this dealt with natural disasters, not the humanitarian crisis at the border. I understand that.

We passed that Monday ultimately because the administration wanted to undermine very badly the American citizens who live in Puerto Rico. Finally, we got agreement that that was the right thing to do and the Senate passed it overwhelmingly, then sent it over here. We tried to pass it by unanimous consent, and your side objected. You objected three times. So we had to pass it this Monday. We did overwhelmingly. Not as many perhaps on the gentleman's side as on my side, but we passed it handily.

The fact of the matter is, we need to deal with this humanitarian crisis. We need to deal with the humanitarian crisis, and if we limit it to dealing with

the humanitarian crisis, Madam Speaker, we will do it. And, in fact, Ms. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD is in discussions on that now. My view is the four corners, meaning the Speaker, the Republican leader, Senator MCCONNELL, the majority leader, and Mr. SCHUMER are dealing with it. I hope they get it done very soon. And if they get it done we are going to move it because there is a crisis and we need to deal with it.

But I would urge my friend to urge his colleagues not to try to do some of the President's agenda unrelated to the humanitarian crisis. And if we can do that, we will get to an agreement, in my opinion.

Now let me go back to your what I believe to be inaccurate, recitation—as I believe Attorney General Barr's recitation of what the Mueller report says, and Mr. Mueller clearly made that very, very crystal clear that he had a different view as to whether that was.

Now, I have got a whole page here of things that the Mueller report says with reference to—''collusion'' is a word that the President has created. It is not collusion, not a crime, per se. Conspiracy is a crime, but the President uses this word ''collusion'' as fake news, as a distraction, as a magician's trick to look over here, not here, so that I can fool you.

I asked the gentleman to yield when he said, well, the special counsel decided to do nothing. The special counsel made it very clear that under Justice Department directives, a sitting President cannot be indicted. And Mr. Mueller said if he can't be indicted, I don't want to make an allegation, which would not be fair because he cannot be indicted, and therefore, there will be no fora on which to defend himself. But he observed there was another forum, that was inappropriate for him, that did have the responsibility and the ability to take action, and that, as I said, is us.

Now, I won't go through this list of findings that the Mueller committee or task force, the special counsel concluded, but in my opinion, and I said this in a release 2 days after, were pretty damning and at a minimum worthy of the Congress of the United States trying to get to the bottom of what Manafort and Stone and others did in reference to WikiLeaks, welcoming the Russian participation that they thought was helping them. Mueller report.

So we can go into that at great length, but the proper way to do that is to do what we are doing, ask questions, have witnesses, review documents and other communications to get to the bottom of this, and we intend to do that. And we intend to do it in a considered, focused way.

Neither the Speaker nor I, as the gentleman has read, are saying that we are seeking impeachment, but we are seeking to do our constitutional duty, our responsibility to the American people and to the Constitution to ensure that, in fact, the American people know what this administration or individuals who work with this administration or others were doing.

□ 1115

Madam Speaker, lastly, because we can go on at length about this, let me say that the gentleman protests too much. The Republicans control the United States Senate. Very frankly, the Intelligence Committee is working in a bipartisan fashion with Mr. BURR from North Carolina and Mr. WARNER from Virginia.

Madam Speaker, if the gentleman, my friend, the whip, is frustrated, I suggest he call up his friends in the United States Senate to say they ought to do this; they ought to do that; and they ought to do the other.

If they think it is the right thing to do, maybe they will do it. But we intend to do our responsibility here.

Again, I would hope that we could join together in defense of the Congress' responsibility and authority and not have any administration—Republican, Democratic, Obama, Trump, any President—say, no, it is not going to give us any information, that some other body has disposed of that question.

Some other body is not us, and we need to move ahead on doing our responsibility.

Again, I would hope the gentleman would cooperate, but we are going to continue to do the business of the people of this country as well.

We have differences on that. We think this was a pretty historic week. We passed the disaster bill. We extended flood insurance, and we extended TANF, so neither one of them expired. Then, we passed the American Dream and Promise Act, legislation that will relieve the fears of 2-plus million people who are positive participants in the American Dream.

It was a bipartisan bill, not a lot from your side, but we think it is a historic piece of legislation. We hope the Senate takes it up.

We have been trying to get that bill on the floor for 8 years, without success. We got it on the floor. As I knew it would, it passed. I think it would have passed had we put it on the floor in the previous Congress, but we didn't get it to the floor.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with the whip toward reaching some bipartisan resolutions.

In particular, I agree with him, and I think we all agree that we want to make sure that we have the resources necessary to handle what is, in fact, a humanitarian crisis, with so many people fleeing natural disasters and man-made disasters—terror, murder, mayhem—for safety for themselves and their families, as have millions and millions and millions of people who preceded them who came to this country. Whether they came from Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, Central America, they came here because America had a beacon that they saw as a land of opportunity and a land of freedom, equality, and justice, a land in which they wanted to live and make better.

Madam Speaker, we will continue to do our business as well as exercise our responsibilities.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments, and I would share a lot of the disagreements we have with how the Senate does business, whether it is a Republican or Democratic Senate.

Their rules, in many ways, work to undermine much of the good work that we do here in the House, whether it is a Republican or Democratic majority. We can find a lot of common ground on that disagreement.

As it relates to immigration, I, too, believe America has this unique place in the world as that shining beacon for anybody who seeks freedom, anybody who seeks the liberty that has been fought for with blood and treasure by so many heroes throughout generations to make America the place that people look to when they think about freedom.

We are also the most generous nation in the world when it comes to immigration, and we are proud of that. That is something we celebrate. We let over a million people a year into America to be a part of the American Dream, to come to seek the American Dream, and that is what it should be about.

It should be about seeking those things that make America great so that more people can come to add to the richness of this country. We do that, but we also are a nation of laws, and we can't lose sight of that at the same time that we want to maintain that beacon.

We only maintain it if we also maintain those great laws that we take an oath to uphold. All of us take that oath. That oath is critically important, because as people want to come here, they want to come here because of what America is. It is our job to preserve the greatness of what America is.

If we start to lose that, if we start to look the other way and ignore this law and try to undermine that law, it really weakens the greatness of our democracy.

When you look at the differences we had on the House floor, so many of us wanted to address the problems that are created by not having a secure border. But when you say, for example, that if somebody comes here when they are actually in a gang database, and by law, we can't even look at that database to see if that person coming into our country is a member of a gang or committed violent crimes, that is not what is the richness of America. We want to maintain the dream that people come here to seek.

We may disagree on the methods of getting there, but let's keep working to try to get to a better place, something signed into law to fix the problems with our immigration system, to get

back to a functioning, legal immigration system, instead of having thousands of people, whether they are part of that culture that wants to seek the American Dream or whether they are coming here to undermine what is great about America, think they can just traipse through, thousands a day at a time, because we have not secured our border.

In our homes, we have windows, doors, a yard. We might have a fence. But if we lock our door, we are locking it for a reason. It is not because we don't want anyone inside. It is because we only want to let in the people who are coming to be a part of what is great about our family and about our home. If somebody wants to come to do us harm, that is why we have the lock on the door.

We let over a million people a year into our country, and that is part of what is great about our Nation. No other country in the world, by the way, is close to the generosity in letting people into their country every year. No country is letting in over a million people a year.

We need to get back to a system where our immigration system works.

We passed a bipartisan bill last week to take care of the disaster needs of so many people around the country, and it was bipartisan. It was an example of what works.

There were some Members who objected. Some of them objected because the humanitarian money that is needed to address this crisis at the border wasn't in the bill.

I am glad the gentleman acknowledged that we need to work to resolve it. Hopefully, we can do that next week before the crisis hits, before DHS actually runs out of money so that we have a severe crisis.

Let's work together to stop it. I know the gentleman has acknowledged he wants to do that. While there are some other things that are going to be on the floor next week that, unfortunately, will be very partisan in nature that we will disagree on, let's also try to work to address that crisis so that, again, we get back to the richness of what's great about this Nation.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and look forward to working together next week on the things that we can accomplish for this country.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SLOTKIN). Remarks in debate in the House may not engage in personalities toward the President, whether originating as the Member's own words or being reiterated from another source.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW, AND ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019, TO MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next, and that the order of the House of January 3, 2019, regarding morning-hour debate not apply on that day.

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

There was no objection.

ENACT NATIONAL RECYCLING STANDARDS

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, there are more than 9,800 local recycling programs following different standards in the United States. There is no coordination.

Cities and counties are struggling, and recycling is at risk of collapsing. Increasingly, recyclable plastics and papers are going to landfills and incinerators, and poisoning our oceans and waterways.

It is time for a national recycling strategy to harmonize standards across the country, strengthen markets, and reduce contamination in the recycling system.

Leadership is needed from Congress to work with stakeholders to make recycling environmentally and economically sustainable.

For example, it is time for a standardized national system of labeling. Every household, business, school, park, and stadium should be using a universal, standardized labeling system that reduces contamination in the recycling stream and enhances the market viability of recyclable materials.

As citizens and consumers, Americans want recycling to work. It is time for Washington to get to work to make recycling work.

RECOGNIZING JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BUFFALO CENTENNIAL

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Madam Speaker, 100 years ago today, Mary Crate Taylor brought together a group of 67 women to form the Junior League of Buffalo.

Ms. Taylor organized this group of all women volunteers to provide needed relief to families during the Depression era. During this era, the league generated tens of thousands of dollars in donations for various causes in western New York, including Children's Hospital.

Since 1919, the Junior League has created programs to curb substance abuse, assist mothers at risk of poverty, combat illiteracy, and empower women through many volunteer programs and projects.

Today, with more than 500 women, the Junior League has generated millions of dollars in donations that benefit cultural and community-based programs throughout western New York.

Happy centennial to the Junior League of Buffalo. Keep up the great work, and here is to 100 more.

WHO IS JAMES HOLZHAUER

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Nevada's Third District, I rise today to recognize, ''Who is James Holzhauer?''

James, a local Las Vegas resident, shocked the world with an unrivaled run on ''Jeopardy!'' and he did it in a very Vegas fashion: betting big, making some noise, and laying it all on the line.

Madam Speaker, with 32 straight wins and just over $58,000 shy of the all-time record, James' ''Jeopardy!'' skills weren't the only thing on display. His charitable heart was as well. He donated his time and some of his winnings to noble local causes to improve the lives of our southern Nevada kids, students, families, and community as a whole.

He even paid tribute to the victims of the tragic October 1 shooting with the wager, as he put it, ''Vegas Strong, 10,117,'' as in 10–1–17.

James may have just missed the record, but he is a legend in our eyes, and he did southern Nevada proud.

Congratulations, again, to James. And if I ever see him out at a trivia night in Vegas, I will make sure to get him on my team. I will buy the beer. He can handle the questions.

□ 1130

RECOGNIZING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th anniversary of the Allied D-Day invasion of France, to honor the bravery of our Armed Forces who served in that operation.

On June 6, 1944, 73,000 Americans took part in Operation Overlord to storm the beaches of Normandy. Sadly, the United States suffered more than 6,000 casualties in this operation. Ultimately, thousands more U.S. servicemembers would fall in the coming weeks and months liberating the rest of Western Europe from German control.

Madam Speaker, last year I attended a wreath laying ceremony at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in France. Looking out among the white crosses, one could see fathers buried next to sons and brothers next to brothers. The average age of those who perished was just 19 years old.

This memorial serves as a constant reminder that the United States will fight and die to protect the freedoms of not just American citizens, but for those around the globe. We are eternally grateful for this devotion to duty and devotion to country.

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR PUERTO RICO

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it has been, now, well over a year since the devastation of Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico. It ripped apart the homes and lives of millions of Puerto Ricans, leaving tens of thousands struggling without jobs and housing.

Thousands of Puerto Ricans are feeling the sting of insufficient Federal funds to help the island recover from Hurricane Maria. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program that helps Puerto Ricans buy food, get medical treatment, and recover from the hurricane, when the money trust ran out, Puerto Rico's government had to start cutting benefits just last month.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to support and see this House just pass, finally, the Disaster Relief Act, which provides approximately $1.4 billion for our fellow American citizens in Puerto Rico. It provides $600 million for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, $5 million for a study of the disaster nutrition assistance provided to the Commonwealth in 2017, and approximately $500 million to the Coast Guard.

Madam Speaker, we must do more for Puerto Rico.

HONORING MONTANANS WHO FOUGHT AT NORMANDY ON D-DAY

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, 75 years ago, courageous Americans stormed the beaches of Normandy and parachuted behind enemy lines. Facing what Supreme Allied Commander Eisenhower described as the German war machine, they fought for the cause of freedom.

Many Montanans were there:

Ed Seifert of Polson parachuted into Normandy. He would go on to jump into Holland during the Battle of the Bulge;

Bud Olson of Choteau came under fire in a glider. He was the only survivor of 28 aboard, and he would go on to liberate a concentration camp;

Corky Apple of Lewistown came off a landing craft on Utah Beach. He would go on to earn five Bronze Stars during the war;

John Nelson of Lolo also landed on Utah Beach. He was with Patton's army when it liberated a concentration camp near the Czech border.

As we mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day, remember the brave Americans who destroyed the German war machine, liberated a continent, and saved the world from tyranny.

HONORING GUNNERY SERGEANT HENRY BAUL

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is a great honor to be able to recognize Gunnery Sergeant Henry Baul, the fifth African American marine in the Nation to be inducted into the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 following President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, which ended discrimination in the Armed Forces.

Although the executive order may have intended to end all discrimination, it did not end segregation. Between 1942 and 1949, approximately 20,000 Black marines trained at a segregated facility named Camp Montford Point, New River, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. The Montford Point Marines is derived from the name of the facility, and Mr. Baul trained there.

In 2011, President Barack Obama and the 112th Congress passed legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Montford Point Marines at a special ceremony here at the U.S. Capitol and at the Marine Barracks here in D.C.

Mr. Baul, age 96, is a resident of the city of Detroit. He is also the founder and president emeritus of Montford Point Marines of America, Inc., a nonprofit organization.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Baul and his work and service. Mr. Baul and so many others decided to serve our country even in the face of adversity and discrimination right here at home.

Today I lift up the veterans across the 13th Congressional District in Michigan in recognition of their service and commitment.

RECOGNIZING D-DAY INVASION SURVIVOR TAM CATO

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

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I have the honor today to recognize a living hero, a person who served our Nation at the shores of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Mr. Tam Cato is 104 years old and hails from Alachua, Florida. Mr. Cato was born on March 14, 1915, and raised in the town of Alachua on a 653-acre farm, which he still calls his ''Daddy's farm.''

Mr. Cato was drafted into the U.S. Army in February 1941 and trained at Camp Blanding in Starke, Florida. He was in Normandy during the invasion, where he served and aided in the liberation of France and Great Britain from Nazi Germany.

Recently, I had the extreme privilege of sharing in an event for Mr. Cato in his hometown, where the French Government, through their council general and French generals, presented Mr. Cato the highest military and civilian honor France can offer: France's Legion of Honour.

This award recognizes the American veterans who fought on French soil during World War II, risking their lives in the name of freedom. This medal is in honor of that courage and bravery.

Madam Speaker, I thank Tam Cato, and my family and country thank him, as do the people of France. The world was made safer by him and others like him who served.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, today as we mark Gun Violence Awareness Month, we wear orange to remember the victims of gun violence.

We remember Parkland. We remember Pulse and Charleston and Pittsburgh. We remember Virginia Beach. We remember the children of Liberty City and Sandy Hook.

We wear orange to remember. We wear orange to remind ourselves that we must not give up until children can go to school, worshippers can go to church, and employees can go to work free from the fear of gun violence.

We will not give up until universal background checks are in law and until the weapons of war are banned from our streets.

Madam Speaker, we will not give up until this epidemic is over.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy, known as D-Day, or Operation Overlord, and to recognize those who sacrificed to begin the liberation from Nazi Germany.

On June 6, 1944, over 4,400 Allied soldiers crossed the English Channel and gave many of their lives while storming the beaches code named Omaha, Utah, Gold, Juno, and Sword.

Madam Speaker, 2,501 of those soldiers who died on those beaches were Americans who never got to return home.

The impact that this had on our communities back home was great—take, for example, the Bedford boys from a small town in Bedford, Virginia. Thirty-five men who had grown up together boarded landing craft that day and embarked towards France, and 19 of them didn't make it back.

This small Southern town is an example of the sacrifices made by many small towns and families all across this country during that effort that day and during that war. They did it to protect our freedom, our American way of life, and those of our allies around the world to help defeat the grip of the National Socialist German Workers' Party regime.

We will always be grateful for those who gave that day, for those who survived, and for those who didn't come back, and that is why it is important to always mark this day, D-Day, June 6.

HONORING THE PENNSVILLE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, the Pennsville Veterans of Foreign Wars dedicate their time and their attention to their community through multiple acts of service.

Comprised of veterans and those active in the military, the Pennsville VFW doesn't just talk about how they help others, but they actively engage in service projects that better the lives of their community.

When local EMTs needed a battery-operated stretcher, the Pennsville VFW provided it; when the Pennsville Police Department needed bulletproof vests, they provided them as well; and when a disabled veteran needed a ramp to get into his home, they also provided that.

In addition to these specific acts of service, the members of the VFW have offered annual events to bring their community together as a whole. Every year, the Pennsville VFW members organize a dinner and a pheasant hunt for disabled veterans, as well as an annual Memorial Day parade to honor those who have died for our great United States of America.

We are immensely grateful to the services of all New Jersey organizations that help those who have served our country.

Madam Speaker, I especially want to thank the Pennsville Veterans of Foreign Wars, whose countless acts of service make an incredible impact on our community as well as our country. We are proud of them, and we love them for what they have done.

SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the proposed United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, commonly known as USMCA.

This new trade agreement, as negotiated by President Trump's administration, is critical to our Nation's economic growth. NAFTA is outdated, and this modernization to the world's largest free trade agreement is vital to building an economy that maximizes opportunity for all Americans—indeed, all of North America and Mexico.

The United States, Canada, and Mexico, for decades, have fostered a working trade relationship. This trade agreement is crucial to the manufacturers, fabricators, farmers, distributors, retailers, and all other businesses in Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District and across the country.

So much of Congress' energy this year has been focused on messaging votes and nonbinding resolutions. It is time that Democrat leadership here in the House put aside partisan politics and put the needs of the American people first.

The benefits to our economy are obvious and significant. I urge Speaker PELOSI to bring USMCA to the House floor for a vote.

OPPOSING TARIFFS ON MEXICO

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

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to oppose the newly announced tariffs on Mexico by this administration.

Hardworking Texans cannot be asked to bear the brunt of a costly and unnecessary trade war that would not solve our problems or address our broken immigration system.

Our economy in Texas is powered by trade with Mexico. Texas is the number one State in the Nation for trade with Mexico.

Last year alone, we imported $107 billion in goods from Mexico; and these tariffs, if taken to their natural end, could cost us $27 billion in Texas alone.

I have met with Lennox, a heating and air-conditioning company, headquartered in my district in Richardson, Texas. They employ 8,000 Americans, and they rely on subcomponents made in Mexico to manufacture products here in the U.S. Their business is put at risk by these tariffs.

Toyota, another great company that is headquartered in north Texas, has said that these tariffs will cost them and their suppliers as much as $1 billion.

I have heard from countless constituents about their concerns about what this will do to the Texas economy. This is unacceptable.

I commend my colleagues in the Senate for contemplating action to stop these tariffs and plan to join them and support them in the House.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, each day, 100 Americans are killed by guns; 100 mothers mourn the loss of a child; 100 siblings lose a playmate; 100 friends lose a confidant; and 100 communities are left reeling—all in 1 day.

These deaths are 25 times more likely in the United States than in any other high-income country, and we have seen that in the news day after day and week after week.

One hundred days ago, this House passed the Bipartisan Background Checks Act.

One hundred deaths per 100 days—how much longer can we stand to wait?

It is time for the Senate to act—not one more day, not 100 more lives.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2157. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 6, 2019, at 11 a.m.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019, as amended, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1198. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Right to Financial Privacy Act [Docket ID: DOD-2018-OS-0026] (RIN: 0790-AK01) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1199. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles [EPA-R06-OAR-2018-0811; FRL-9994-06-Region 6] received May 31, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1200. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Oregon: Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R10-OAR-2018-0679; FRL-9994-49-Region 10] received May 31, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1201. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Modifications to Fuel Regulations To Provide Flexibility for E15; Modifications to RFS RIN Market Regulations [EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0775; FRL-9994-87-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU34) received May 31, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1202. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Agency, transmitting the Agency's final NUREG — Physical Security — Combined Licensing and Operating Reactors (NUREG-0800, Chapter 13) received May 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1203. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Agency, transmitting the Agency's final NUREG — Operational Programs — Combined Licensing and Operating Reactors (NUREG-0800, Chapter 13) received May 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1204. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Agency, transmitting the Agency's final NUREG — Toughness Fracture Requirements — Reactor Coolant Systems and Connected Systems (NUREG-0800, Chapter 5) received May 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1205. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Temporary General License [Docket No.: 190513445-9459-02] (RIN: 0694-AH86) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1206. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revisions to Country Group Designations for Venezuela and Conforming Changes for License Requirements [Docket No.: 190503423-9423-01] (RIN: 0694-AH78) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1207. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Certain New Controls on Emerging Technologies Agreed at Wassenaar Arrangement 2018 Plenary [Docket No.: 181129999-8999-01] (RIN: 0694-AH69) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1208. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 161017970-6999-02] (RIN: 0648-XF721) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1209. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [Docket No.: 150121066-5717-02] (RIN: 0648-XF534) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1210. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [Docket No.: 150121066-5717-02] (RIN: 0648-XF606) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1211. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Air Force Launches and Operations at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California [Docket No.: 180816767-9270-02] (RIN: 0648-BI44) received May 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1212. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 161020985-7181-02] (RIN: 0648-XF767) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1213. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2017 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Apportionments [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF647) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1214. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 161020985-7181-02] (RIN: 0648-XF646) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1215. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2017 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Apportionments [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF725) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1216. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 161020985-7181-02] (RIN: 0648-XF762) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1217. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish Managed Under the Individual Fishing Quota Program [Docket No.: 170816769-8162-02 and 170817779-8161-02] (RIN: 0648-XG019) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1218. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Hawaiian Islands High and the Hawaiian Islands Low Offshore Airspace Areas; Hawaii [Docket No.: FAA-2017-1013; Airspace Docket No.: 17-AWP-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1219. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31251; Amdt. No.: 3851] received June 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1220. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31252; Amdt. No.: 3852] received June 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1221. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Aviation Safety Organization Changes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0119; Amdt Nos. 1-72, 21-101, 25-145, 26-7, 27-49, 34-6, 43-50, 45-31, 60-5, 61-141, 63-40, 65-56, 91-350, 97-1338, 107-2, 110-2, 119-19, 121-380, 125-68, 129-53, 133-16, 135-139, 137-17, 141-19, 142-10, 145-32, 183-17] (RIN: 2120-AL05) received June 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1222. A letter from the Senior Attorney-Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's correcting amendment — Right-of-Way and Real Estate (RIN: 2125-AF77) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1223. A letter from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removing Net Worth Requirement from Health Care Enrollment (RIN: 2900-AP37) received June 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1224. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) [CMS-4168-F] (RIN: 0938-AR60) received May 31, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1595. A bill to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–104, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1595 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CRIST, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mrs. MURPHY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 3100. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to provide for prize competitions relating to climate and energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 3101. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the maximum Federal Pell Grant amount, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 3102. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD (for himself, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 3103. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to private entities for the provision of service dogs to eligible veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 3104. A bill to establish the Partnership Fund for Peace to promote joint economic development and finance ventures between Palestinian entrepreneurs and companies and those in the United States and Israel to improve economic cooperation and people-to-people peacebuilding programs, and to further shared community building, peaceful coexistence, dialogue, and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3105. A bill to establish an annual fee applicable to opioid manufacturers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. PAYNE, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. CORREA, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 3106. A bill to require a joint domestic terrorism report, establish within the Department of Homeland Security a National Center for the Study of Domestic Terrorism, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. BERA):

H.R. 3107. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TRONE, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 3108. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a teacher leader development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 3109. A bill to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HECK (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana):

H.R. 3110. A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to establish a Climate Security Intelligence Center within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 3111. A bill to make administrative reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program to increase fairness and accuracy and protect the taxpayer from program fraud and abuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 3112. A bill to revise the 90-10 rule under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 3113. A bill to require the United States Postal Service to sell the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp for 6 additional years; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEWIS (for himself and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico):

H.R. 3114. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services; to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning foster youth; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. LEE of California, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 3115. A bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. HILL of California, and Mr. STEUBE):

H.R. 3116. A bill to provide any State with a child welfare demonstration project that is scheduled to terminate at the end of fiscal year 2019 the option to extend the project for up to 2 additional years; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3117. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to establish a grant program to provide grants to local agencies and clinics to improve the health of mothers and infants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 3118. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members of Congress from lobbying Congress, to prohibit the use of official funds for airline accommodations for Members of Congress which are not coach-class accommodations, and to prohibit a cost-of-living adjustment in the pay rates for Members of Congress during any year following a Federal budget deficit; to the Committee on House Administration,

and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California (for herself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 3119. A bill to award grants to States to establish or improve, and carry out a Seal of Biliteracy program to recognize high-level student proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a second language; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. POCAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3120. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency materials pilot program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 3121. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the adjusted gross income limitation for above-the-line deduction of expenses of performing artist employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 3122. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members of Congress from engaging in lobbying contacts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 3123. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the establishment of supermarkets in certain underserved areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 3124. A bill to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to require the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to maintain a list of certain foreign issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. WELCH, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KIND, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. CRAIG, Mr. COX of California, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. COSTA, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KATKO, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. COMER, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. DUFFY):

H.R. 3125. A bill to reverse declining milk consumption in schools; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 3126. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include publication of written news articles as a tax-exempt purpose for organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 3127. A bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. STIVERS, Mrs. MURPHY, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 3128. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to uphold freedom of association protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SOTO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 3129. A bill to provide women with increased access to preventive and life-saving cancer screening; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 3130. A bill to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to extend protection to additional employees; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. MENG, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. BERA, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 3131. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and improvement of cardiovascular health among the South Asian population of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 3132. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees relating to the ''middle tier'' of acquisition programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COX of California, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CRIST, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 3133. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gay and trans panic defenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire):

H.R. 3134. 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. LAMB, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico):

H.R. 3135. A bill to enable projects that will aid in the development and delivery of related instruction associated with apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs that are focused on serving the skilled technical workforce at the National Laboratories and certain facilities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 3136. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for the interim storage of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PETERS, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. NEAL, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3137. A bill to establish a grant program to encourage the use of assistance dogs by certain members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. MOORE (for herself, Mr. WATKINS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WILD, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. COX of California, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COLE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 3138. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the ''Six Triple Eight''; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 3139. A bill to better support our early childhood educators and elementary school

and secondary school teachers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 3140. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to set standards for the operation of uninspected commercial fishing vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H.R. 3141. A bill to limit the collection of annual premiums under the FHA program for mortgage insurance for single family housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 3142. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to make certain multivitamin-mineral dietary supplements eligible for purchase with supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FLORES, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 3143. A bill to posthumously promote Lieutenant Colonel Richard E. Cole, United States Air Force (retired), a colonel on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COX of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. BASS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. BERA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. COOK, Ms. PORTER, Mr. NUNES, Mr. MCCARTHY, and Ms. PELOSI):

H.R. 3144. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the ''Jose Ramos Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. SOTO, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 3145. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to finalize rules to protect consumers from the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning and rollaways from motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself and Mr. DUFFY):

H.R. 3146. A bill to provide for the monthly installment payment of premiums for coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. DUNN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. WALTZ):

H.R. 3147. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide service dogs to veterans with mental illnesses who do not have mobility impairments; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TURNER (for himself and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 3148. A bill to improve protections for victims of sexual assault in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WALKER (for himself, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ROY, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. BUDD, Mr. PALMER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BANKS, Mr. KING of Iowa, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama):

H.R. 3149. A bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. WATKINS (for himself and Mrs. LEE of Nevada):

H.R. 3150. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for interest-free deferment on student loans for borrowers serving in certain medical or dental internships or residency programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. DINGELL, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. COHEN, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. ROONEY of Florida):

H. Res. 427. A resolution recognizing World Oceans Day and the necessity to protect, conserve, maintain, and rebuild our oceans and its resources; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LURIA (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. CLINE):

H. Res. 428. A resolution honoring the victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H. Res. 429. A resolution affirming the right of all renters to a safe, affordable, and decent home; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

67. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Maine, relative to Joint Resolution 1204, urging the President and Congress of the United States to support the reform of the Social Security offsets of the Government Pension Offset and the windfall elimination provision; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

68. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Memorial 2004, urging the United States Congress to take steps to require that any new federal areas designated within the State of Arizona not include any water right that prevents the State of Arizona from comprehensively managing its water resources; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

69. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Memorial 2002, urging the United States Congress to appropriate monies to the State of Arizona to eradicate salt cedars from Arizona waterways; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 3100.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 3101.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 3102.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. RUTHERFORD:

H.R. 3103.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 3104.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3105.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 3106.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 3107.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Mr. SCHNEIDER:
H.R. 3108.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. ENGEL:
H.R. 3109.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 2
By Mr. HECK:
H.R. 3110.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 3111.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.
By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 3112.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution and Article 1, Section 9, clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 3113.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. LEWIS:
H.R. 3114.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 3115.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.
By Mr. BACON:
H.R. 3116.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution
By Ms. ADAMS:
H.R. 3117.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article II, Section 8
By Mrs. AXNE:
H.R. 3118.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:
H.R. 3119.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:
H.R. 3120.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.
By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:
H.R. 3121.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8—The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States
By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 3122.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 3123.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to interstate commerce).
By Mr. CONAWAY:
H.R. 3124.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I sec 8
By Mr. COURTNEY:
H.R. 3125.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. DESAULNIER:
H.R. 3126.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Mr. DOGGETT:
H.R. 3127.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. GALLEGO:
H.R. 3128.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 18
By Mr. GOMEZ:
H.R. 3129.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. GROTHMAN:
H.R. 3130.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. JAYAPAL:
H.R. 3131.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 3132.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 3133.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18.
By Mr. LANGEVIN:
H.R. 3134.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. LUJÁN:
H.R. 3135.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Ms. MATSUI:
H.R. 3136.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. MCGOVERN:
H.R. 3137.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8: to provide for the Common Defense.
By Ms. MOORE:
H.R. 3138.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. NORCROSS:
H.R. 3139.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. PAPPAS:
H.R. 3140.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. PHILLIPS:
H.R. 3141.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18. To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama:
H.R. 3142.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. ROY:
H.R. 3143.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of hte United States Constitution which states, ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''
By Ms. SÁNCHEZ:
H.R. 3144.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, clause 18:
Congress shall have Power—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.
By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 3145.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.
By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:
H.R. 3146.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. STIVERS:

H.R. 3147.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have the Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States. And Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 3148.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. WALKER:

H.R. 3149.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Secction 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. WATKINS:

H.R. 3150.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 51: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 249: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 303: Ms. HAALAND.
H.R. 414: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 434: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 586: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 597: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 598: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 613: Mr. BROWN of Maryland and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 616: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 647: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 663: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 693: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 712: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 886: Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 913: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 929: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 935: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 940: Mr. AMASH.
H.R. 959: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 1008: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1058: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 1109: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 1168: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1175: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BARR, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 1224: Mr. SIRES, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 1225: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. BARR, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 1227: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 1289: Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 1309: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. VELA, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 1327: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 1345: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1358: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 1374: Mr. TURNER, Mrs. ROBY, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
H.R. 1424: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 1434: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 1452: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1530: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 1551: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 1572: Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 1581: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 1595: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1610: Mrs. CRAIG.
H.R. 1620: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1642: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. RIGGLEMAN.
H.R. 1673: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 1679: Mr. HIGGINS of New York and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 1680: Mr. BACON, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CROW, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 1682: Ms. MOORE, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1711: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 1717: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 1723: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 1767: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 1777: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 1780: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 1837: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. BACON, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1840: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 1862: Mr. ABRAHAM.
H.R. 1869: Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 1872: Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 1878: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1901: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 1903: Mr. CASE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. MARCHANT.
H.R. 1922: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1923: Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. SIRES, and Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1959: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 1970: Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 1980: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 1981: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 2086: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2091: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2117: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 2149: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 2151: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 2156: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 2163: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2181: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2204: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.
H.R. 2207: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 2258: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2278: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 2283: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 2321: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 2327: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2377: Mrs. LURIA and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H.R. 2382: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. TURNER, Ms. HILL of California, and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 2402: Mrs. LOWEY and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2415: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2439: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. HILL of California, and Mr. ROSE of New York.
H.R. 2443: Mr. LATTA, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 2455: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2481: Mrs. MILLER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 2489: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2498: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 2517: Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 2554: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 2594: Mr. TIPTON and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 2616: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2619: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 2653: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 2682: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 2698: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 2711: Mr. ROUDA and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 2720: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2747: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 2748: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2774: Mr. TIPTON, Mr. KIND, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 2775: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 2776: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2790: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 2805: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 2829: Mr. MEEKS and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 2862: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2868: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 2869: Mr. COLE and Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 2897: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 2913: Ms. TITUS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CRIST, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SIRES, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 2931: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 2939: Mr. LEWIS.
H.R. 2953: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 2958: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2986: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3024: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 3051: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3072: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 3073: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 3077: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. RYAN, Mr. COLLINS of New York, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 3078: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. WILD, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3084: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.J. Res. 48: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. LUJÁN.
H. Con. Res. 40: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. PHILLIPS.
H. Res. 54: Mrs. HAYES and Mr. ALLRED.
H. Res. 60: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H. Res. 134: Mrs. LURIA.
H. Res. 146: Ms. SCANLON.
H. Res. 165: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H. Res. 246: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H. Res. 364: Mr. VEASEY and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H. Res. 369: Ms. WEXTON.
H. Res. 391: Ms. HAALAND, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. SUOZZI.
H. Res. 395: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. WATKINS.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

26. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to respectfully urging Congress to refrain from enacting any legislation which would increase the compensation of Members of Congress, given current low levels of legislative productivity; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019 No. 94

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, the source of our hopes and dreams, You are the stable influence that gives us peace in a sometimes chaotic world. We praise You for surrounding us with the shield of Your favor and love.

Lord, continue to guide our lawmakers as they trust You to direct their steps. Remind them that You will not withhold good things from the upright. Use them to illuminate the darkness of faulty thinking and to make our Nation and world a better place to live. Sanctify their thoughts as they daily expose themselves to the wisdom and consolation of Your holy Word.

Lord, as we commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day, increase our faith in the power of Your loving providence.

We pray in Your strong 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, yesterday the Senate voted to confirm Andrew Saul of New York to serve as Commissioner of Social Security and voted to advance several more highly qualified nominees.

Today we will vote to confirm three other executive branch nominees to important posts at the Departments of State and Interior and at the CFTC, and we will advance three more judicial nominees to fill seats on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and the Court of Federal Claims.

So the Senate continues to clear the backlog left by more than 2 years of systematic delays and obstruction that extended even to nominees with major bipartisan support—impressive, unobjectionable individuals who had spent months and, in some cases, well over a year on the Executive Calendar were finally granted straightforward votes. The modest rules change the Senate adopted this spring is already making a change.

In 48 session days, from January through April, we were able to confirm just 23 nominees. But in the 20 days immediately following the modest reform, we confirmed 45, about twice as many in less than half the time, and, of course, the number of confirmations has continued to climb in the weeks since then. We need to get these folks on the job for the sake of the country. The President—any President—should be able to stand up a government. The American people deserve to be governed by the government they voted for.

Many of the jobs that have been needlessly held open are not typically the highest profile positions, but they are still hugely important. As I said yesterday, until we confirm David Schenker later today, his confirmation to hold the top Middle East job at the State Department will have been held up for more than a year. This is the Middle East position at the State Department. Yet, as the cloture vote indicated, this qualified nominee carries overwhelming support. The nomination has been held by Democrats for political purposes. It had nothing to do with the nominee or his qualifications for the position. Given the crisis ranging from Libya to Yemen and almost everywhere in between, it is past time to have an Assistant Secretary for Near East Affairs confirmed and on the job.

Later today we will also confirm Susan Combs to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Her noncontroversial nomination has been pending in the Senate since July. Listen to this: since July of 2017—2 years, 700 days, just shy of 2 years. But starting tomorrow, she will finally be on the job.

These are the kinds of nominees who once would have moved swiftly through the Senate and certainly by voice vote. I wish we could rediscover that tradition, but one way or another, we will continue to make progress.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on another matter, in addition to nominations, there are a number of other important items that Congress ought to be able to tackle in the next several weeks. As I have mentioned several times, we need continued negotiations in the Senate, the House, and the White House toward a bipartisan government funding agreement to set up the appropriations process. We will also need to complete a National Defense Authorization Act to address critical national security challenges, rebuild our military's readiness, and modernize our Armed Forces to address the growing challenges posed by great-power competitors like Russia and China.

The headlines remain filled with the unacceptable, unsustainable security crisis and humanitarian crisis down on our southern border. By now, I am confident that every Member of Congress has heard the breathtaking numbers. We have all heard the chaos analyzed 1,000 different ways.

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

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What we haven't seen is any appetite on the Democratic side for actually getting an outcome. We haven't seen the Democrats put aside their reflexive opposition to anything—anything—the President requests and face the facts.

So allow me to repeat some of those facts yet again. We are all hoping they will sink in some time soon. One week ago this morning, border agents encountered the largest group of people attempting an illegal crossing that they have ever, ever seen. They apprehended more than 1,000 individuals—the largest group ever.

For consecutive months now, the men and women who guard our border have apprehended more than 100,000 people—100,000. That is each month—100,000 a month. We are talking about numbers not seen for more than a decade. And, as we all know, in particular, the amount of families and children are consistently record-breaking as well.

The officials whom we trust to protect our borders—not to mention feed, clothe, and house these individuals—have been crying out for months that their Agencies are stretched literally to the breaking point. One processing center that was designed to hold 125 is said to hold 900—900. The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement has predicted that the program for unaccompanied children may exhaust all of its funding this month—this month—and need to reduce operations.

Here is one newspaper reporting on testimony from the head of the Border Patrol:

> The flood of migrants has overwhelmed Border Patrol stations and other Federal facilities, forcing immigration agents to release migrants directly into U.S. border communities with only the hope that they will appear for their immigration court hearings.

So this funding crisis is directly weakening our border security and national security. It is directly worsening the conditions for these men, women, and children, and the authorities are pleading for our help.

I dare say there are not many occasions when the editorial board of the New York Times has chosen to side with the Trump administration, but this crisis is so bad and the next step is so obvious that it has united President Trump, Republicans here in Congress, and the New York Times editorial page. I doubt if we will see that again.

Here was the title of their editorial about a month ago: ''Congress, Give Trump His Border Money.'' They described:

> A humanitarian crisis of overcrowding, disease, and chaos. . . . As resources are strained and the system buckles, the misery grows.

They published that editorial while we were finalizing the disaster funding legislation. There was no reason why the funds to alleviate the humanitarian crisis at the border should not have been included in that bill, and yet my friend, the Democratic leader, came to the floor multiple times late last month to call the issue of border funding ''extraneous.''

Addressing the security crisis and humanitarian crisis is not extraneous. It is essential. Migrants are experiencing overcrowded and underequipped facilities. Our law enforcement humanitarian professionals are crying out for help.

Look, I understand our Democratic colleagues find it extremely difficult to put partisanship aside and work with the President the American people elected. I think the whole country sees very clearly that Democrats in Congress seem to prefer picking fights with this President to actually getting much done. Their partisan spite must not prolong this misery any longer. As long as Democrats continue to drag their feet on this crisis, as long as they keep slow-walking funding that everyone from President Trump to the New York Times sees is necessary, then, my colleagues across the aisle will continue to own the consequences. It is on them.

I hope my Democratic colleagues will allow this legislation to move forward—no more poison-pill policy riders, no more political posturing. It is way past time for action.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, last week, a man submitted his 2-weeks' notice to his place of employment in Virginia Beach before going there and shooting 12 people and injuring 4 others. He unloaded dozens of rounds indiscriminately. In addition to having two handguns, he had extended ammunition magazines and a suppressor to muffle the sound of gunfire.

This was the 100th mass shooting in America, coming on the 100th day of the year. This has become a regular part of life in the United States of America—individuals walking into churches and shopping malls and schools and places of employment and shooting indiscriminately such that dozens of innocent lives are lost. In most cases, the same kinds of weapons are used—semiautomatic rifles, extended magazines—weapons or components of weapons that are banned in other countries and that were banned in this country for a period of time because they were believed to have been so dangerous such that they should have been in the exclusive province of the military and law enforcement.

REMEMBERING RYAN KEITH COX

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, Ryan Keith Cox was 50 years old when he was shot and killed on May 31. He was known for his soft-spoken nature and his powerful singing voice in his church choir, and he was constantly affecting those around him with small but meaningful gestures of kindness.

The day that he was killed in Virginia Beach, a close coworker of Ryan's, Christi Dewar, was with him when the shooting started. Ryan told Christi and other colleagues to barricade themselves in the break room. Christi implored Keith to join them in the break room, but he said to her ''I have to go check on the other ones.'' Keith left and was soon shot by the gunman as he was assisting other coworkers in reaching safety.

Christi said:

> Every time I was upset, [Ryan] would give me a [big] hug. When I was upset about something, he knew exactly what to say to make you smile. He's the type of person who you know would lay down his life for someone, just like he did.

Bishop Williams of Faith World Ministries in Norfolk said that he had known Keith and his family for years. They were close, a very loving family, and had just been ''leaders in the church world,'' Bishop Williams said.

Ryan Keith Cox was 50 years old when he was shot in Virginia Beach.

REMEMBERING JOSHUA HARDY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, Joshua Hardy was 2 years older. He was 52 years old. He had been working for 4½ years as an engineer and technician for the city of Virginia Beach. He was raised in Hampton Roads. He came from a really big family, and he was described by his friends and his family as being incredibly caring, especially about kids. He didn't have any children of his own, but he often watched over his nieces and nephews.

One of his nieces, Tasha, remembered that he was around a lot. ''He cared about me and all of my cousins,'' she said. ''He was like a father figure to me because my dad wasn't around.''

In 2011, Joshua actually published a book, called the ''ABC Book on Protecting Yourself from Strangers.''

The people he worked with remember being so impressed that Joshua had gone above and beyond the call. One of his colleagues in the engineering department, Larry Knight, gave a copy of the book to his daughter and his grandson. He remembers Joshua as just always having a smile on the job:

> Joshua was one of the nicest men you would ever care to meet. He was funny and kindhearted. [He] would do anything for you.

REMEMBERING LAQUITA BROWN

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, LaQuita Brown was 39 years old. She was a public servant from Chesapeake, VA. She had worked in the public works department for more than 4 years. She was a right-of-way agent. Her friends called her ''Ms. Worldwide'' because she loved to travel. She had

been all around the world, and her social media was plastered with pictures of her travels.

Her father, as any father would be, is absolutely heartbroken by her death.

He said:

> She was just everything. She was everything to me. I know nobody's perfect—but from the time she was born, she had no faults.

For the Brown family, the grief surrounding LaQuita's death comes on the heels of LaQuita's brother dying from a hit-and-run driver 3 years ago. Her father said that LaQuita helped him through the grief. ''She saved me,'' he said. ''I wouldn't have made it through that [without her].''

In 100 days into the year, we have had 100 mass shootings. It doesn't happen anywhere else in the world except in the United States of America. We can't claim to be helpless, and we can't claim to have no solutions because, if it only happens here and nowhere else, then there must be something different happening here. We can learn. We can adapt.

It has now been 100 days since the House of Representatives passed a universal background checks bill, a universal background checks bill that is supported by 90 percent of Americans and would have a significant downward effect on the number of people who are shot in this country.

We tend to pay attention as a nation and as a body only when something like Virginia Beach happens, when there is a mass shooting of an epic scale—when 5 or 10 or 20 people lose their lives at one time. Yet, since the House passed the universal background checks bill, 10,000 people have been shot and killed in America. That is a stunning number.

There have been 10,000 people shot and killed in America in just the 100 days since the House passed the universal background checks bill, but the vast majority of these individuals were not killed in mass shootings. Most of these were suicides. Most of these were individuals who had taken their own lives with weapons. Others were accidental shootings. Many of them were homicides.

The grief and the pain that comes with all of those is no different than the grief that LaQuita Brown's family is feeling right now. We should care about every single one of these deaths.

The reason I pegged this to the passage of the background checks bill is that we know that background checks save lives in States that have universal background checks, meaning, if you are getting a gun in a commercial sale, you need to prove that you are not a criminal or that you are not seriously mentally ill. In the States that have universal background checks, you have fewer suicides, and you have fewer homicides.

Connecticut is a perfect example. The research shows that once we passed our universal background checks requirement—and we did it quite a number of years ago—we saw a 40-percent reduction in gun homicides in our State. Similarly, when Missouri went from having a universal background checks requirement to its not having one, the State saw a 40-percent increase in gun homicides.

Not every single one of these 10,000 deaths was preventable, but many of them could have been. It is not that we don't know what to do, and it is not that we don't know what makes this country different; it is just that we are unwilling to take those steps.

Just this past weekend, 52 people were shot in communities across this country. There were 10 deaths from gunshot wounds in Chicago alone. These victims are just as worthy of remembering as the victims in Virginia Beach or in Sandy Hook or in Parkland.

REMEMBERING GWAIN BROWN

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, Gwain Brown was 16 years old. He was a sophomore in high school in Chicago, IL, and he was all hyped up to throw himself the biggest 16th birthday party that his friends had ever seen. At the end of April, he was going to throw down. Yet, on April 1, he was standing in front of a gas station when a gunman opened fire and hit Gwain in the leg and the chest.

One of his basketball teammates thought the initial news of Gwain's death was an April Fools' joke as it happened on April 1. So, when he heard about it, he just went back to sleep.

His friends said Gwain was the life of the party and was so energetic. ''I was . . . with him . . . a week ago, and for that to happen in this time period, I'm just in shock.''

At a vigil, his elementary school principal read an excerpt of something he had written well in school.

Gwain wrote: ''I want to be a good son, always be there for my mom and always be there to take care of her.''

REMEMBERING JAYLIN ELLZEY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, a couple weeks ago, Jaylin Ellzey was a freshman at Fenger Academy High School in Chicago. According to his uncle, Jacob, he was an outgoing, kind-hearted kid. He lived with his mother. He had two sisters and three brothers.

Jaylin is not around anymore because he was one of those victims of gun violence in the city of Chicago.

His uncle said:

> Summer in the city, it's just something different. Other kids look forward to going to summer camp. He was just trying to make sure he lived another day.

His uncle, Jacob, began tearing up as he recalled his favorite memory of Jaylin as a small child. Whenever Jaylin and his brother would come stay with their uncle, they would take a bath, and then they would nestle amongst the pillows and the blankets, waiting for their uncle to blast them with hot air from a blow dryer.

''He was just a lovable kid surviving his environment,'' said his uncle. ''And he knew about family. Family was always instilled in him.''

Since my life was changed in December of 2012, when 20 first graders were killed in Sandy Hook, I have tried to come down to the floor every couple weeks and tell the stories of victims of gun violence in this country to try to put some personality behind the 10,000 lives that have been lost in the last 100 days, and I told you about 5 of the victims this morning.

Our inaction is complicity. There are tough things, and then there are easy things. I get it that there are some anti-gun violence measures that I would support that are just too hot for some Republican Members, but I don't care what State you are from, 97 percent of your constituents, 80 percent of your constituents—the vast majority of your constituents—support expanding background checks to make sure that if you buy a gun online or you buy a gun at a gun show, you have to go through a 5-minute background check.

All of our constituents, no matter whether we represent a blue State or a red State, support extreme risk protection orders—the idea that you should be able to go to court when somebody is on the verge of lashing out against someone else or going to hurt themselves and take away their guns, at least temporarily. These are things that are not controversial anywhere, except for here, that we could pass.

Since the House passed the background check bill—by the way, with bipartisan support—10,000 people have died, but there have been 109 mass shootings. Thirty-one States have had a mass shooting; 166 kids have been killed or injured; 175 teenagers have been killed or injured.

I am on the floor today to send my heartfelt condolences to the families in Virginia Beach who continue to mourn yet another mass shooting. I express, as I always do, my condolences to the families of gun violence throughout this country. Eighty to ninety people lose their life every day from a gunshot wound.

I am also here today to ask my colleagues to think about why we continue to refuse to have a debate on a piece of legislation that the House passed 100 days ago in a bipartisan fashion.

Even if you don't love the version of the background checks bill that the House passed, bring your own version to the floor—bring a different bill that will address the epidemic of gun violence in this country. All I ask is that you don't do nothing; that you stop your absolute silence in the face of this epidemic of slaughter.

Let the Senate be the Senate. I heard there was a time some years ago when the U.S. Senate actually debated legislation. I have read in the history books that this is supposedly the greatest deliberative body in the world. We are doing no deliberation here. Bill after

bill passes the House of Representatives. None of them come before the Senate for a vote—no healthcare bills, no immigration bills, no anti-gun violence bills.

I get it that the bills that pass the House probably can't pass a Republican-led Senate, but why are we not even trying? Who is in charge here? The special interests who want nothing to happen, the gun lobby, the health insurance companies or are we in charge? We are the ones who were elected. We are the Members of the U.S. Senate. We could choose to have these debates, hash out our differences, and see if there is a proposal that 60 of us could agree on that would do something about this unacceptable level of gun violence that plagues this Nation on a daily basis.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

TARIFFS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday on the floor I said I don't believe President Trump will follow through on his threat to impose tariffs on Mexico. Why? First, because the President has a tendency for bluster. There are many examples of the President taking a maximalist position before eventually backing off and announcing some different solution. Nine times out of ten, after a few months, everyone realizes that the so-called solution isn't real and doesn't work, but the President needs a way out of his bluster. That may well be true with the tariff issue.

Second, most Senate Republicans oppose the President's idea of slapping tariffs on Mexico. They know how that could destabilize our economy and Mexico's and that it could actually make the migration problem worse.

Publicly, the President has continued the tough talk on tariffs with Mexico—he responded to my statement on the floor with a tweet last night—but ultimately I continue to believe he will back off. That has been his MO. When he does, I would urge him to consider a real solution to the border problem, not some fake solution that he and the Mexicans announce, and then it does nothing—they don't follow through, it doesn't have effect, whatever.

Here is a commonsense policy that will actually reduce the problems at the border: Many of the migrants that arrive at our southern border are fleeing untenable situations—gang violence, drug cartels, corruption, domestic abuse, economic depravity. If you are starving, if you are worried that your child will be mugged, if you are worried that your daughter will be raped, you ain't staying there. The governments of those countries have failed to provide safety or security for people living within their borders in Nicaragua, in Honduras, and in El Salvador. Their citizens—or some of them—feel compelled to embark on a dangerous 1,000-mile journey on foot rather than stay put because staying put is even worse for them.

These are not evil people. The President would like to make them all out to be drug dealers or criminals. Most of them are poor people who are trying to escape the dangers created by the problems of gang violence, economic hardship, social oligarchy.

We Democrats have crafted legislation that would help address the problems in those three Central American countries that are causing the migrants to flee in the first place.

First, we would allow asylum seekers to apply for asylum within their own countries. That thousand-mile trek across Mexico is dangerous. It is often expensive. You have to pay a coyote or buy off drug dealers or other criminals. Let them apply in Honduras, in El Salvador, in Guatemala and not amass at the border. Second, we provide significant security assistance to Central American countries to build their capacity, crack down on the gangs and drug cartels and human trafficking that is endemic in those countries, and we would increase the number of immigration judges and personnel to reduce the current backlog of cases at the border.

These policies make eminent sense, and unlike the President's plan to impose tariffs on Mexico, our proposals do not threaten the U.S. economy. We would urge our Republican colleagues to join us in this commonsense solution.

When the President inevitably retreats from his tariff threat—which may be as soon as this afternoon—we should proceed on these commonsense policies, not some fake thing that sounds good in an announcement and then goes away like we have seen over and over again when the President conducts foreign policy—North Korea being one of the most notorious examples.

Over the past year, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, despite some positive domestic reforms, has too often acted like a brute in the Middle East rather than a stabilizing force.

I understand that Saudi Arabia worries about Iran. I share those concerns about the Iranian Government, but the Saudis have all too often reacted in the wrong way. In Yemen, the Saudis are fighting a proxy war that has resulted in untold human suffering and the slaughter of innocents of many children. Internally, the Saudi Government has conducted a widespread campaign of political repression, including the imprisonment of women's rights campaigners. We all know how the Saudis were responsible for the vicious torture and chilling murder of a journalist and American resident Jamal Khashoggi.

Despite these gross violations of international norms and values, the Trump administration has just cozied up with Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman and offered almost no criticism.

We have just learned, according to reports, that the Trump administration approved seven transfers of American nuclear technology to the Saudis, including two after Khashoggi's murder. Now the administration is using its favorite tool, claiming emergency powers to justify another 22 arms sales to the Saudis and others, including precision-guided munitions for Saudi's operations in Yemen.

Has the Trump administration lost all perspective when it comes to Saudi Arabia—providing excuses and cover for the brutal murder of a journalist and American resident, aiding and arming the Saudis in a human rights tragedy in Yemen, which will only come back to hurt him in the long run. What are we doing here?

Congress has already voted, in bipartisan majorities, to unwind America's involvement in Yemen, which, of course, the President vetoed, and now we ought to vote to disapprove these arms sales.

The chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Senator GRAHAM, urged by our ranking member of Foreign Relations and our leader on this issue, Senator MENENDEZ, has thankfully announced the bipartisan effort to do just that. I strongly support that effort.

Let me say, my Republican friends, over the last years of the Obama administration, bitterly complained about the way President Obama used Executive authority. The amount of Executive authority used by President Obama could fit in a thimble compared to the abuse of Executive authority by President Trump. Yet it seems, in the past, our Republican colleagues who so criticized Obama for much less have been totally silent when President Trump abuses Executive authority, but now maybe there are some green shoots.

Maybe some of our Republican colleagues in the Senate are waking up to the idea that in America we have a three-branch government, not a one-branch government, and maybe some of our Republican colleagues are recognizing that and beginning to act—the possible green shoots. Two instances; one is tariffs. Our Republicans don't like these tariffs. Will they have the guts, if the President implements them, to oppose the President? We will see.

Now, on Saudi arms sales, a number of Senate Republicans are beginning to

say we need to constrain the President the way the Congress has traditionally constrained the executive branch. I am hopeful, but I am also skeptical.

If the past is prologue, my Republican friends will ultimately back down. Leader MCCONNELL, his MO, will let a few of them off the hook so they can go home and say they supported it but never enough to make sure Congress provides an effective check on the President. It is sort of a wink and a nod. Well, let's hope this time it is different. Let's hope that these murmurings among Republicans about the Saudi arms sales and about the tariffs are real, and they will actually stand up to him, which is what a Congress should do even when they are of the same party as the President.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on the climate, as I have said so many times, no threat poses a greater danger to our planet than that of climate change. The last 5 years have been the warmest on record. There is more carbon dioxide in the air than any point in human history. Our children and grandchildren will live with the consequences of the decisions we make today. We need all hands on deck—the Federal Government, local governments, municipalities, corporate leaders, global efforts—if we are to meet the challenges of climate change head-on, but for years our government has been too slow to act and more often than not we have done nothing or very little.

Just yesterday, President Trump once again—not based on fact, based on whim, as he so often acts—voiced a dangerous skepticism about climate change while meeting with Prince Charles.

Now, one of the biggest reasons for the slow progress on climate policy has been the oppressive grip of Big Oil, Big Gas, and Big Coal, on our political system. They spent untold millions to debunk climate science and torpedo climate legislation. One of the largest perpetrators has been the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which never reveals its donors and has acted all too often as a front for Big Oil.

Recently, as public support for action upon climate change has grown even more overwhelming, the chamber is starting to sing a different tune. They have launched a campaign for cleaner energy sources. They have added a new section to their website, ''Addressing Climate Change.'' They now even say that, on this issue, ''inaction is not an option.'' Well, I could not agree more; inaction is not an option, but color me skeptical about the chamber.

I hope to see the chamber follow its public stance with real action, but until I do, I fear this change is merely cosmetic. All too often, the big oil and big coal companies don't act themselves, although some do, but they let the chamber do their dirty work for them. So today SHELDON WHITEHOUSE and I, along with a number of our colleagues, will be sending a letter to the chamber, calling on them to speak out against the administration's effort to undermine the ''National Climate Assessment.'' It is not enough to simply say: Oh, well, it is a problem.

Inaction is not an option. They must do something concrete. This is a concrete action we are proposing that will make a difference. I read in today's New York Times that companies are now beginning to plan for how climate change will cost them more money in the next 5 years. They don't think it is no problem. They don't think it is a 30-year problem. These companies and their interest in their profits—that is how they should be interested, although I would like to see them a little more interested in workers and communities and climate. These companies, for their own bottom lines, are saying climate change is real, and we better do something.

Well, one way the chamber can move things along is to speak out against this administration in its efforts to undermine the ''National Climate Assessment.'' For years, this study has been the gold standard for climate research within our government. It is not partisan. It is factual; it is based on science; and it assesses the long-term threats to climate change.

The President is sort of, on climate, a member of the Flat Earth Society, just denying the facts. It would be as if Columbus sailed, and the President still said the earth is flat. That is how he is acting on climate. Well, the Chamber ought to break with that. They ought to let science and facts determine how we act.

This is a moment when the Chamber could actually use its influence to convince the administration to reverse course. If the business community said this, it would make a big difference. So this is a moment. Let's see if the chamber really wants to prove that they are for climate change. Let's see. Let's see. If they don't, we ask their members who say they believe in climate—and who are even planning for the problems we face—to put pressure on them to do it. Let's hope. Let's hope.

Now, before I yield the floor, I just want to send a kudos—he reminded me that the word ''kudos'' is singular, not plural, which I did not know for all of my years here. Mr. President, I see by your reaction, you did not know either. It is a kudos. So let me gave a kudos to SHELDON WHITEHOUSE's leadership on this issue. One of his many positive traits is he knows grammar and all of that much better than most of us, but one of his greater traits is how he has been relentless in pushing forward on climate and on pushing corporate America to do more.

I look forward to continuing to work with him to shed light on the role that Big Money plays in undermining climate policy, and I look forward to hearing from the chamber of commerce on what they have to say about the administration's latest attacks on climate science.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks.

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

(The remarks of Mrs. BLACKBURN pertaining to the introduction of S. Res. 233 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the votes following the first vote in the series be 10 minutes in length—I say again, 10 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON SCHENKER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Schenker nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following 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 Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH),

the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), 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 83, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 137 Ex.]

YEAS—83

Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blumenthal	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson	Schumer
Carper	Jones	Scott (FL)
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	King	Shaheen
Collins	Lankford	Shelby
Coons	Leahy	Sinema
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	McConnell	Thune
Cramer	McSally	Tillis
Crapo	Menendez	Toomey
Cruz	Merkley	Van Hollen
Daines	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Whitehouse
Enzi	Murray	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Wyden
Feinstein	Perdue	Young
Fischer	Peters	

NAYS—11

Baldwin	Hirono	Smith
Booker	Kaine	Stabenow
Brown	Klobuchar	Udall
Harris	Markey	

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Gillibrand	Sanders
Duckworth	Moran	Warren

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Tarbert nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea,'' the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) would have voted ''yea,'' and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), 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 84, nays 9, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 138 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Gardner	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Bennet	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Cantwell	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Jones	Shaheen
Carper	Kaine	Shelby
Casey	Kennedy	Sinema
Cassidy	King	Smith
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Thune
Cotton	McConnell	Tillis
Cramer	McSally	Toomey
Crapo	Menendez	Udall
Daines	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Enzi	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Feinstein	Perdue	Wyden
Fischer	Peters	Young

NAYS—9

Blumenthal	Hirono	Merkley
Booker	Klobuchar	Schatz
Harris	Markey	Schumer

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Gillibrand	Warren
Cruz	Moran	
Duckworth	Sanders	

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Tarbert nomination?

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The 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 Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 9, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 139 Ex.]

YEAS—85

Baldwin	Gardner	Reed
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Bennet	Grassley	Roberts
Blackburn	Hassan	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rosen
Boozman	Heinrich	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cantwell	Isakson	Scott (SC)
Capito	Johnson	Shaheen
Cardin	Jones	Shelby
Carper	Kaine	Sinema
Casey	Kennedy	Smith
Cassidy	King	Stabenow
Collins	Lankford	Sullivan
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tillis
Cotton	McConnell	Toomey
Cramer	McSally	Udall
Crapo	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cruz	Murkowski	Warner
Daines	Murphy	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murray	Wicker
Enzi	Paul	Wyden
Ernst	Perdue	Young
Feinstein	Peters	
Fischer	Portman	

NAYS—9

Blumenthal	Hirono	Merkley
Booker	Klobuchar	Schatz
Harris	Markey	Schumer

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Gillibrand	Sanders
Duckworth	Moran	Warren

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is consider 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 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 Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

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 Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, 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), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea'', the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) would have voted ''yea'', and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), 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 56, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 140 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Barrasso	Graham	Perdue
Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Hoeven	Roberts
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Burr	Inhofe	Rounds
Cantwell	Isakson	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Sasse
Collins	Jones	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	King	Shelby
Cramer	Lankford	Sinema
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Manchin	Thune
Daines	McConnell	Tillis
Enzi	McSally	Toomey
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	Young
Gardner	Paul	

NAYS—37

Baldwin	Hassan	Schatz
Bennet	Heinrich	Schumer
Blumenthal	Hirono	Shaheen
Booker	Kaine	Smith
Brown	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Markey	Udall
Casey	Menendez	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murray	Whitehouse
Durbin	Peters	Wyden
Feinstein	Reed	
Harris	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Gillibrand	Warren
Cassidy	Moran	
Duckworth	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 56, the nays are 37.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

TARIFFS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, since President Trump announced his intent to impose tariffs on goods imported to the United States from Mexico, I have been perplexed at the reaction from our Democratic colleagues on both sides of the Capitol. They seem to have washed their hands of the humanitarian crisis occurring at the border.

Again, these are President Obama's words. In 2014 he identified this crush of humanity coming across from Central America into the United States claiming asylum as a humanitarian and security crisis. But our Democratic friends are simply washing their hands of any responsibility and have not offered any solutions or any ideas on how to solve the problem.

Perhaps they feel like this is President Trump's problem, but this is more than just the President's problem. It is America's problem and challenge: How do we deal with this flood of humanity?

I would like to be clear on one point. I agree with the President that Mexico needs to do more to staunch the flow of people across its borders and into the United States. They must do more and we must do more to stop this mass migration, but any action must prioritize both our country's physical and our economic security.

Tariffs are not my first choice on how to address this problem. In fact, that is not the most responsible way to address this. The most responsible way to address it is by taking up, debating, and voting on bipartisan legislation that would actually fix the vulnerabilities in our current law that are being exploited by the human smugglers who are charging between $5,000 and $10,000 per person to smuggle people from Central America, across Mexico, and into the United States.

Tariffs, on the other hand, would be a massive tax. The U.S. Chamber estimates that Texas alone would face $5.35 billion in increased costs as a result of a 5-percent tariff that could take effect as early as Monday. This translates into about $1,000 more on a car.

I am happy that the Vice President and Secretary Pompeo are meeting with the Mexican Foreign Minister and other officials today. Actually, I am encouraged by the response of the Mexican Government, and I can only hope that they come up with some sort of agreement so that these tariffs do not go into effect.

Stronger action by Mexico would be a step in the right direction, but it doesn't come close to solving the underlying problem. I feel like a broken record at times, constantly reminding my colleagues here of the challenges we are facing in Texas because of this crisis.

More than 100,000 people illegally crossed our southern border between March and April—100,000. That is not a combined figure. It is about 100,000 each month. The Department of Homeland Security has not released statistics for the month of May, but I am not expecting any good news.

As a matter of fact, if nothing changes, the pull factors—the reasons why people would leave their homes in Central America, cross Mexico, and make this dangerous trip into the United States—are doing nothing but getting worse, encouraging more and more people to take that dangerous trip.

Unlike in previous years, the vast majority of those crossing aren't from Mexico, as I said. So far this fiscal year, 74 percent of the Border Patrol's apprehensions across the southern border were people coming from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

And if you talk to the McAllen Sector Border Patrol chief, he will tell you that last year alone people from 140 different countries—140 different countries—came across our southern border with Mexico and into the United States. That is because they realize, if you can fly or get any way you can—take a boat, swim, get to Central America—you can make your way up from Central America into the United States. The individuals illegally entering our country are overwhelmingly either families or unaccompanied children, which means we don't have the facilities, the resources, or legal authorities. We need to expeditiously process them and care for them properly.

What is more, 70 percent of unaccompanied children and family unit apprehensions are occurring in just two sectors—El Paso and the Rio Grande Valley—making the State of Texas and its border communities the hardest hit.

We are ground zero for this crisis. As I said, this is equated to an all-out humanitarian crisis along the border. Our law enforcement officials, city leaders, nongovernmental organizations—everyone who wants to treat these migrants compassionately and appropriately is being completely overwhelmed by the massive waves of people who are entering our country.

We need to get to work on both short-term and long-term solutions.

First, we need to get additional funding to the departments and agencies that are trying to manage this crisis and care for the migrants in their custody. Without action here in Congress, funding could dry up by the end of this month, creating an even more dire situation. That should be our most immediate focus—getting funding to the agencies responsible for managing this crisis. I know the appropriators are working on this, and I hope we can come up with a solution soon because time is not on our side. But that is not a fix; that is a patch.

Any sort of lasting change cannot be solved by a funding bill or by tariffs. It has to be solved by something only Congress can do—passing legislation that addresses the root of the problem.

From what I know, there is only one bill that would address this humanitarian crisis at the border, a bill that

already has Republican and Democratic support. That is a bill I introduced called the HUMANE Act.

I have learned a lot when it comes to legislating on immigration issues. A lot of folks are more interested in talking about it than they are interested in finding a solution. But that wasn't the case when I picked up the phone and called my friend HENRY CUELLAR, a Democrat from Laredo, TX. Obviously, I am a Republican. HENRY is a Democrat in the House. But he understands this situation better than most, and he has been my consistent ally in working on a number of ways to bring commonsense reform to these issues.

We don't always agree on everything, but we do agree on some things, and where we do agree, we work together to try to provide effective solutions. As I mentioned, we introduced the HUMANE Act last month, which will make targeted, long-overdue reforms to our immigration system. Importantly, it includes provisions that both Republicans and Democrats should be able to agree on. First, it closes a major loophole that is often exploited by families and the human smugglers who move them across the border illegally. This is the Flores settlement agreement. This is a lawsuit and a settlement.

Flawed court rulings have looked at the Flores settlement and have turned this once well-intentioned agreement into a major pull factor for migrants hoping to game the system. They know we can't detain children and family units for more than 20 days, and they are using it against us to game the system, to win, to successfully place people into the United States because we simply don't have the authorities to detain them until they can present their claims to an immigration judge.

Rather than single adults arriving at the border alone, we know that the smugglers are sending children, sometimes unaccompanied, sometimes posing as a family unit when they are not even biologically related—so much that the Department of Homeland Security has now been giving DNA testing to determine whether an adult is falsely claiming a child to be their biological offspring so that they can make their way into the country, exploiting the gaps and loopholes that I have talked about.

Children are literally being kidnapped to serve as free tickets into the United States. Tragically, they are often abused, physically or sexually, along the way, and many arrive at our border in critical health.

I have shared the concern expressed by Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle when we see children die in some of our facilities along the border, but that is not because they got sick there in the first place. They got ill on the way, coming from Central America, across Mexico, into the United States, suffering from exposure, being exposed to all sorts of infectious diseases. By the time they get into U.S. custody, some of them simply don't survive. That is a terrible human tragedy. But the problem is not trying to create more medical facilities at the border; it should be to try to stop people from making this dangerous trek in the first place.

The HUMANE Act would stop that practice by clarifying that the Flores agreement applies only to unaccompanied children, which was the original agreement, not family units as it was subsequently interpreted by another court. It would provide more time for processing and immigration proceedings to take place before families could be released from custody.

Under the current practice, because the numbers are overwhelming the capacity of the immigration courts to hear these cases—and there is simply not enough time to get to these cases when you have to release them in 20 days—they are given a notice to appear for a future court date. Guess what. The vast majority of them simply don't show up for that court hearing, and they remain in the United States perhaps for the rest of their lives unless, perhaps, they get picked up for an unrelated crime.

Our legislation would require that all accompanied children be processed exactly the same, regardless of their country of origin.

Under current law, children from Mexico or Canada can be promptly returned home. But the process for other countries moves much more slowly and represents another vulnerability in our legal authorities. I believe we should make every effort to safely return all children to their home countries as soon as possible, regardless of what country they are from.

This bill includes other provisions to protect children who have been brought to our border, such as biometric screening to ensure that they are literally the biological offspring of the people who claim to be their parents rather than a human trafficker.

It would also place prohibitions on certain individuals who would serve as guardians. For example, no child should be released into the custody of a sex offender or human trafficker. We don't have that confidence now.

The HUMANE Act would enable families to stay together. There has been a lot of discussion about separation of children from their families. We want them to stay together. I think we all agree that should be the standard, but we also need to streamline the processing of those in custody.

Consistent with the recommendations by the bipartisan Department of Homeland Security Advisory Committee, the bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to establish at least four regional processing centers along the southern border to house and process these families. They would literally serve as a one-stop shop, with Department of Homeland Security personnel, folks from Custom and Border Protection, ICE—Immigration and Customs Enforcement—the immigration service, and FEMA all working together to assist migrants and working to process their claims on a timely and respectful basis. Asylum officers would also be required to be onsite to adjudicate claims as soon as they could and expedite the entire process, which we hope would begin to ease the burden of our current debilitating immigration court backlog.

I believe that if we actually did this, people with legitimate claims would find their claims recognized earlier, and people with illegitimate claims would be returned to their country of origin, which is the way our laws should be enforced.

It is important to recognize that we should not only enforce our immigration laws; as long as they are on the books, we ought to use the time-honored principle of deterrence. In other words, if people realize they are paying good money to try to make their way into the United States in the hands of a human smuggler but because of the way we have corrected and reformed our laws, it is no longer possible to exploit the vulnerabilities of the system, fewer and fewer of them will actually start that trek—that dangerous trek from their home in Central America.

So deterrence is something we need to use on our side, and right now there is no deterrence because the smugglers know this is a money-making machine for them. They care nothing about the people involved. They are commodity agnostic. They will just as soon traffic someone for sex as they will move a migrant from Central America for economic reasons or move drugs from across the border into the United States. We need to deter all sorts of criminal activity like that.

In addition to these changes, the legislation also includes other provisions that I think are just commonsense improvements, like additional Customs and Border Protection personnel and training for CBP and ICE employees who work with children.

There is one last point on what is happening at the border and its impact on the economy and trade. In Laredo, TX alone—I think it just surpassed Los Angeles as the largest port of entry into the United States—there are between 14,000 and 16,000 trucks a day that traverse the U.S.-Mexico border between Nuevo Laredo and Laredo. A lot of that is a part of the manufacturing process, which happens on both sides of the border. But when these trucks can't make their way across the border on a timely basis, then that means the parts or the manufacturing processes fall apart—and the border economies.

I would argue the larger economy in the United States is threatened when just-in-time inventory control no longer works. If you are living in Detroit, MI, and you are expecting that the delivery of a part coming from Mexico will make its way to Michigan

in time to build a car, you can't do it. Eventually, this is going to damage our economy and kill jobs.

So I would like to reiterate, in conclusion, that the HUMANE Act is bipartisan; it is bicameral; and it would provide real relief for folks in Texas and other border states who are struggling to manage the crisis. Most importantly, it would be a much more humane way to treat these children and families who are flooding across our southern border.

I know most of our congressional Democratic friends have adopted the posture of reflexively standing against the President on anything and everything he asks for rather than standing for policies that would actually become the law and make the situation better.

I think this is a much better solution than tariffs on Mexican goods brought into the United States.

The President's team is negotiating the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, the USMCA, and I am hopeful we can get that passed here in the Congress once it is sent over from the administration. But I worry that not only are these tariffs that are potentially being placed on goods brought in the United States going to hurt our booming economy and jobs here, they also are going to jeopardize the passage of the USMCA—the successor to NAFTA, which I think we should all acknowledge is a big, positive development for the administration. Why would we jeopardize the passage of the USMCA? Why would we hurt our economy while trying to punish Mexico for not doing more—which they should do to stop the illegal passage of people across their country when there is a reasonable and responsible alternative.

I urge all of my colleagues to take a serious look at the HUMANE Act so we can finally do our part, which only we in Congress can do to stem the flow of Central American migrants who are flooding our borders and to prevent criminals and human smugglers from infiltrating our country as they are doing now.

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

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

DETER ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleagues for supporting the Defending Elections against Trolls from Enemy Regimes Act, aka the DETER Act, a bipartisan piece of legislation I introduced with the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, Senator BLUMENTHAL, and Senator GRASSLEY.

This legislation would prevent foreign regimes from exploiting U.S. immigration laws to undermine U.S. elections. Specifically, it would make ''improper interference in U.S. elections'' a violation of immigration law.

Given the ongoing threat to the United States in terms of the integrity of our electoral process from Russian interference, we need to ensure that we are denying—and, if necessary, revoking—any visas to foreign nationals who seek to improperly interfere in our elections.

One of the most important takeaways from the Mueller report is that Russia successfully attacked America in 2016 by doing everything it could to undermine our election process.

Page 1 of the Mueller report says: ''The Russian government interfered in the 2016 presidential election in sweeping and systematic fashion.''

The report detailed numerous examples of Russian interference, including an ''intelligence-gathering mission'' that employees of the Internet Research Agency—also known as the IRA—took in June of 2014. The IRA was the Russian troll farm that waged information warfare against the 2016 election with stolen identities, fake social media accounts, fake campaign events, and even attacking the voter list for the State of Illinois.

The report and the earlier indictment of several IRA employees noted that two of the Russians arrived in the United States for a 3-week trip ''for the purpose of collecting intelligence to inform [IRA's] operations.''

The DETER Act would respond to threats like this, barring foreign actors from traveling to our country to interfere in our elections. I thank my colleagues for supporting this important legislation which was approved on Monday night. I hope the U.S. House of Representatives will quickly pass it and send it to the President's desk for his signature.

This should be the first of many steps Congress takes to deter and punish future election interference by the Russians or by any foreign power.

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

Mr. President, as a Presidential candidate, Donald Trump campaigned on a promise to the American people that he would ''get tough'' on immigrants and secure our border. We heard it loud and clear, didn't we. The wall was to be built by the Mexicans, accusing Mexicans coming into this country of being murderers and rapists. We heard it over and over and over again.

Now, more than 2 years into the Trump administration, it is clear that the President has failed in his efforts on immigration—especially when it comes to families and children. It is obvious our southern border today is much less secure than it was when Donald Trump took office.

Take a look at these numbers. They tell the story, a dramatic story. In fiscal year 2017, which was the end of the Obama administration and the beginning of the Trump administration, in 12 months, 303,000 people were apprehended at our border, including 75,000 families and 41,000 unaccompanied children. Now, 2 years later, the numbers are dramatically higher under President Trump's watch. Only 6 months into this fiscal year 2019, 361,000 people have already been apprehended at the border. It was 303,000 over a 12-month period 2 years ago, when the President took office; now, 361,000 in 6 months, including 189,000 families and 36,000 unaccompanied children. That is more total apprehensions in the first half of this year, in the first 6 months, than all 12 months of 2017.

The Department of Homeland Security has been engulfed in Trumpian chaos. In less than 2½ years of the Trump administration, there have already been four heads of the Department of Homeland Security—four—in 2½ years: Secretary John Kelly, Acting Secretary Elaine Duke, Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, and now Acting Secretary Kevin McAleenan. Within the Department of Homeland Security, there have already been, under this administration, in a little over 2 years, four Acting Directors of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and three nominees to head this agency.

Under President Trump, ICE has never had a Director confirmed by this Republican-controlled Senate, which spends all of its time approving nominees. The Trump administration has never had a Director of ICE confirmed because the proposed nominees' names keep changing. In fact, every major position at the Department of Homeland Security is now held by a temporary appointee not confirmed by the Senate—not confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate.

A major front in President Trump's war on immigrants has been his attack on Dreamers. Dreamers are young immigrants who came to the United States as infants, toddlers, and children. They have gone to school with our kids. They have given back to their communities as teachers, nurses, engineers, and even soldiers. They are American in every way except for their official immigration status.

In 2010, I joined with the late Republican Senator Dick Lugar of Indiana, on a bipartisan basis, calling on President Obama to use his legal authority to try to protect these Dreamers from deportation. President Obama responded by creating the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known as DACA.

DACA provided a temporary 2-year legal status to Dreamers if they stepped forward, paid a filing fee, went through a criminal background check, registered with the government, and had nothing in their background that would disqualify them from staying in the United States.

More than 800,000 of these young people came forward. They received DACA protection. DACA has really given them their first chance, on a 2-year renewable basis, to not be afraid of deportation and to be able to legally

work and go to school in the United States. They used that opportunity well. They became soldiers of the United States, engineers, teachers, small business owners, and medical professionals, but on September 5, 2017, President Donald Trump repealed this program. Hundreds of thousands of Dreamers faced losing their work permits and being deported to countries they barely knew.

President Trump also terminated the temporary protected status program—known as TPS—for more than 300,000 immigrants. TPS allows nationals of another country who were in the United States to stay here legally if it is too dangerous to return to their country. The termination of this program by President Trump jeopardizes the safety of these immigrants, and many of them with American children, who number in the thousands.

When he announced the repeal of DACA, President Trump called on Congress to ''legalize DACA,'' but then he turned around and rejected numerous bipartisan proposals to protect the Dreamers.

Last year, I worked with Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, the Republican chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to craft a bipartisan agreement that included the Dream Act and path to citizenship for TPS holders. However, President Trump profanely rejected my legislation in a tense meeting in the Oval Office.

Instead, the President tried to put the entire hard-line immigration agenda on the backs of the Dreamers. He said he would only support legalization for these young people if Congress passed his plan—his complete plan—which would, among other things, slash legal immigration by more than 40 percent.

There is a lot of debate in this country about immigration, for sure, but we usually agree on a couple basics: First, we are a nation of immigrants. Second, many immigrants come to this country and work extremely hard for their families, for their future, creating businesses and opportunities at great personal sacrifice. The notion by some that we would cut back on legal immigration to this country at a time when we desperately need increases in our workforce is so shortsighted.

This plan to slash legal immigration by more than 40 percent by President Trump was rejected by the bipartisan Senate. It would have been the largest cut in legal immigration in almost a century. The President would have taken our Nation back to one of the darkest chapters, when we were closing immigration to certain groups across the board, discriminating against them in terms that are largely unacceptable to America today. Thank goodness, the Senate rejected this plan by a bipartisan supermajority.

Yesterday was quite a day here on Capitol Hill. The legislative achievement of the U.S. Senate yesterday: a unanimous consent request to strike a coin to commemorate women's suffrage. I was happy to support that, but that is what we did yesterday.

What happened across the Rotunda in the House of Representatives? Yesterday the House of Representatives responded to President Trump's cruel decision on DACA and TPS. The House passed the American Dream and Promise Act on a bipartisan vote of 237 to 187.

I went over to stand on the floor of the House, where I served for a number of years, just to hear the debate and to thank my colleagues for their leadership. I want to call out especially the statements that were made and the support given by Speaker NANCY PELOSI, Majority Leader STENY HOYER, Judiciary Committee Chairman JERRY NADLER, Immigration Subcommittee Chair ZOE LOFGREN, and the lead sponsors of the bill Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE, and my friend and fellow Illinoisan Congressman CHUY GARCÍA.

This vote was especially important to me because this legislation that they passed yesterday in the House of Representatives includes the Dream Act. It was 19 years ago that I introduced the first DREAM Act, bipartisan legislation that would give Dreamers a chance to earn their way to legal status and citizenship.

Now the eyes of hundreds of thousands of Dreamers have moved across the Capitol and are focused on the Senate. They are counting on us to solve the DACA crisis that President Trump has created. Will Majority Leader Senator MCCONNELL of Kentucky give them a chance? I certainly hope so. The Senate should send the American Dream and Promise Act to the President's desk for his signature.

The Senate also has a responsibility to address the humanitarian crisis at our southern border, a crisis which this administration has made much, much worse.

When this President threatens to shut down the border, which he has on many occasions, it is like a neon sign to the smugglers to use this threat to encourage more desperate families to flee toward our border.

When the President says he is going to block all assistance to the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and shut down any avenues for legal migration, he just guarantees that more refugees in desperation will head to our borders.

Earlier this year, the President forced the longest government shutdown in the history of the United States, 35 days—35 days, when men and women who serve in our government in important jobs like air traffic control at our airports were denied their pay. Why would the President do this to these men and women and to others, thousands of others, in our Federal workforce? It was his desperate pursuit of his beloved border wall so he could fulfill a campaign promise that he told us over and over and over again would be paid for by Mexico.

The Trump government shutdown paralyzed our immigration courts. For 35 days, they saw their backlogs increase. The backlog has already grown by close to 300,000 cases pending before those courts in the last two years. These courts play a critical role in processing cases of immigrants seeking asylum at our border.

Within the last week, the President has said he will impose tariffs on all goods coming into the United States from Mexico, which will raise prices on American consumers, kill jobs in America, and once again put the burden—the political burden—on farmers in the United States, including in Illinois.

The administration and its Republican allies in Congress argue that critical humanitarian protections for families and children are the real problem here. They claim with a straight face that we can better protect these migrants by making it easier to detain them indefinitely and deport them without any due process. But if people were migrating to the United States because of the so-called legal loopholes, which the administration keeps talking about, they would be coming from all over the region. They are not. The vast majority of families and children are not coming from Mexico but from the three countries in the Northern Triangle, as I mentioned earlier.

In April, I visited the port of entry in El Paso, TX, and a nearby Border Patrol station. What I saw in those overcrowded facilities was heartbreaking. There are detention cells where these migrants are being held. Over the door of one of these cells, which has a window that you can look into, it says: ''Capacity: 35.'' I counted close to 150 men standing shoulder to shoulder in that detention cell. They are served their meals, and they eat them standing up. There is room for maybe 20 or 30 to sit on benches. The rest stand all day and take turns at night lying on the floor. There is not room for them. I have since been told that this cell has increased its numbers from 150 to 200.

Next door to that cell was a sign outside of the door that read ''Capacity: 16.'' Inside that cell, I counted about 75 women, including nursing mothers with their babies. I have been told that this number has since dramatically increased as well.

How long will they be in these cells? I am told anywhere from 3 days to 6 weeks. As I said, one of the women cells had a capacity of 16. I looked in there, and it was painful to catch the eyes of those who are being held there, and they mouthed the word ''Help.''

It has reached a point where over 20 Senators have joined me in writing to the International Red Cross, which inspects prison facilities around the world. We asked them to inspect our detention facilities on America's border. It was a sad day to make the request, but it had to be made.

I also asked the DHS Acting Inspector General to investigate these Border Patrol facilities. Last week, the Inspector General's Office at DHS released a report detailing the inhumane and dangerous overflow of migrants at the El Paso port of entry. The Inspector General's Office found that overcrowding was ''an immediate risk to the health and safety of detainees and DHS employees.''

While we fail to even debate this issue here in Washington, we cannot overlook the inhumane conduct that is occurring at the border. We are better than that.

This notion of zero tolerance, where we separated 2,880 infants and toddlers from their parents, some of whom it took months to bring back together—to me, that does not speak well of who we are as a nation.

Look at this picture that was taken by the IG at one of the cells. Their faces are blanked out, but it gives an idea of the mass of humanity I counted—the IG found 76 women were in a cell for 12 people.

The Inspector General's report said that the Department of Homeland Security has been aware of the situation in El Paso for months but has not identified a process to alleviate overcrowding. Meanwhile, weeks ago, months ago, Congress passed an emergency appropriation of hundreds of millions of dollars for humanitarian care of these people at the border. It isn't as if we haven't given the administration resources to deal with at least the immediate crisis on their hands. The IG report said that DHS has been aware of this situation for months, but they haven't taken measures to deal with it. This report called on them to take immediate steps.

The Department of Homeland Security gave a target completion date of November 30, 2020—a year and a half from now—for the completion of a centralized processing center in El Paso. The Inspector General found this response completely inadequate, and so do I.

Democrats are serious about addressing this situation. There are some bottom-line standards that I think we all should look to.

First, we need border security, there is no doubt in my mind. In an age of terrorism, with the worst drug epidemic in the history of the United States, I want to know who is crossing our border and what they are bringing. Every American should want to know.

Secondly, there is no excuse for allowing a dangerous person to come into this country. If we know they are dangerous, they are not welcome. And if they are here in any questionable status and a danger to America, they have to go.

Third—and it pains me to say this as the son of an immigrant woman, but it is a fact—we cannot absorb all of the people in the world who want to come to the United States. It is not economically or even physically possible for that to happen. We have to have standards when it comes to immigration.

Once we have established those three standards, shouldn't we come together, Democrats and Republicans, and rewrite our immigration laws, this broken system that has led to this point? It will not be solved by threats of walls, by threats of closing the borders, by threats of cutting off foreign aid. That makes the situation even worse, and, sadly, President Trump has proven that point in the 2-plus years he has been in office.

I am serious about addressing this, deadly serious about what it means to Dreamers and people here in temporary protected status. In February, after the President finally ended his government shutdown, I helped write an omnibus appropriations bill. We put $564 million in the bill for inspection equipment so we could scan and x ray every car and truck coming into the United States and grab the narcotics at the border before they make it to my hometown and yours. I hope we all agree on that. There was $414 million in that bill for humanitarian assistance. I can't tell you how that is being spent.

We could do more to make sure that even in the midst of political controversy, our border is secure and our treatment of these desperate people is humane and that we will be able to answer to history for how we are conducting ourselves.

Democrats have introduced the Central America Reform and Enhancement Act as a comprehensive response to this problem.

We need to address the root causes in the Northern Triangle countries that are driving these migrants here.

We need to crack down on the cartels and traffickers who are exploiting these migrants.

We need to provide for in-country processing, which the Obama administration provided for and the Trump administration eliminated. What it meant was that residents in those three countries did not have to make a dangerous and expensive trip across Mexico to our border to find out if they were eligible for asylum; they could do it in their home country. The Obama administration had that program. The Trump administration eliminated it, and people started making that trip across Mexico to test whether they were legally eligible to stay in this country.

In that Democratic bill, we eliminate immigration court backlogs so that asylum claims could be processed more quickly.

We stand ready to work on smart, effective, and humane border security policies. But the President needs to be part of the solution. If this is about his reelection, appealing to his base, and being tougher and tougher, I could tell him: It is not working, Mr. President. It is not working for the good of this country. Perhaps your political base finds it appealing, but I think the American people are now looking for solutions. They want us to work on a bipartisan basis. We have a chance and an opportunity.

The House of Representatives' action yesterday, I hope, is the beginning of a meaningful dialogue to deal with this crisis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Senator from South Dakota.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, our economy has made tremendous strides over the past 2 years. Americans on the whole have access to more jobs, higher wages, and more opportunities. Unfortunately, our Nation's agricultural economy is trailing behind the broader economy.

A combination of low commodity prices, protracted trade disputes, and natural disasters and weather-related issues have left many farmers and ranchers struggling. Nationwide, net farm income is about half of what it was in 2013—half.

In my home State of South Dakota, farmers and ranchers are currently facing the fallout from severe winter storms, heavy rainfall, bomb cyclones, and spring flooding. Less than half of this year's acreage intended for corn has been planted. Compare that to this time last year, when 96 percent of our State's corn was in the ground and growing. Today, just 14 percent of South Dakota's soybeans have been planted, compared to 83 percent this time last year. To make matters worse, for many farmers, this year's planting season is already over, as their land is completely flooded and will not dry out in time for anything to be planted. Other States that produce the bulk of our country's corn and soybeans are facing similar planting challenges.

There have been some recent wins for farmers and ranchers. The administration's announcement that it is lifting the ban on the year-round sale of E15—15 percent ethanol-blended fuel—is great news for corn producers in South Dakota and around the Nation. It is a big win for consumers, too, who will have access to this cleaner, lower cost fuel during the summer driving season for the first time. I have spent nearly my entire time in the Senate advocating for higher blends of ethanol, and I am pleased the Trump administration has followed through on its commitment to address this issue.

Another recent win was Japan's announcement that it was lifting age limits on U.S. beef imports, giving America's ranchers full access to the Japanese market. CNBC reports that the U.S. Meat Export Federation predicts that Japan's move could increase U.S. beef sales to Japan by $150 million to $200 million per year.

While these victories are important, there is a lot more work to be done to get our Nation's farmers and ranchers back on their feet. I hear regularly from South Dakota ag producers about the challenges they are facing, and I constantly share their concerns with

the administration, whether I am meeting with the President or other officials.

One of the biggest things we can do for our Nation's farmers and ranchers is secure trade deals that will open new markets for American agricultural products.

I support the President's efforts to secure more favorable treatment for American products and his determination to ensure that China honors the trade commitments it has made, but I believe we need to wrap up negotiations on these various agreements we are discussing as quickly as possible. Along with increased market access, farmers and ranchers need certainty about what international markets are going to look like.

I am committed to doing everything I can to advance trade agreements with Japan and with the European Union. I am also doing everything I can to move the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement through Congress in the near future. This agreement would benefit American agriculture, create jobs, and grow our economy, and we should pass it as soon as possible. We should be wary of any action that might jeopardize this trade agreement and the markets it will open for our producers.

Another issue of concern to farmers and ranchers is the implementation of the 2018 farm bill. Getting a pro-agriculture, pro-farmer bill to the President was one of my top priorities last year, and I am proud of the bill we delivered.

I took ideas and suggestions from South Dakota farmers and ranchers and developed more than 40 proposals aimed at making life better for American agricultural producers. Nearly 20 of my proposals were included in the final bill, including my new short-term, soil-building conservation program for farmers who don't want to tie up ground for 10 years or more in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Now that the farm bill is law, we have to make sure that it is implemented in a timely manner and as Congress intended. I have spent years pushing for an increase in the Conservation Reserve Program's acreage cap, and we finally got a substantial increase in last year's bill.

The Department of Agriculture needs to expedite both general and continual CRP signups to allow farmers to take full advantage of that cap increase. I have been strongly urging the Department to make sure that farmers can sign up in a timely manner. Taking millions of acres of environmentally sensitive land out of crop production in the next year could have a big impact on the farm economy by driving up commodity prices and increasing farmers' profits, but in order for this to happen, we need to make sure that farmers can get their least productive land enrolled in the CRP program and out of crop production by next year.

South Dakota farmers and ranchers are the lifeblood of our State, and I am committed to doing everything I can to address their needs here in Washington. In addition to working on trade issues and farm bill implementation, I am working with the Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency to ensure that our farmers are treated fairly under crop insurance prevent plant and cover crop rules.

I have been working with the Agriculture Department to make certain the recently announced second round of Market Facilitation Program payments do not affect this year's planting decisions. I have also requested that this second round of MFP payments provide equitable assistance to all producers, especially those with failed and damaged crops or who were prevented from planting this year's crops due to adverse weather.

And, as I said, I will continue to push for trade agreements with China and other countries so that our Nation's farmers receive a check from the sale of their products overseas instead of from the Department of Agriculture.

I also recently led a letter to the President in support of Governor Noem's request for a major disaster declaration in South Dakota, and 2 weeks ago I voted in favor of the Additional Supplemental Appropriations Act, which would provide additional disaster funding for States and Territories harmed by last year's hurricanes and wildfires and this year's flooding. The bill also includes $3 billion to provide assistance for farmers' crop losses from the 2018 and 2019 natural disasters.

Our Nation's farmers and ranchers have a tough, backbreaking job. Instead of air-conditioned and heated offices, they labor in the hot Sun, the cold rain, and the snow. They start their days before the Sun rises and often end them long after the Sun falls. Most Americans never think about the blood, sweat, and tears that have gone into that loaf of bread or that gallon of milk that they grab off the grocery store shelf, but we are all the beneficiaries of the hard work and the dedication of our Nation's farmers and ranchers. It is an honor to represent so many of these hard-working people here in the Senate.

To South Dakota's farmers and ranchers, I want to say I hear you. I know that things have been incredibly tough for you all over the past few years. I know that you are fighting through a lot of challenges, and I am committed to making sure that Washington addresses your priorities, and I will do everything that I can to make sure that you have access to the support and the resources you need to continue feeding our Nation and the world.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this weekend another community was torn apart by gun violence. Once again, politicians do what so many politicians in this body do. They offer thoughts and prayers to the people of Virginia Beach, and then they move on. It is tragic, and it is obscene how routine this has become in our country and how routine that reaction from far too many politicians—from the White House on down—has become.

This month we mark Gun Violence Awareness Month, but in our country every month, every week, and every day we endure senseless gun violence. Congress has ignored for too long the millions of Americans who want reasonable gun safety measures instead of doing the bidding of the gun lobby.

We cannot say we are doing what it takes to keep our country safe until we are finally willing to pass commonsense laws to protect all Americans from gun violence. Many of us have tried.

I supported the original Federal assault weapons ban in 1994. I joined with many of my colleagues to vote to renew it after Sandy Hook. Weapons of war and assault weapons do not belong on our streets.

We have tried to pass legislation to close loopholes in our background check system so that people who buy guns on the internet or at gun shows have to go through the same background checks as law-abiding gun owners who buy their guns at stores in Ohio.

After the tragedy at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, we tried to pass legislation to prevent people on the terrorist watch list from buying guns. If you are too dangerous to get on an airplane—if the government says you can't ride in the plane because you are on the terrorist watch list—it should be too dangerous for you to buy a deadly weapon. But this body is so, so in the pocket of the NRA that they will not even pass legislation like that. The gun lobby, again, stood in the way. We know what happened each and every time. They stood in the way, despite the fact that the laws we are talking about would not undermine the rights of law-abiding gun owners.

I respect the rights of hunters, of collectors, and of responsible law-abiding gun owners. No one is trying to take away their guns. When our students aren't safe in our schools, it is clear that something has to be done. When workers aren't safe on the job, it is clear that we have to do something. When too many Americans don't feel safe going about their daily lives in their communities, we can't sit here and do nothing.

We will not give up on making our country safer. We will keep working until we get weapons of war out of our schools, out of our workplaces, out of our neighborhoods, and out of our

places of worship. Creating change in our country isn't easy. It requires going up against powerful special interests. Few are as powerful as the NRA. Change never starts in Washington. We make progress because of grassroots movements of Americans all across our country demanding action. From Marches for Our Lives to the Women's March, to the activism around the Affordable Care Act, Americans proved again and again and again the power of activism. Mothers and fathers, students and teachers all across this country who stood up and marched for gun safety are the people we sent here to serve, not the special interest gun lobby.

I hope my colleagues will not so easily forget what happened in Virginia Beach and at the Poway synagogue and in Pittsburgh and in Parkland and in Orlando and at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis and in Las Vegas and in Sandy Hook and in our neighborhoods around this country every month, every week, and every day.

NOMINATION OF SUSAN COMBS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to speak in strong support of the nomination of Ms. Susan Combs, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget at the Department of the Interior.

This is one of five Assistant Secretary positions at Interior, and, as the title suggests, it is critical to the Department's ability to function. The individual who holds this position is responsible for overseeing everything from the annual budget request to financial management, procurement, and policy and program analysis.

The President's nominee, Susan Combs, is very well qualified. She has previously served as a State representative, as agriculture commissioner, and as comptroller in her home State of Texas. Over the years, Ms. Combs has worked extensively with the Department of the Interior, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has helped her gain substantive expertise about a range of issues that she will face in her new role.

My only wish is that we could have confirmed Ms. Combs long ago. Instead, due to holds and delays here on the Senate floor, she ultimately had to be reported from the Energy and Natural Resources committee on three separate occasions—in 2017, in 2018, and again this year. She is not controversial. Each time, we reported her with bipartisan support. But she has now been forced to wait for a total of nearly 700 days for confirmation, meaning she will have held up for longer than she will be able to serve, at least in the current term.

I appreciate Ms. Combs' willingness to serve our country. I appreciate her patience over the course of nearly 2 full years, which is testament to just how broken the nominations process had become, and her commitment to see this through. I also thank Leader MCCONNELL for scheduling this vote and encourage every Member of this Chamber to vote in favor of confirmation.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Combs nomination?

Mr. BROWN. 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 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 New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or to change their vote?

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 141 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Barrasso	Gardner	Paul
Blackburn	Graham	Perdue
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Braun	Hoeven	Roberts
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Cantwell	Inhofe	Rounds
Capito	Isakson	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Sasse
Collins	Jones	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	King	Shelby
Cramer	Lankford	Sinema
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Manchin	Thune
Daines	McConnell	Tillis
Enzi	McSally	Toomey
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	Young

NAYS—36

Baldwin	Harris	Rosen
Bennet	Hassan	Schatz
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Schumer
Brown	Hirono	Shaheen
Cardin	Kaine	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Udall
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murray	Warner
Durbin	Peters	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Markey	Warren
Booker	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.

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the remaining votes in this series be 10 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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 Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Joni Ernst, Steve Daines, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Richard Burr, John Barrasso, Lindsey Graham, Rick Scott.

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 Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years, 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 New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), 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 60, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 142 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Barrasso	Ernst	Paul
Blackburn	Fischer	Perdue
Blunt	Gardner	Portman
Boozman	Graham	Risch
Braun	Grassley	Roberts
Brown	Hawley	Romney
Burr	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Carper	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Coons	Jones	Shelby
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sinema
Cotton	King	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Tester
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Manchin	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Durbin	McSally	Wicker
Enzi	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—33

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Menendez	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Udall
Duckworth	Murphy	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Murray	Warner
Harris	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Markey	Warren
Booker	Moran	
Gillibrand	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 60, the nays are 33.

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 Rossie David Alston, Jr., of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

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 Rossie David Alston, Jr., of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, 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 New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), 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 74, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 143 Ex.]

YEAS—74

Barrasso	Gardner	Reed
Bennet	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Roberts
Blunt	Hassan	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rosen
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cardin	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Carper	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Casey	Jones	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sinema
Coons	King	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Leahy	Tester
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Manchin	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	McSally	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Enzi	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Feinstein	Perdue	Young
Fischer	Portman	

NAYS—19

Baldwin	Heinrich	Schatz
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Smith
Cantwell	Menendez	Udall
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Wyden
Duckworth	Murray	
Harris	Peters	

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Markey	Warren
Booker	Moran	
Gillibrand	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY). On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 19.

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 legislature 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 Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

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 Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years, 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), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea'', the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted ''yea'', and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 144 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Baldwin	Feinstein	Murphy
Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Gardner	Perdue
Blunt	Graham	Portman
Boozman	Grassley	Reed
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Burr	Heinrich	Roberts
Capito	Hoeven	Romney
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Carper	Isakson	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Jones	Scott (SC)
Coons	Kaine	Shelby
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sinema
Cotton	King	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Tester
Crapo	Leahy	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tillis
Daines	Manchin	Warner
Durbin	McConnell	Whitehouse
Enzi	McSally	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—23

Bennet	Hassan	Schumer
Blumenthal	Hirono	Shaheen
Brown	Menendez	Smith
Cantwell	Merkley	Stabenow
Casey	Murray	Udall
Cortez Masto	Peters	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Rosen	Wyden
Harris	Schatz	

NOT VOTING—11

Alexander	Klobuchar	Sanders
Booker	Markey	Toomey
Gillibrand	Moran	Warren
Inhofe	Rubio	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 23.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, it be in order to proceed to file cloture on executive nominations during today's session of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 41.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Joni Ernst, Steve Daines, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Thom Tillis, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Richard Burr, John Barrasso, Lindsey Graham, Johnny Isakson.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 42.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Joni Ernst, Steve Daines, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Thom Tillis, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Richard Burr, John Barrasso, Lindsey Graham, Johnny Isakson.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 43.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

Mitch McConnell, Tom Cotton, Steve Daines, David Perdue, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Pat Roberts, Jerry Moran, Johnny Isakson, John Boozman, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Thom Tillis, Lindsey Graham, John Thune, Mike Crapo.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 44.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Mitch McConnell, Bill Cassidy, David Perdue, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Braun, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Johnny Isakson, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Kevin Cramer, James E. Risch.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 46.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Mitch McConnell, Bill Cassidy, David Perdue, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Johnny Isakson, Mike Braun, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Kevin Cramer, James E. Risch, Pat Roberts.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 49.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Mitch McConnell, John Barrasso, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, Richard Burr, John Cornyn, Johnny Isakson, Ben Sasse, Thom Tillis, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Michael B. Enzi, John Kennedy, Shelley Moore Capito, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Mike Crapo, Lindsey Graham.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 193.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of David Stilwell, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Stilwell, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Mitch McConnell, Thom Tillis, Mike Crapo, John Hoeven, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, Shelley Moore Capito, John Boozman, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, James E. Risch, Richard Burr, John Barrasso, Roy Blunt, David Perdue, John Cornyn, Tom Cotton.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 217.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Edward F. Crawford, of Ohio, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ireland.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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 Edward F. Crawford, of Ohio, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ireland.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Marco Rubio, James E. Risch, Bill Cassidy, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Johnny Isakson, John Boozman, Kevin Cramer, Mike Braun, Pat Roberts.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I want to talk a little bit about what we will be talking about around the country and around the world tomorrow. Tomorrow is the 75th anniversary of D-Day. There aren't a lot of days known in history around the world by just one letter, but June 6, 1944, is known that way. It is the greatest amphibious battlefield landing ever and probably the single greatest military operation in history. It was done to liberate people in Europe from one of the most savage regimes that ever existed.

At 15 minutes past midnight, 18,000 paratroopers began to step out of their planes high above Normandy, France, going in behind what would be the landing the next day. Below them, there were about 200,000 people streaming toward the Continent on almost 7,000 ships, with about 1 million others to follow after that landing was made on D-Day.

A journalist who wrote about the battle noted that by 4:30 that morning, the Stars and Stripes flew for the first time over a town liberated by Americans in France in World War II.

So a lot happened from midnight to 4:30, but a lot more was going to happen that day. Americans led the operation, but there were also troops from Britain, from Poland, from Norway, from Canada, and even French troops returning to help free their own country were there. They were told that when you land in Normandy, you will have only one friend: God. I am sure there was lots of praying going on that day.

It became known in literature and on film as ''The Longest Day,'' and it gave the Allies the threshold they needed to free the Continent from the crush of the Third Reich. There was clearly chaos—that many people doing that many things in that many different ways. There were missteps, and there was bad luck, but in the end, there was an unimaginable amount of courage and sacrifice and just simple providence in what happened that day.

When one landing group was landed in the wrong place, a place they weren't supposed to land, the commanding general, Theodore Roosevelt, who was the son of the former President Theodore Roosevelt, told one of his officers just to keep on bringing the men ashore. He said: ''We are going to start the war from right here.'' It is not where they intended to be, but it is where they were, and in their view and General Roosevelt's view that day, where we are is where we are going to start; there is no going back now. They didn't go back.

One of the men who joined the fight that day—and there were millions who would eventually—with hundreds of thousands that day was Ralph Goldsticker from the Marine Corps Reserve.

He had signed up for the Army Aviation Cadet Corps right after Pearl Harbor. He said, when talking about this later, that his parents were scared silly when they found out he had signed up immediately to become a flyer in what would become World War II.

He flew 35 missions as a bombardier flying in a B–17 Flying Fortress, including two missions on D-Day. His first mission that day was to help take out the big German guns that guarded the beach where British troops were landing. He remembers the skies being so thick with airplanes that he had to fly from southern England all the way back to Scotland just to get in line to head to France.

Later that afternoon, he flew a second mission to attack German reinforcements who were headed to the beaches. Ralph was awarded the French Legion of Honor medal in recognition of his service.

You know, he was just one of thousands of Missourians from the lowest private to General Omar Bradley, who was commanding the American troops who were part of that mission, and many of them would never return.

We just had a series of votes a little earlier than we would normally have in the week because 17 or so of our colleagues are going to be part of the D-Day celebration on this 75th anniversary. I had an opportunity myself to be in Normandy a few years ago. We were in Normandy at the Normandy American Cemetery, where there were 7,000 graves out in front of us.

On what was a private trip, not a government trip, we were fortunate to have a good guide who understood the war and the cemetery. He took us through the cemetery, and then he took us over and sat us down on the stone wall with the English Channel to our backs and those 7,000 graves out in front of us. As we sat there at that spot, he flipped open his computer and on his computer he had some video of General Eisenhower and Walter Cronkite sitting exactly on that same spot on June 6, 1964, the 20th anniversary of D-Day.

General Eisenhower, of course, gave the orders in spite of weather and other things, hoping it would work out as it was supposed to. As for what happened on D-Day and what happened later, he said to Walter Cronkite something like this: You know, Walter, my son John graduated from West Point on D-Day. Many times over the last 20 years I thought about him and his wife and the family they have and the opportunities they have had, and I thought about these young men—Eisenhower said, looking at those graves—and I thought about these young men and what they didn't get to do because of what they were asked to do.

That, by the way, was the same commanding general who had that famous note in his wallet that day, stating that he would take full responsibility for what happened if it didn't go well. That was the kind of leader he was.

I mentioned that there were 18,000 paratroopers. He was told that 70 percent of those paratroopers would not survive the day. There is a statue here in the Rotunda of this building that is based on a photo of Eisenhower the day before D-Day, surrounded by those young paratroopers. They were 18, 19, and 20, and maybe even a few younger than 18 surrounding him. They had been told that he wouldn't want to talk to them, but when he got there, it was obvious that he was there to see them. That statue in the Rotunda shows Eisenhower making a gesture. Nobody knew for years what that particular hand gesture was, but it turns out that he was talking to a young man from Idaho, and he was talking about fly fishing. So that gesture of Eisenhower in this building, if you are in this building looking at that statue, is Eisenhower the day before D-Day, talking to a young man about fly fishing. Again, he had been told that 70 percent of those paratroopers would not survive the day because of what he and others were asking them to do.

The numbers weren't that bad, but they turned out to be plenty bad. The Germans had released water in an area behind Normandy in an unexpected way. So many of those paratroopers who expected to land on the ground instead went into flooded lands and drowned. Other things happened that couldn't have been planned for and weren't planned for, but they were there to do that job.

The fighting that first day, D-Day, paved the way for more men to come ashore. It began the long push from France into Germany and, for them, into history. I think there will be slightly more than a dozen D-Day survivors at that 75th anniversary. You don't have to do the math very long to know that if you were in the military on D-Day, you would be in your nineties today, and they are going to be there with our colleagues and others celebrating what they did and what they were willing to do.

One observer wrote on D-Day: There never had been a dawn like this one—700 ships, 200,000 people ready to land and establish the beginning of the end of World War II. So on D-Day, we remember again the sacrifice of those thousands of soldiers, sailors, and airmen. We honor their courage and devotion to the cause of liberty. We serve them by continuing to remain strong and preparing to fight for freedom everywhere. That means doing all we can for the men and women who defend us today. It means we carry the legacy of the generations that fought 75 years ago on D-Day and every other war where Americans fought and died.

They deserve our gratitude today and every day. We need to continue to understand the importance of our alliances and our willingness to stand for freedom. D-Day is a great day and this is a great, great week to be reminded of that.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I appreciate the remembrances of D-Day from Senator BLUNT, the distinguished senior Senator from Missouri.

It is always memorable attending D-Day events. The first one I went to—and you just spoke of the distinguished Kansan, Dwight Eisenhower—was with Robert Dole for the 40th anniversary. President Reagan asked the two of us to represent him in Italy when we first landed, while President Reagan went to Normandy. Subsequently, I went with a delegation with President Clinton and then with President George W. Bush, and, lastly, with President Obama. I found the experience overwhelming each time.

Last year—it was actually on my birthday—DICK SHELBY and I were there and laid a wreath in Normandy. Nobody can walk by there—first, seeing all the graves and realizing that they are only some of the remains—and then walking to the cliffs and looking down, and not wonder how anybody could have had the courage to face such withering fire. For some who survived, it seemed like the enemy was using a paint brush and just wiping people out. You would see them falling all around.

A well-respected doctor from our home town in Montpelier had never talked about it. On the 50th anniversary we asked him if he would join us there. He is not a wealthy man. He treated a lot of the poor Italian immigrants for nothing. My mother was a first generation Italian American, and she always talked with him. She and my father and others raised money for him to go, and after that for the first time he could talk about it.

He came back and talked about it. He was a medic and a little guy. He went off the boat with all of his gear and just sank. He would have drowned, but somebody pulled him up and brought him to the shore. He turned to say thank you, and the man who rescued him was shot dead.

He refused to leave the beach. He just treated one person after another, and his story is not unusual. So many did that. So I thank my friend from Missouri for what he said.

CUBA SANCTIONS

Mr. President, there are foreign policies that are thoughtful, that reflect lessons learned from history, and that advance our national interests. Let me talk about others.

I have been here for a lot of years. I was fortunate to come here at the time of President Ford and have known and seen every President since. I have seen some dumb policies by administrations over the years, both by Republicans and Democrats. I want to speak briefly about one of them because it is not just dumb. It is an embarrassment. It is going to hurt a lot of Americans. It is going to hurt a lot of good people in Cuba, and there is no denying that.

I refer to the decision announced by the Treasury Department yesterday to severely restrict travel by Americans to Cuba. Why? Because Cuba supports Nicolas Maduro.

The administration has reinstituted the failed policy of the Cold War restrictions on the right of every American citizen to travel to Cuba, even though the overwhelming majority of Americans, Republicans and Democrats alike, opposes such restrictions. It means cruise ships will stop sailing there. Educational and cultural exchanges will shut down. Sports teams will stay home. School trips will end. Trade missions will end. American farmers who could export products to Cuba are going to be shut out as well as other American companies.

I have to ask: What kind of government thinks it has a right to tell its citizens where they can travel and where they can spend their own money? Ironically, not the Cuban Government, despite its repressive policies. Cubans can travel to the United States if we grant them a visa.

Russia is kleptocracy with nuclear weapons pointed at us, that invades its neighbors, supports President Assad and Nicolas Maduro, interferes with our elections, and opposes the United States at every turn in the U.N. Security Council. But Americans can travel to Russia without restriction, just as Russians can travel here.

Iran has brutally repressive government, but it does not have laws and regulations to prevent its citizens from traveling to the United States or Americans from traveling there.

Nicaragua is led by a corrupt dictator, but Nicaraguans can travel to any country that will accept them, and Americans are free to travel there.

In fact, Americans can travel anywhere in the world without restriction, except to North Korea and now Cuba, whose people could not be more welcoming of Americans.

How do I know this? Because unlike the people in the White House and the Treasury Department who have never ever been to Cuba, I have been there. My wife Marcelle has been there. Our granddaughter Sophia has been there.

This administration's policy is being guided by a couple of hard-liners in the National Security Council who have never set foot in Cuba but are on a crusade to pressure the Cuban Government to change its policies. After 50 years of trying and failing to get Cuba to change its policies, they continue to believe that one way to do that is by preventing Americans who believe in democracy from traveling to Cuba and spending their own money there.

Of all the paternalistic, anachronistic, and hypocritical policies, that is beneath the world's oldest democracy. We tried it for 50 years, from the time I was in college. It failed. In fact, it backfired. As we blocked access to Cuba, the Cuban authorities solidified their control.

This will backfire, too. If past experience is any guide, it will cause them to intensify their support for Maduro.

We all want Maduro gone, but are we so blinded by arrogance, ideology and stupidity that we are destined to keep repeating our mistakes?

If this policy makes sense for Cuba, why not for other repressive governments whose policies we disagree with, like China? They have imprisoned a million of their Uyghur citizens. Their military is deeply involved in the economy. Yet millions of Americans go to China without restriction.

Egypt has destroyed what fragile democratic institutions existed there. They have locked up thousands of political opponents, as well as American citizens. Yet President Trump calls President al Sisi a great friend—a man who locks up Americans, locks up people who disagree with him.

Saudi Arabia commits war crimes in Yemen, they treat women as property, and they murdered Jamal Khashoggi and other dissidents. The Crown Prince, who we know was involved in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi, is apparently untouchable, and our President and Secretary of State seem to prefer it that way. But Americans can still travel to Saudi Arabia without reservation.

These regulations are an insult to every American. They are a disgrace to a free society. Since when is it the role of the Federal Government to say where Americans can travel and spend their own money, absent some threat to national security or their own health and safety, neither of which exists in Cuba?

It is not going to hurt the leaders in Cuba. They are not going to submit to bullying. If anything, it will harden their attitude toward the United States.

I know who it will hurt. It will hurt the people who most deserve our help—the Cuban families who own small businesses, who rent out rooms in their apartments, who own their own taxis and restaurants. Artisans and musicians. People who otherwise subsist on meager government salaries and rations and benefit enormously when Americans visit Cuba.

Marcelle and I have met with many of these people—young people especially—who have Airb&bs, who have started their own small businesses. They work extremely hard within a system stacked against them, and they need American customers. The White House just slammed the door on them.

Of course we disagree with the Cuban Government. On many things we strongly disagree. But we disagree with many governments over Venezuela and other issues. Does that give the Treasury Department the right to tell Americans they can't travel there?

What if the Treasury Department imposed such restrictions on travel by Members of Congress? What if they said ''after today, Members of Congress can no longer travel to China or Russia''. There is not a single Senator, Republican or Democrat, who would stand for that. What hypocrisy.

Freedom to travel is a right. It is fundamental. It is part of who we are as Americans. We travel. We explore. We meet people. We share our values. We build relationships with people we agree with and disagree with. Are we willing to stand by and let the right of private Americans to travel be trampled this way?

I will have more to say about this self-defeatist policy when I introduce the bipartisan Freedom for Americans to Travel to Cuba Act.

I urge all Senators to not let the same old, worn out, Cold War, isolationist, fearmongering, failed arguments about Cuba stand in the way of common sense.

I see one of my very good friends on the floor, the Senator from Ohio.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I thank my friend and colleague and one-time President pro tempore of this body, Senator LEAHY.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. President, I am here on the floor today to talk about D-Day, to talk about how we would remember the 75th anniversary tomorrow of a turning point in World War II: June 6, 1944, the invasion of Normandy.

Historian Douglas Brinkley has written that D-Day was both the single most important in the 20th century and one of the bloodiest and most tragic, too, in terms of loss of life.

On D-Day, our fleets set forth from the rocky shores of Britain to reach the fog-shrouded beaches of Normandy. On board the thousands of ships and planes were our fathers and grandfathers and great-grandfathers—some no older than 18 years old—who would bravely venture ashore in a show of determination and duty. There were

160,000 soldiers who crossed the English Channel that day. On their backs were rucksacks, some weighing over 80 pounds. But really on their backs was the fate of our allies in Europe and, really, the fate of the free world. Were our men to fail that day, Europe might well have fallen to Hitler once and for all.

Many of our best and brightest young Americans did fall. We lost more than 10,000 men that day.

The Nazis had spent 2 years fortifying the coast to prepare for this moment. It was Hitler's so-called Atlantic Wall. The beautiful coastline of northern France was covered in barbed wire, landmines, and bunkers. Hell had come to Earth to greet our men as they landed, and still they fought on gallantly.

At the end of the largest amphibious invasion in history, we stood victorious, battered but unbroken. On we marched, through France, through Belgium, and finally into Germany. The world would never be the same.

Even today among the beautiful flowers and fields of Normandy, you can feel the lingering presence of those who died that day in service of liberating Europe, and you can see it, as I have, at the stark, orderly U.S. military cemeteries, where row after row of white crosses and Stars of David stand defiant, representing lives lost in a noble cause. Though much has happened in the following 75 years, we can never lose sight of the valor and sacrifice displayed by our Armed Forces on that day.

On Memorial Day, I spoke at the National Veterans Memorial Museum in Columbus, OH, and also at a cemetery in Grove City, OH. In both ceremonies, there were World War II veterans present and up front. To see the generations of veterans and family members there to honor the fallen was to see the living embodiment of the stories we ought to remember from a war that recedes further into the past with each passing year.

Stories of valor like that displayed by Jim ''Pee Wee'' Martin, from Dayton, OH. On that day, he and the rest of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment parachuted through German lines in the dark of predawn. Jim was wounded but fought bravely, earning the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his D-Day efforts.

Stories of sacrifice like that of the Napier Brothers of Warren County in Southwest Ohio. All five served in the war. Two of the brothers of the five landed at D-Day. One died there on the beaches, never to come home to Ohio.

These are stories to be preserved for the generations to come. The memory of D-Day and, indeed, all of World War II must never be lost. That is why I was proud to join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle earlier today to show through our resolution the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the courage shown by our troops who participated in the Normandy landings that day.

Since I have been a Member of the Senate, I have come to this floor often on D-Day to recite a very special prayer given by President Roosevelt on that fateful day. It was expected that Franklin Delano Roosevelt would give a speech when the invasion took place, as he had done many times before, called the fireside chats from the White House. But on the morning of D-Day, FDR was moved to prayer instead. That famous prayer has become known as the D-Day prayer. It is my understanding that President Trump actually recited this prayer just yesterday in the United Kingdom at an event that preceded the official ceremonies tomorrow commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

The words are powerful and deserve to be remembered for generations to come. In 2013, I introduced legislation, the World War II Memorial Act, which directs the Secretary of the Interior to install a plaque to be placed on or near the World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC, with the words of the D-Day prayer. I like that because it adds more context and more interpretation to that beautiful World War II Memorial. It was the Ohio Christian Alliance president, Chris Long, who first came to me with this good idea of placing this plaque on or near the memorial, given its history and importance.

Since that legislation was signed into law in 2014, we have worked hard with the National Park Service, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial, and the two Federal commissions that are required to approve any permanent structure on the National Mall. It has been 5 years now—actually longer than America's involvement in World War II—and although we do not yet have this plaque placed, we have made progress.

The commissions have approved the location of the plaque to be just north of the World War II Memorial at the Circle of Remembrance. If you have been to the memorial, you come from the Washington Monument, and you see the Circle of Remembrance on the right. The commissions have also approved initial design concepts for the plaque, which must comply with the Commemorative Works Act.

We are moving forward with this project, by the way, without any Federal funding. We are relying on private fundraising, not taxpayer dollars.

We had hoped to have the plaque in place, of course, for the 75th anniversary tomorrow. I am disappointed we don't, but, instead, we will preview tomorrow the placement of a temporary plaque with the words of the prayer at the chosen location, the Circle of Remembrance, next to the World War II Memorial. At our event tomorrow—which will include the chairman of the Friends of the National World War II Memorial; officials from the National Park Service; Chris Long, president of the Ohio Christian Alliance; and a number of World War II veterans—we will also lead a reading of the D-Day prayer. I am looking forward to that tomorrow.

The temporary plaque, by the way, was generously donated to the Friends of the National World War II Memorial by Mr. John Nau, a member of the National Parks Foundation Board, who felt strongly about at least having a temporary plaque in place.

We are hopeful that the permanent plaque will be placed at the Circle very soon.

The fact that a prayer was offered that day, on D-Day, by the Commander in Chief is historic in and of itself, but I think it is the content of the prayer that makes it so worthy of remembrance. If I may, I would now like to read the D-Day prayer.

FDR began:

My fellow Americans: Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.

And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with me in 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, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest—until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violences of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and good will among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.

And for us at home—fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas—whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them—help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the Nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too—strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us Faith. Give us Faith in Thee; Faith in our sons; Faith in each other; Faith in our united crusade. Let not

the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment, let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogancies. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister Nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace, a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God.

Amen.

I think you will agree with me that these profound words deserve to be made a permanent part of our broader World War II Memorial for a noble day that we must never forget.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

UKRAINE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I want to spend a few moments talking about a trip I took overseas last week. After honoring our fallen soldiers here at home in Central Ohio and in Southwest Ohio, I traveled to Ukraine, where I had a meeting scheduled with Ukraine's new President, Volodymyr Zelensky. On my way there, I stopped in London for trade meetings and briefings by our Ambassador and our excellent U.S. Embassy personnel there.

I was very eager to meet President Zelensky. First of all, along with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I have been a longtime supporter of Ukraine's quest for self-determination, democracy, and freedom from Russian aggression. As cochair and cofounder of the Senate Ukraine Caucus, along with my colleague DICK DURBIN of Illinois, I have been proud to take the lead since the Revolution of Dignity in 2014 in giving Ukrainians the lethal and nonlethal aid they need to defend themselves from aggression in Crimea and the Donbass region.

Second, I share that enthusiasm for Ukraine that is held by so many of my constituents, friends of mine, particularly in Cleveland and that area, who are proud members of the Ukrainian diaspora.

Third, I was very impressed with President Zelensky's election victory, in part because he received a remarkable 73 percent of the vote. I also thought his focus on reform and change was important for the country. I wanted to meet with him and learn more about how and why his appeals for unity largely succeeded.

Fourth, I wanted to hear more about his plans to fight the aggression from Russia on his eastern border, fight corruption at home, and put in place the reforms that will make his country stronger.

Finally, I wanted to tell him we are with him. The United States stands by Ukraine, and the ties between our two countries can deepen even further. We want to help Ukraine succeed in this historic moment.

I can report to my colleagues that I came away impressed from the meeting with President Zelensky. I was encouraged. We talked for about an hour and covered a broad range of topics. He is smart, engaging, and determined.

We had a good discussion about Russian aggression in Crimea and in the Donbass region. President Zelensky has been out to the contact line, which is where the fighting is occurring. I was there last year. There is a real war going on, and 13,000 people have been killed on the eastern border of Ukraine, on that contact line. He spoke frankly about the bravery of his troops but also about their needs in terms of the weapons systems and basic conditions. We talked about the Russian propaganda along the eastern border and the efforts to jam Ukrainian TV signals to sow the seeds for dissension for the people of the Donbass region. We talked about some ideas that would help to counter that propaganda, the jamming, and the disinformation, and I have already been in touch with the State Department about those ideas.

We also talked about the 24 Ukrainian sailors who were captured by the Russians last November 25 in the Kerch Strait in the Azov Sea. At that time, President Trump rightly refused to meet with President Putin until those sailors were free. President Zelensky and I talked about how to keep the pressure on Moscow to do the right thing. I gave President Zelensky my commitment to do everything in our power here in the Senate to keep these 24 sailors front and center until the crisis is resolved.

Recently, the United Nations issued a statement about these sailors, by the way. It read that they should be sent back to Ukraine, that their taking was wrong.

I told President Zelensky that he is now the face of reform in Ukraine and, indeed, for those of us who are watching around the world. He acknowledged that with a smile. He said that his commitment to reform is real, but he also had no illusions about how hard reform will be. Whether we are talking about fighting corruption, fighting for transparency in government, or fighting for civilian control of the military, I am very hopeful he will have the continued courage to see it through. He understands it is the only path forward and, frankly, is a linchpin of the U.S. partnership with Ukraine. As a matter of law, it is also a condition on our future defense assistance.

Finally, we talked about the importance of the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States—about 2 million people strong, thousands of whom live in Ohio, my constituents—and about how they are putting great hopes in his leadership and are willing to do all they can to help.

As I said, it was a very productive meeting, and I am grateful for his time. Of all of the messages of that discussion, the one that was the most important to me was when I asked him how he could win by 73 percent of the vote. He said:

It was not about me. It was about change and reform and the betterment of the people of Ukraine.

It was a modest and appropriate response.

The messages of our discussion were reinforced in my meetings afterward with Lieutenant General Ruslan Khomchak. He is the new chief of the general staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine—a man with great experience and knowledge. He was confident and well informed, and we had an open and detailed talk about how the United States can be helpful.

I have already begun to talk to my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee and in the Trump administration about those specifics and some requests that he had.

So, my colleagues, I return from this brief trip to Ukraine hopeful—hopeful that Ukraine is ready to write the next chapter of its long history and that it will be a chapter of freedom with a government and society that benefits all of its citizens. The United States of America must continue to be a good friend and ally in that quest. I am certainly determined to do my part to make it so.

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.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 1556

Ms. BALDWIN. I rise today to once again speak about the ongoing threat in the Trump administration to the healthcare and guaranteed protections that millions of American families depend upon. President Trump has tried to pass through the Congress repeal plans that would take people's healthcare away and allow insurance companies to discriminate against people with preexisting health conditions or refuse to serve them at all.

When that legislative repeal effort failed in 2017, instead of working in a bipartisan way to lower healthcare costs and improve access to care for all Americans, President Trump turned to another tactic—sabotaging our healthcare system—and there are more Americans uninsured today than there were when he took office.

The Trump administration has even gone to court. They have gone to court to support a lawsuit that would overturn the Affordable Care Act, including its provisions that protect people with preexisting health conditions from discrimination. Just think about that. He is asking a court to strike down healthcare protections for Americans. If he succeeds, insurance companies will once again be able to deny coverage or charge much higher premiums

for the more than 130 million Americans who have some sort of preexisting health condition, including more than 2 million who live in the State of Wisconsin.

What is the President's plan to protect people with preexisting conditions? He doesn't have one. He never has. And I have to say that I doubt he ever will. In fact, this administration has expanded what I call junk insurance plans. These are insurance plans that can deny coverage to people with preexisting health conditions, and they don't have to cover basic and essential health services, like prescription drugs or emergency room visits or maternity care. Most of these junk plans don't cover those things.

When I spoke about this expansion of what I call junk insurance on the Senate floor 2 weeks ago, one of my Republican colleagues responded and claimed that these plans preserve preexisting conditions protections and essential health benefits. So today I wanted to clarify the record, and let's look at the fine print together.

One of the junk plans currently available in my home State of Wisconsin reads, ''This plan has a preexisting limitation provision that may prevent coverage from applying to medical conditions that existed prior to this plan's effective date.''

Another junk plan that is sold in Wisconsin states that the plan does not comply with the guaranteed essential benefits provided by the Affordable Care Act. To quote directly, the description reads: ''This coverage is not required to comply with certain federal market requirements for health insurance, principally those contained in the Affordable Care Act.'' The tiny fine print on this particular junk plan instructs individuals to check their coverage carefully to make sure they are ''aware of any exclusions or limitation regarding coverage of pre-existing conditions or health benefits (such as hospitalization, emergency services, maternity care, preventive care, prescription drugs, and mental health and substance use disorder services). Your certificate might also have lifetime and/or annual dollar limits on health benefits.''

The Affordable Care Act protects people against these insurance company abuses. Yet the expansion of these junk plans puts the power back in the hands of big insurance companies.

Let me be clear. American families do not want to go back to the days when health insurers could discriminate against people with preexisting health conditions, women, and seniors by denying them coverage or charging them higher premiums simply because they get sick.

As I have said in this Chamber many times, the people of Wisconsin want both parties in Congress to work together to make things better by making healthcare more affordable.

I have heard from several Wisconsinites who want to know why the President is working to repeal the Affordable Care Act and take away their protections by expanding these junk plans. They are frightened that if this sabotage of our health system continues, insurance companies will again be able to deny coverage or charge higher premiums for the more than 130 million Americans who have preexisting health conditions, again, including more than 2 million in my home State of Wisconsin.

I heard from Keri from Baraboo. Keri is a three-time cancer survivor—two breast cancer diagnoses and one melanoma. She experienced her first diagnosis at age 29. Now at age 61, Keri is able to get the healthcare she needs without being punished financially for having a preexisting condition. Keri is worried that if the Affordable Care Act is repealed, she could lose her health coverage or could be charged more because of her preexisting condition.

Another Wisconsinite, Keith in Brookfield, recently wrote in to my office about what healthcare means to him and his family. Keith and his son both have type 1 diabetes. Both of them have health insurance through the Affordable Care marketplace that allows them to afford the insulin, glucose test strips, and other medications they need. If the Affordable Care Act is repealed, Keith and his son likely would not even be eligible to purchase one of these junk insurance plans. They could be denied coverage entirely due to their preexisting condition.

We really need to act to stop this sabotage now. I want to protect the guaranteed healthcare protections that millions of Americans depend on. That is why I have introduced legislation, with my colleague, Senator DOUG JONES of Alabama, to overturn the Trump administration's expansion of junk insurance plans, because we should be increasing access to affordable, high-quality healthcare options.

The entire Senate Democratic caucus supports this legislation, along with the two Independents who caucus with us. The Nation's top healthcare organizations, representing tens of thousands of the Nation's physicians, patients, medical students, and other health experts, support this legislation.

Anyone who says they support healthcare coverage for people with preexisting conditions should support this bill.

Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1556; that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, let me just say that the plans to which the Senator from Wisconsin is referring are plans that tens of thousands of people are buying, and one of the reasons they are buying them is because it allows them to buy the insurance they want at a price they can afford.

I can tell you, as I am sure the Presiding Officer can and probably everybody here can, when they travel across the country and talk with the farmers and ranchers and people who are buying their insurance on the individual market, the individual market has blown up. It has exploded. People are paying $3,000 a month in premiums—$36,000 a year—and have huge deductibles. So what they are doing is they are dropping coverage because they can't afford it. One of the reasons they can't afford it is because, under ObamaCare, there were so many mandates and requirements, it drove up the price. So they have these skyrocketing premiums, higher deductibles, and higher copays.

I think that is precisely why the administration decided that, let's take these plans and give people an opportunity to buy the insurance they want at a price they can afford.

Literally tens of thousands of Americans are now in these plans. What the Senator from Wisconsin is saying is, we are going to throw all these people off these plans. What does that do? That puts them back out, probably uninsured, which is what a lot of farmers and ranchers in places in South Dakota are doing—they are just dropping coverage because they can't afford it. Who can afford to pay $3,000 a month? That is what ObamaCare has left us. That is why we need new solutions. This solution is one that allows people to buy a plan they want at a price they can afford, coupled with association health plans—which Democrats, I think, here in the Senate are also objecting to and opposing—which are also giving individuals opportunities to join larger groups and spread their risk and drive down their premiums. We need plans that people in this country can afford, or more and more people are going to be in the ranks of the uninsured.

So, Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I am disappointed that my Republican colleagues have once again chosen to object to protecting people with preexisting conditions.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, would my colleague yield?

Ms. BALDWIN. Senator, I would be happy to yield.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I appreciate my colleague. I am in such strong support of her legislation, the No Junk Plans Act. I will speak briefly on it after the Senator has concluded her important remarks. But apropos of what the distinguished Senator from South Dakota just said, isn't it correct that of course a plan is more affordable if it doesn't cover anything? I would be interested in my colleague's reaction to that, as she is the lead sponsor.

I remember being in Wisconsin and seeing the wonderful support folks there have from my colleague because she has been a leader on these issues.

I am just curious, because certainly my friend from South Dakota, who is a distinguished member of the Finance Committee and works with Senator CORTEZ MASTO and me, often works with us on matters. But unless I am missing something, he said that what he is interested in is care that is more affordable. But it doesn't cover anything. What are my colleague's thoughts on that?

Ms. BALDWIN. I would concur and say that the reason they have earned the nickname ''junk plans'' is because, frankly, some of them are hardly worth the paper they are written on.

First of all, they do not have to comply with some of the very important protections we included as part of the Affordable Care Act—otherwise known as ObamaCare—especially to protect people who have been ill once before or have been injured once before, people who have a preexisting health condition, maybe a chronic condition that will require medical care throughout their lives.

In the old days, which apparently the Republican Senator wants to return to, there were all sorts of abuses, I would argue, that insurance companies could employ in order to limit their exposure, if you will. They had annual limits. They had lifetime limits. They had the capacity to drop somebody from coverage after an illness developed. They had the capacity to say: No, we are not going to offer you insurance. They certainly had the capacity to charge discriminatory premiums based on the preexisting condition. That causes great concern.

I just recently saw a report about how much a typical—put it this way: a woman with a breast cancer diagnosis who requires chemotherapy and radiation treatment and medication—how much she would be anticipated to spend out-of-pocket if she had a junk plan at the time that diagnosis was made. It was, on average, $40,000.

We also need to talk about another impact these junk plans have, and that is, if you think you have a really good chance of being healthy for the next year, and you decide ''This is a risk I can take,'' you are then fundamentally changing the structure of the marketplace for everyone else. You can anticipate that this is a choice healthier, maybe younger people will make, and it has a distorting impact on premiums in the marketplace. In fact, that is why these plans were curtailed under the previous administration. Now, this administration is greatly expanding these. They are no longer short term. They are long term, and a lot of harm will come.

I want to conclude and say that when we have an administration that first fought legislatively to repeal the Affordable Care Act and then acted administratively to undermine and sabotage the Affordable Care Act through all sorts of administrative Executive actions, including defunding the State navigators who helped people make wise selections for their insurance and also limiting the open enrollment period, and when we have an administration that has decided to go to court and asked the court to strike down a U.S. law in its entirety, we know there is sabotage going on.

I think the choice for the American people couldn't be clearer. We want to make things better, and the administration—enabled by some of my Senate Republican colleagues—is walking down a path that has led to 2 million people losing their health insurance and others at grave risk of losing it in the future.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, before she leaves the floor, I want to tell my colleague from Wisconsin—and I think I speak for the distinguished Senator from Nevada as well—we are counting on our colleague from Wisconsin to come back to this floor again and again to try to pass her bill. I just want to tell her I will be with her every step of the way because I think, colleagues, without the bill from the distinguished Senator from Wisconsin, what we are looking at is a new golden age for scam artists peddling insurance that isn't worth much more than the paper it is written on.

I was struck by my friend from Wisconsin's mentioning the old days of junk insurance.

Well, I was around for those old days. I remember when the health insurance system in this country was basically for the healthy and wealthy. If you were healthy, no sweat, you could get insurance. If you were wealthy, you just went off and paid the bills. But the insurance companies could go out there and clobber people with preexisting conditions. So that was junk insurance.

But I am even older than that. I remember when I was director of the Oregon Gray Panthers. I would go to a senior's house, and they would pull out a shoebox full of policies—10 or 15 policies. The distinguished Senator from Nevada, who has done so much consumer advocacy for consumers, I am sure knows about this challenge with seniors. These policies weren't worth the paper they were written on. They had—because I am kind of a lawyer in name only—what were called subrogation clauses. So if you had two policies, and they basically covered the same thing, both of them would try to squirm out of covering it. Talk about junk insurance.

Finally, I got elected to Congress, like my colleague activist, and we passed a law that said we are going to get rid of that system and that you could have really only one policy, except in unusual situations. There were strong consumer protections.

But if you look at what the Trump golden age of scams is going to bring back, there are going to be lots of people who are going to get clobbered, and, as my colleagues know, the people who are really going to get hit by this are, for example, older women who are pre-Medicare, because very often, in their late fifties and early sixties, they have a lot of difficulty trying to find jobs that pay good salaries and jobs that have good healthcare coverage.

I am so appreciative of what my colleague is talking about.

We are going to hear a lot of buzz words. Opponents of the Baldwin legislation are going to talk about how they are offering flexibility and they are offering patient-centered care. But that is just a bunch of eyewash because what they really do, as you touched on, is to fail to give patients care when they most need care.

Today, Americans ought to be protected from these worthless, predatory scams. One of the things that I was proudest of, really, before my colleagues came here, is a piece of legislation I wrote, the Healthy Americans Act. A number of Republican Senators were cosponsors of this bill. It had airtight, loophole-free protection to ensure that people with preexisting conditions didn't face discrimination.

By and large, we got that provision into the Affordable Care Act. It meant, as John McCain knew—we often talked about it—that healthcare would no longer be there just for the healthy and the wealthy. There would be real protections for those with preexisting conditions.

For all practical purposes, that was really one of the two or three centerpieces of the Affordable Care Act, because, talk about a new age in insurance, that was it. Healthcare insurance would no longer be there for the healthy and wealthy only.

Senator BALDWIN is here, and what she is trying to do—I am looking at that clock—is trying to keep the Trump people from turning it back. That is what they want to do when Senator BALDWIN talks about the old days—a forced march back to the days when the insurance companies could really, in many instances, just beat the stuffing out of vulnerable people.

I thank my colleague for what she is doing. I heard just a little bit about it before I came over. I basically said: Let's hold off on things for a couple of hours so I can go out there and stand with Senator BALDWIN and her allies.

I say to the Senator: To me, what is important is that you have been here today, and it is going to be even more important that you come back again and again and again so that that clock continues to move forward in terms of American healthcare and not go backward. I thank my colleague.

We are really delighted to have Senator CORTEZ MASTO on the Senate Finance Committee, where she has been doing a lot of good work in healthcare

for consumers and seniors. I look forward to her remarks and to working with both of my colleagues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, let me just say, on behalf of the State of Nevada, that I am so appreciative that I get to work with my colleagues from Wisconsin and Oregon. I thank them for their commitment because this is the No. 1 issue in the State of Nevada.

I say to Senator BALDWIN: What you are doing is really standing up for people and their right to have access to affordable healthcare in this country when they need it, access to medication when they need it, and the comfort in knowing that if they purchase a plan, if something, God forbid, should happen to them, then, they will have access to that medication and those doctors when they need it. Thank you for your hard work.

I stand today because I want to tell you about one of these people in the State of Nevada. Her name is Carol Elewski. She is from Reno, NV. Carol has chronic asthma. She manages it with medications that cost up to $400 a month—$400 a month.

In October of 2016, Carol had such a bad asthma attack that she was admitted to the hospital for 10 days as doctors struggled to get her breathing under control. Thankfully, today Carol's health is stable, but because of her preexisting condition and high prescription drug costs, she depends on the protections of the Affordable Care Act to keep her healthcare costs in check.

This administration, as we have heard today from my colleagues, keeps chipping away at those protections. Literally, we have heard from the President that he is proud of sabotaging the Affordable Care Act. He has weakened the ACA by expanding access to these junk plans. These short-term, limited-duration plans don't cover essential services, like prescription drugs, emergency rooms visits, and maternity care.

Today, I am joining my colleagues to, once again, urge that we do away with these scam insurance policies. These plans appeal to consumers because they are low cost, but they are also low benefit, as we have heard. Many people who purchase them don't realize just how limited the coverage is. All those details are in the fine print of the policies in dense legal jargon, and it is nearly impossible to understand. I am an attorney, and I will tell you that even attorneys have difficulty understanding that dense legal jargon in some of these policies. Consumers don't know that the plans they are signing up for—because of the dense legal jargon and because they are not given specifics, and there is not enough transparency—don't even cover their preexisting conditions. Consumers may not realize that their coverage has annual or lifetime spending caps.

Take Carol, for instance. Let's say she had signed up for a junk plan instead of an ACA-compliant plan—an easy mistake to make, since companies hide the differences between the two. With the junk plan, Carol's insurance could have refused to cover her healthcare costs because of her asthma. They could have denied payment for the emergency treatment she needed when she literally could not breathe, and they could have declined coverage for the essential medications she needs to keep the asthma in check.

Under these junk plans, women who get pregnant don't get coverage for prenatal care or for delivering their babies. People with lifelong genetic conditions, like cystic fibrosis, can be denied coverage, as can those facing mental health issues.

What is more, even if you don't buy a junk healthcare plan, these plans' very existence drives up our healthcare costs in this country. That is because younger, healthier people are more likely to risk choosing a limited junk plan because those plans are cheaper. That leaves the rest of the population, including many women and children, in a much more expensive insurance pool.

Estimates say that junk plans could cost a family of four with an ACA plan over $3,000 in increased insurance premiums every year. The No Junk Plans Act that Senator BALDWIN has introduced undoes the administration's order that allowed insurance companies to offer consumers up to 3 years of deceptive, skimpy coverage.

Under the No Junk Plans Act, customers can only use these short-term plans for 90 days. The plans would work the way they were intended—as a bridge between coverage at one job and the next.

I hear this all the time in Nevada. Americans have told us time and again what they want their healthcare to do: to cover preexisting conditions, keep down prescription drug costs, include women's health, cover mental health, and pay for emergency rooms visits.

I am going to continue to fight for what the American people want, and that is the comprehensive coverage of the Affordable Care Act.

We cannot let the administration succeed in doing an end-run around the ACA. The House has already passed legislation to do away with these flimsy and deceptive junk plans. Now it is time for the Senate to step up and do the same.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

(The remarks of Senator UDALL pertaining to the submission of S. 1753 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

Mr. LEE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

RECOGNIZING THE SENATE PAGES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today is the last day of the session for the Senate pages who served during the spring semester. I want to thank them for their hard work and service to the Senate over the last 4 months. I wish you all well as you return to your home States with a greater appreciation for the Senate and our work here.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of pages graduating this week be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

Meg Balaji
Elizabeth Bates
Craig Birckhead-Morton
Jackson Cargill
Olivia Castilla
Michael Cathy
Brooke Culp
William Deaton
Gabe Fanning
Caroline Ferry
Cameron Fowler
Sophie Hart
Laura Hartman
Ruthie Kesri
Joe Lesser
Dan McDermott
George Moore
Virginia Pillion
Katerina Retzlaff
Bella Sandoval-Encinas
Matthew Shabino
Caleb Shriver
Hunter Steinlage
Kara Swain
Colby Switser
Teagan Thompson
John Wahlig III
Jamie Yoder

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I might just add that, frequently, it is difficult to go back to boring high school. So I hope you are all able to acclimate yourselves to the real world again and always remember your experience here in the greatest deliberative body in the world.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 252; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

The following named officer for appointment as Commandant of the Marine Corps and appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8043: To be General

Lt. Gen. David H. Berger

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in 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.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN J. SCATES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, every day, the American farmer works hard to keep the faith and survive unknowns—from changes in the marketplace or the unpredictability of the weather, to changes in public policy. We saw that in the 1980s with disruptions in our export markets, depressed prices, creeping debt, and high production costs. We see that same today. Just like then, Illinois farm families have a trusted person fighting to keep their operations strong and to help pave the way for a stronger future for farming—his name is Steve Scates.

I am here today to honor my friend Steve, who was recently named one of this year's Southern Illinois University Distinguished Alumni. He has more than earned this prestigious recognition.

A native of Shawneetown in southern Illinois, Steve has worked his entire life in agriculture, from production agriculture with his grandfather, who founded Pat Scates and Sons Farm, to developing public policy that supports our farmers. Ever since he earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University in 1959 in animal sciences, Steve has been actively involved in a wide range of professional agricultural organizations, including in several leadership posts, like chair of the Illinois Soybean Association board of directors.

President Bill Clinton recognized Steve's experience and hard work supporting the Illinois farming community by appointing him the State Executive Director for the Illinois offices of the USDA Farm Service Agency, where he served for 8 years and played a critical role in the implementation of the 1996 farm bill programs.

He went on to serve as chairperson of the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research. During his time there, he received more awards than can be counted, including the Farm Bureau Eagle Award, the USDA Secretary's Award, and the SIU College of Agricultural Sciences 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award.

With all the awards and recognition, Steve's career has really been about helping people. While he is part of one of the largest farming operations in Illinois, he has always worked to look out for the interests of the smallest of farming operations to ensure they received a fair shake.

Although today they say that Steve has retired from farming, I know that he is still actively involved and serves as a senior partner at Pat Scates and Sons Farms and on the board of directors for Scates Gardens, Inc. Steve is never far from his partner and wife, Kappy, and his heart is always with his fabulous family.

Illinois agriculture is lucky to have a champion like Steve and his family still going strong in the farming community. America and Illinois need leaders like Steve now more than ever.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 141, the confirmation of Susan Combs to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 142, the motion to invoke cloture on Ryan T. Holte, to be a judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 143, the motion to invoke cloture on Rossie David Alston, Jr., to be U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 144, the motion to invoke cloture on Richard A. Hertling, to be a judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for vote No. 137 on the confirmation of David Schenker to be an Assistant Secretary of State. On vote No. 137, had I been present, I would have voted yea on confirmation.

I was also necessarily absent for vote No. 138 on the confirmation of Heath Tarbert to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and for vote No. 139 on the confirmation of Heath Tarbert to be Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. On vote No. 138 and vote No. 139, had I been present, I would have voted yea on confirmation to be Chairman and Commissioner.

I was also necessarily absent for vote No. 140 on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Susan Combs to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior. On vote No. 140, had I been present, I would have voted nay on the motion to invoke cloture.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, later today, I will be leaving with many other Senators on an official trip to Normandy, France, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the D-day invasion, also known as Operation Overlord. I consider it a high honor to be part of a congressional delegation commemorating one of the most important days in the history of human civilization. It is especially important to make this trip at a time when relations with our traditional trans-Atlantic allies are under undue and unnecessary stress.

On June 6, 1944, the largest single amphibious assault in history crossed the English Channel and stormed the beaches of Normandy, code-named ''Utah,'' ''Omaha,'' ''Gold,'' ''Juno,'' and ''Sword,'' names that will be forever associated with acts of uncommon valor and self-sacrifice in defense of human freedom and dignity. The Allied armada involved over 156,000 U.S., British, and Canadian troops traveling aboard almost 7,000 naval ships and landing vessels.

Even before the amphibious assault, in the darkened skies of that early morning, 13,100 American paratroopers of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions made parachute drops near Carentan from over 2,000 Allied aircraft, followed by 3,937 troops flown in by day on 867 gliders as the opening maneuver of Operation Neptune, the assault operation for Overlord.

Three of the six Allied divisions involved in D-day were American, including the 29th Infantry Division. The 29th Infantry Division was activated on February 3, 1941, and based at Fort Meade, MD. It consisted of soldiers from Maryland and Virginia. In September 1942, the 29th deployed to England, where it made final preparations for the D-day invasion.

Operation Overlord called for Allied troops to storm ashore five landing areas along the 50-mile stretch of Normandy's shore. U.S. forces were responsible for taking Utah and Omaha. Securing Omaha was critical to the Allies' success and would be the site of the heaviest German resistance. The 29th and the 1st Infantry Division were responsible for taking Omaha. Nearly 10,000 men of the 29th formed the first assault wave on Omaha. At approximately 6:30 in the morning on June 6th, Allied forces encountered stormy seas, a low tide, reinforced obstacles, and a force of 50,000 German troops awaiting them on Normandy's 50-mile shoreline.

George ''Billy'' Forbes, Jr., of Bryantown, MD, was a radio operator in the 29th Infantry Division. Mr. Forbes described his feelings before the D-day invasion as ''very anxious and very scared.'' He said that even though he did not know what to expect, he had a job to do, and he was going to do it to the best of his ability.

Lester Lease of Cumberland, MD, was only 16 years old when he lied about his age to join the Army. He was a sergeant in the 29th when he landed at Omaha Beach. Mr. Lease stressed the difficulty of the amphibious assault. The ''Higgins boats'' could not get close enough to shore for the soldiers to get off on the land, so they had to swim through deep water before they could wade or crawl ashore. Many of

them perished in the onslaught of withering German machine gun and artillery fire before they even made it to shore. Those who did make it to the beaches encountered thick shell smoke that obstructed their visibility, and they heard the cries for help from their fellow soldiers lying wounded nearby as German machine gun fire relentlessly rained down on them.

Charles ''Harry'' Heinlein, a 22-year-old Army private from Baltimore, MD, described the scene as total confusion, recalling, ''It seemed like hours to get off the beach. At this point, the only orders being yelled to those still able to fight was, 'Get off the beach! Get off the beach!' ''

William Bladen of College Park, MD, was a 19-year-old paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. In the dark, early hours of that morning, Private First Class Bladen parachuted into Normandy with two 20-pound satchels of TNT attached to him and unable to see where he would land. Mr. Bladen said, ''War is hell—in fact, it's worse than hell.'' But he had a mission and he did it.

Joe Heinlein of Parkville, MD, provided context to the American casualties suffered. He pointed out that before D-day, Bravo Company, 175th Regiment, of the 29th Infantry Division, had about 200 men; by June 19 about a dozen men remained. Mr. Bladen added, ''I hope people remember that a lot of men gave their lives for others.''

Freedom is not free. The Normandy American Cemetery serves as the final resting place for 9,380 American military dead, most of whom lost their lives in the D-day landings. On the Walls of the Missing are inscribed another 1,557 names of soldiers whose remains were never recovered or identified. We must never forget those who, in Abraham Lincoln's immortal words, ''have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.'' The Americans who died on the beaches and in the fields of Normandy made the ultimate sacrifice, but they did not die in vain. They helped to defeat fascism, totalitarianism, and the Nazi regime. They helped to liberate Europe and the concentration camps. In GEN Dwight Eisenhower's D-day address, he declared to Allied troops, ''The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you . . . The free men of the world are marching together to victory.

We remember and we honor the intrepid heroes of the 29th Infantry Division and all the other members of the ''Greatest generation'' who marched together into battle and demonstrated remarkable acts of valor and sacrifice 75 years ago tomorrow.

As the poet Archibald MacLeish wrote, ''There are those who will say that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is the American Dream.'' But it is a dream that we Americans share with all people who cherish freedom and human dignity now, just as we did on June 6th, 1944.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I am proud to rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the day my home State of Wisconsin became the first State in the Nation to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote.

Although the outcome was a historic victory, women did not gain the right to vote without a struggle. The road to Wisconsin's ratification of the 19th Amendment was paved with more than 70 years of advocacy and speeches, marches and rallies, legislation and lawsuits by strong Wisconsin suffragists. Many of the battles were lost before they were won.

When Wisconsin became a State in 1848, only White male landowners over 21 years of age could vote. In 1869, women won the right to run for local school boards in Wisconsin but ironically could not vote for themselves. In 1886, Wisconsin voters approved a statewide referendum allowing women to vote in school elections. When women tried to exercise their new rights for the first time in 1887, however, many women's ballots were discarded because there was no way to verify that women voted only in school elections. Racine suffragist Olympia Brown sued to have her ballot accepted, but the State supreme court said the law was vague and needed to be rewritten. Fourteen years later, the Wisconsin Legislature approved the creation of separate ballots for women that only included school elections.

In 1911, Wisconsin suffragists persuaded the legislature to authorize a statewide referendum on voting rights for women, but it was soundly defeated by an electorate that didn't include women. Two years later, the legislature again called for a referendum on women's suffrage, but it was vetoed by the Governor. In 1915, another attempt at a referendum was rejected by lawmakers.

Women's suffrage fared much better when the debate over voting rights shifted from individual States to the national stage. Congress passed the 19th Amendment on June 4, 1919. Less than a week later, on June 10th, the Wisconsin Legislature ratified the amendment, narrowly beating out its neighbor to the south. Illinois had actually ratified the amendment an hour before Wisconsin, but a paperwork error delayed the filing of the Illinois documents. By August 26, 1920, the necessary 36 States had ratified the 19th Amendment, and women were granted full voting rights.

As we celebrate the centennial of this historic moment, it is important to acknowledge that ratification of the 19th Amendment did not extend voting rights to all women. Advocacy for suffrage for Black women was often abandoned in an attempt to gain support for ratification in the South. African-American women faced disenfranchisement tactics that ranged from separate long lines and civics tests to poll taxes and even beatings. Many of these tactics continued until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Wisconsin owes its unique position in history to the voices of powerful Wisconsin women who not only spoke truth to power but who also shattered the glass ceiling in their professional lives. Belle Case LaFollette, originally from Summit, was the first woman to graduate from law school in Wisconsin. Laura Ross Wolcott from Milwaukee was Wisconsin's first woman physician. Olympia Brown of Racine was the first woman to be ordained a minister in the entire country. Nationally renowned suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt from Ripon was indispensable to passage of the amendment. As the first woman to represent Wisconsin in the U.S. House of Representatives and now the U.S. Senate, I am humbled to walk the path these strong women helped forge for their successors.

One hundred years ago, after decades of struggle by brave women and men, our Nation finally extended to women the most fundamental right in our democracy—the right to vote. As we celebrate this historic milestone in our Nation's history, let us vow to continue to fight for full equality for women, including access to health care, in workplace salaries, and in representation the Halls of Congress.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DON FRASER

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the passing of a true champion for good—former Congressman, Minneapolis mayor, and my friend and neighbor—Don Fraser, who died at the age of 95 on June 2, 2019. Those who knew him best described Don as thoughtful, decent, intelligent, tough, and absolutely wonderful.

Don Fraser was born in Minneapolis, MN, in 1924. He fought in World War II and later studied law at the University of Minnesota Law School. He joined the law firm of Larson, Loevinger, Lindquist, Freeman, and Fraser before he was elected to the Minnesota State Senate in 1954. In 1962, Don was elected to the House of Representatives, representing Minnesota's Fifth District, where he served for 16 years. Don went on to serve as mayor of Minneapolis from 1980 to 1994, making him the longest serving mayor in Minneapolis history.

Don was married to Arvonne Skelton Fraser, who dedicated her life to improving the lives of women around the world. Together, they had six children: Thomas, Mary, John, Lois, Anne, and Jean.

Known as the Quiet Crusader, Don was always ahead of his time. As a Congressman, he fought for the environment and human rights and exposed human rights abuses around the world. As mayor of Minneapolis—a job he believed was truly the most rewarding of his career—he advocated for early childhood education and put an end to the ingrained politics of the city's police department. Tom Fraser may have summed up his father's service best when he said, ''He persuaded people by the power of his argument, not the volume of his speech.'' Public service was Don's calling.

My first job in Democratic politics was serving as the volunteer president of the DFL Education Foundation, a group Don Fraser founded. His mission? Ideas matter in politics. And he lived that. Don and Arvonne were the heart and soul of the group.

In this era of sound bites and quick fixes to problems, Don and Arvonne yearned for something more substantial in the way they talked about issues. They worked to promote more citizen involvement in politics.

I remember when Don used to introduce me at events during my run for Hennepin County attorney, and he used to say, ''I used to work for the city of Minneapolis.'' In reality, Don has never stopped working for Minneapolis and his country. Don was a great public servant and an outstanding mentor to the next generation. He understood that his public service didn't end with him.

It has been said that it is lucky to have somebody who makes it hard to say goodbye. It is hard to say goodbye to Don Fraser, but I count myself lucky to have known him as a friend. My family and I greatly miss Don. We miss seeing him walking with Arvonne arm in arm in our neighborhood, and we miss their passion for public service and their love for their family and friends.●

TRIBUTE TO PETER MELVIN THOMPSON, JR.

● Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and celebrate the life of Peter Melvin Thompson, Jr., a decorated Vietnam war veteran and proud member of the White Earth Nation, who passed away on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. Today, on June 5, 2019, Mr. Thompson will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery for his service to this country. He is the first member of the White Earth Nation to receive this honor.

Mr. Thompson served in the Army for 12 years, during which time he received six Purple Hearts, one Silver Star with valor device, and 3 Bronze Stars with valor device. In 1960, at the age of 17, Mr. Thompson talked his dad into signing papers allowing him to enlist in the U.S. Army. He attended basic training and was posted to Fort Leonard Wood, MO, before volunteering to go to fight in the Vietnam war. Mr. Thompson deployed twice to Vietnam, first with the First Cavalry Regiment in central Vietnam from January 1968 to 1969. During this deployment, Mr. Thompson was wounded twice and earned a Bronze Star.

Soon after returning to the States, Mr. Thompson volunteered for a second tour in Vietnam. During his second tour, Mr. Thompson served as platoon leader in charge of seven armored personnel carriers and three tanks. He was wounded four more times. In 1970, while on a rescue mission, Mr. Thompson was injured in combat for the last time. He was airlifted to Hawk Hill, where he helped identify all the lost men in his platoon before being sent to a field hospital to begin recovery. Mr. Thompson was transferred to Colorado, where he finished his recuperation and served as a probation officer at Fort Carson before being discharged in 1972.

Mr. Thompson met and married Evelyn Auginaush on July 10, 1973 at St. Phillips Church in Rice Lake, MN. Together they moved throughout Minnesota before returning to Mr. Thompson's home in Rice Lake. Never one to be idle, Mr. Thompson found work as a trapper for the State and Tribe Predator Control and also worked at the Leech Lake Indian Health Hospital Facilities as a manager, where he won two awards for his service. Mr. Thompson's time in the military also left an indelible mark on his life and led him to start the White Earth Honor Guard, which he remained a part of throughout his life.

Today, Mr. Thompson is being laid to rest with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery by his wife Evelyn, daughters Cheryl and Carol, 15 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and many others. I am proud today to recognize Peter Thompson for his service to this country, to Minnesota, and to the White Earth Nation.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ALASKA

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, this week we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics Alaska, an organization that has done so much for so many Alaskans living with intellectual disabilities in my State and across the globe.

The rise of the Special Olympics is one of the world's great stories. It demonstrates both on the political and personal fronts what can happen when a group of people get together to ensure that everyone has the ability to participate in sports and, furthermore, develop skills and friendships that will last them a lifetime.

The story of Special Olympics dates back to the 1960s, when one woman, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, decided to make a difference. Mrs. Shriver had a sister, Rosemary, who had an intellectual disability and with whom she was very close. She knew that Rosemary's disability shouldn't hold her or anybody else back from competing in sports and fulfilling her dreams.

In the summer of 1968 in Chicago, Eunice Shriver opened the first national games for Special Olympics. One thousand athletes from 26 States and Canada competed in track & field and swimming. Jump forward to today. Because of Mrs. Shriver's vision and advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities, there are now nearly 5 million Special Olympics' athletes around the world, and as many as 80,000 competitions are held every year, including in the great State of Alaska.

In 2001, Alaska hosted the Special Olympics World Winter Games. Mrs. Shriver said it was the best World Winter Games in Special Olympics history. That success was only possible because of the hard working staff, board, volunteers, and athletes from the Special Olympics Alaska organization and the complete support of a caring, engaged community.

Special Olympics Alaska will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this weekend in conjunction with the Special Olympics Alaska Summer Games. Hundreds of athletes and unified partners from across the State will gather in Anchorage for 3 days of competition. They have been dedicated to their training in aquatics, basketball, gymnastics, powerlifting, and track & field, and this weekend will strive for their personal best and, no doubt, have a lot of fun. There is no better place to see the joy of competition and pure sportsmanship than at a Special Olympics event.

My family is proud to be part of a community that supports our Special Olympics athletes and, to brag a little, part of a State with a world-class training center and program that is the envy of many other States and nations. Special Olympics Alaska's success would not be possible without the dedicated support of so many Alaska families and the passion our athletes have for sports and this organization. Our athletes inspire all of us. They show us the true meaning of grit, determination, and perseverance. Our athletes know, more than any of us, what Vince Lombardi meant when he said, ''It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up.''

Congratulations again to all the athletes, staff, board, and volunteers of Special Olympics Alaska for an incredible 50 years of serving the community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations

and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1379. An act to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6. An act to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2157. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 945S(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Ms. Gina Maria Ortiz Jones of San Antonio, Texas.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 6. An act to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, 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–1546. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Penthiopyrad; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL 9993–11–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1547. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Provision Regarding Availability of Specifications and Standards Not Listed in the Acquisition Streamlining and Standardization Information System'' ((RIN0750–AK42) (DFARS Case 2019–D007)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1548. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause 'Ordering Limitation''' ((RIN0750–AK64) (DFARS Case 2019–D023)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1549. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Indexing, Public Inspection, and Federal Register Publication of Department of Navy Directive and Other Documents Affecting the Public'' ((RIN0703–AB02) (32 CFR Part 701) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1550. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''United States Navy Regulations and Official Records'' ((RIN0703–AB06) (32 CFR Part 700) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1551. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Certifications and Exemptions Under the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972'' ((RIN0703–AB03) (32 CFR Part 706) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1552. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Rules with Respect to Additional Station and Signal Lights'' ((RIN0703–AB04) (32 CFR Part 707) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1553. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Missing Persons Act'' ((RIN0703–AB07) (32 CFR Part 718) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1554. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Payments of Amounts Due Mentally Incompetent Members of the Naval Service'' ((RIN0703–AB16) (32 CFR Part 726) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1555. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medical and Dental Care for Eligible Persons at Navy Department Facilities'' ((RIN0703–AB09) (32 CFR Part 728) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1556. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Non Naval Medical and Dental Care'' ((RIN0703–AB10) (32 CFR Part 732) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1557. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Assistance to and Support of Dependents; Paternity Complaints'' ((RIN0703–AA96) (32 CFR Part 733)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1558. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Garnishment of Pay of Naval Military and Civilian Personnel for Collection of Child Support and Alimony'' ((RIN0703–AA97) (32 CFR Part 734)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1559. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Disposition of Property'' ((RIN0703–AB05) (32 CFR Part 736)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1560. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rules Governing Public Access'' ((RIN0703–AB00) (32 CFR Part 763)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1561. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Contracting by Negotiations'' ((RIN0703–AB13) (48 CFR Part 5215)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1562. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Contract Administration'' ((RIN0703–AB14) (48 CFR Part 5242)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1563. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses'' ((RIN0703–AB15) (48 CFR Part 5252)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1564. 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. 9994–65–Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1565. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Michigan; Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions'' (FRL No. 9994–75–Region 5)

received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1566. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Priorities List; Correction'' (FRL No. 9994–86–OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1567. A communication from the Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's 2019 Annual Report of the Supplemental Security Income Program; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1568. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2017 annual report relative to the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (FAIR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1569. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1570. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting proposed legislation that would reauthorize the Department's pipeline safety program for fiscal years 2020–2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1571. A communication from the Senior Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Training, Qualification, and Oversight for Safety-Related Railroad Employees'' (RIN2130–AC70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1572. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hackensack River, Little Ferry, NJ'' ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0108)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1573. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Annual Boyne Thunder Poker Run; Charlevoix, MI'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2018–1098)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1574. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Upper Potomac River, National Harbor, MD'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0203)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1575. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, New Orleans, LA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0243)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1576. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Ohio River Mile 0.0 to Mile 0.6, Pittsburgh, PA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0230)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1577. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Nashville, TN'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0344)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1578. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Prom Fireworks Display; San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0398)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1579. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; July 4th Holiday Fireworks in the Coast Guard Captain of the Port Maryland-National Capital Region Zone'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0193)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1580. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Annual Events in the Captain of the Port Buffalo Zone'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2019–0121)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1581. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendments to the Marine Radar Observer Refresher Training Regulations'' ((RIN1625–AC46) (Docket No. USCG–2018–0100)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1582. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Electronic Delivery of MVPD Communications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative'' ((FCC 18–166) (MB Docket Nos. 17–317 and 17–105) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

H.R. 1590. A bill to require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–44).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. ISAKSON for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*James Byrne, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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 Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1717. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to make certain multivitamin-mineral dietary supplements eligible for purchase with supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1718. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

S. 1719. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. THUNE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 1720. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to allow the interstate sale of State-inspected meat and poultry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1721. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gay and trans panic defenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1722. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to authorize State-licensed appraisers to conduct appraisals in connection with mortgages insured by the FHA and to ensure compliance with the existing appraiser education and competency requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1723. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SASSE, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1724. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to modify the offenses relating to fentanyl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1725. A bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1726. A bill to ensure high-income earners pay a fair share of Federal taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 1727. A bill to establish the Partnership Fund for Peace to promote joint economic development and finance ventures between Palestinian entrepreneurs and companies and those in the United States and Israel to improve economic cooperation and people-to-people peacebuilding programs, and to further shared community building, peaceful coexistence, dialogue, and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1728. A bill to require the United States Postal Service to sell the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp for 6 additional years; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1729. A bill to enhance consumer rights relating to consumer report disputes by requiring provision of documentation provided by consumers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1730. A bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COTTON, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1731. A bill to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to require the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to maintain a list of certain foreign issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1732. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide rules for the disallowance and recapture of certain charitable contributions to colleges and universities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1733. A bill to limit the separation of children from their parents or legal guardians, to limit the detention of families and children, to provide unaccompanied alien children with access to counsel, to increase the number of immigration judges and support staff, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 1734. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1735. A bill to provide women with increased access to preventive and life-saving cancer screening; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KAINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1736. A bill to prohibit the transfer of operations and closure of Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 1737. A bill to strengthen parity in mental health and substance use disorder benefits; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 1738. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to take initiatives to measure the impact of automation on the workforce in order to inform workforce development strategies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1739. A bill to enable projects that will aid in the development and delivery of related instruction associated with apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs that are focused on serving the skilled technical workforce at the National Laboratories and certain facilities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1740. A bill to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the flexibility, efficiency, and reliability of the electric grid, to increase the competitiveness of the United States economy, to protect consumers, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. REED, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1741. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to advance energy storage deployment by reducing the cost of energy storage through research, development, and demonstration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1742. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish certain demonstration grant programs relating to the demonstration of advanced distribution systems, smart water heaters, vehicle-to-grid integration, and granular retail electricity pricing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. COONS, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KING, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WARNER, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. JONES, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1743. A bill to direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1744. A bill to provide lawful permanent resident status for certain advanced STEM degree holders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1745. A bill to establish a cost of greenhouse gases for carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide to be used by Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. REED):

S. 1746. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to authorize the provision of technical assistance under the Preserve America Program and to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into partnerships with communities adjacent to units of the National Park System to leverage local cultural heritage tourism assets; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1747. A bill to require that any trade agreement eligible for expedited consideration by Congress include enforceable standards requiring paying adequate wages and maintaining sustainable production methods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1748. A bill to decrease the frequency of sports blackouts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1749. A bill to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1750. A bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 1751. A bill to amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to authorize pumped storage hydropower development utilizing multiple Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs; to

the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. LEE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1752. A bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1753. A bill to promote accountability and effective administration in the execution of laws by restoring the original understanding of the President's constitutional power to remove subordinates from office; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 27. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and Australia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 28. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 29. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 30. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 31. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 33. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 34. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 35. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 36. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Kingdom of Spain, and the Italian Republic of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 37. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Republic of France of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 38. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 39. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to the United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom of certain defense articles, including technical data and defense services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 40. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to India, Israel, Republic of Korea, and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense articles, including technical data and defense services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 41. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to the Government of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of technical data and defense services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 42. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed export to the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of certain defense articles, including technical data and defense services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 44. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed retransfer of certain defense articles from the United Arab Emirates to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 45. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 46. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the United Arab Emirates certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 47. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 48. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed transfer to the United Arab Emirates certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 231. A resolution condemning the horrific anti-Semitic attack on the Chabad of Poway Synagogue near San Diego, California, on April 27, 2019; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 232. A resolution calling for the immediate extradition or expulsion to the United States of convicted felons Joanne Chesimard and William Morales and all other fugitives from justice who are receiving safe haven in Cuba in order to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 233. A resolution recognizing the importance of protecting freedom of speech, thought, and expression at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. UDALL):

S. Res. 234. A resolution affirming the United States commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 235. A resolution designating June 12, 2019, as ''Women Veterans Appreciation Day''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. Res. 236. A resolution reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. Res. 237. A resolution supporting the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week in 2019, which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of, and services available to assist, victims and survivors of crime in the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. PAUL):

S. Res. 238. A resolution designating the week of June 3 through June 9, 2019, as ''Hemp History Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, and Ms. ERNST):

S. Res. 239. A resolution designating June 2019 as ''Great Outdoors Month''; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Con. Res. 19. A concurrent resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 64

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 64, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products.

S. 120

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 120, a bill to protect victims of stalking from gun violence.

S. 177

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 177, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 191

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 191, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to include in periodic health assessments, separation history and physical examinations, and other assessments an evaluation of whether a member of the Armed Forces has been exposed to open burn pits or toxic airborne chemicals, and for other purposes.

S. 239

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 239, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

S. 299

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 299, a bill to amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs that support interprofessional geriatric education and training to develop a geriatric-capable workforce, improving health outcomes for a growing and diverse aging American population and their families, and for other purposes.

S. 343

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 343, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the credit for new qualified plug-in electric drive motor vehicles and to provide for a Federal highway user fee on alternative fuel vehicles.

S. 362

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S. 362, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 420

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 420, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation and regulation of marijuana products, and for other purposes.

S. 504

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 504, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes.

S. 512

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) 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. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) 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. 622

At the request of Mr. JONES, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 645

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 645, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of homeschooled students in Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps units.

S. 646

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 646, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require a full military honors ceremony for certain deceased veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 747

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware

(Mr. COONS) 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. 866

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 866, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 867

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 867, a bill to protect students of institutions of higher education and the taxpayer investment in institutions of higher education by improving oversight and accountability of institutions of higher education, particularly for-profit colleges, improving protections for students and borrowers, and ensuring the integrity of postsecondary education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 888

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

S. 970

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of physical therapists in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) 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. 1012

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1012, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to protect the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records.

S. 1015

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1015, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to review and make certain revisions to the Standard Occupational Classification System, and for other purposes.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1039

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to limit the use of funds for kinetic military operations in or against Iran.

S. 1044

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1044, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign traffickers of illicit opioids, and for other purposes.

S. 1049

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1049, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1098

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1098, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the transportation alternatives program, and for other purposes.

S. 1102

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) 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. 1122

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1122, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.

S. 1142

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1142, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax credits for energy storage technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to require full funding of part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

S. 1173

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1173, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

S. 1190

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1190, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1191

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1191, a bill to reauthorize section 340H of the Public Health Service Act to continue to encourage the expansion, maintenance, and establishment of approved graduate medical residency programs at qualified teaching health centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1209

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1209, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to approval of abbreviated new drug applications.

S. 1227

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1227, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1300, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 1315

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1315, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to establish, or expand upon, master's degree programs in orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to provide bankruptcy relief for student borrowers.

S. 1514

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1514, a bill to amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education that participate in programs under such title to distribute voter registration forms to students enrolled at the institution, and for other purposes.

S. 1539

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1539, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding to secure nonprofit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

S. 1555

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1555, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the Transition Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1565

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1565, a bill to establish a Corps of Engineers Flood Control Civilian Advisory Council, and for other purposes.

S. 1642

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1642, a bill to increase the recruitment and retention of school-based mental health services providers by low-income local educational agencies.

S. 1667

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1667, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain scholarships as earned income for purposes of the kiddie tax.

S. 1677

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide authority to postpone certain deadlines by reason of State declared disasters or emergencies.

S. 1687

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1687, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for certain casualty losses of uncut timber.

S. 1712

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of 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.

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1712, supra.

S. RES. 80

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 80, a resolution establishing the John S. McCain III Human Rights Commission.

S. RES. 142

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 142, a resolution condemning the Government of the Philippines for its continued detention of Senator Leila De Lima, calling for her immediate release, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 217

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 217, a resolution expressing support for the designation of June 7 through June 9, 2019, as ''National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend'' and June 2019 as ''National Gun Violence Awareness Month''.

S. RES. 221

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor 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 Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1722. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to authorize State-licensed appraisers to conduct appraisals in connection with mortgages insured by the FHA and to ensure compliance with the existing appraiser education and competency requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

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

S. 1722

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 ''FHA Appraiser Eligibility Expansion Act''.

SEC. 2. APPRAISER STANDARDS.

(a) CERTIFICATION OR LICENSING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 202(g)(5) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(g)(5)) is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

''(A) be certified or licensed by the State in which the property to be appraised is located;

''(B) be knowledgeable of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice and the appraisal requirements established by the Federal Housing Administration;

''(C) meet the competency requirements described in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice before accepting an assignment; and

''(D) have demonstrated verifiable education in the appraisal requirements established by the Federal Housing Administration under this subsection, which shall include the completion of a course or seminar that educates appraisers on those appraisal requirements and is provided by the Federal Housing Administration or is approved by the Course Approval Program of the Appraiser Qualification Board of the Appraisal Foundation or a State appraiser certifying and licensing agency.''.

(2) APPLICATION.—Subparagraph (D) of section 202(g)(5) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(g)(5)), as added by paragraph (1), shall not apply with respect to any appraiser approved by the Federal Housing Administration to conduct appraisals on mortgages insured under title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) on or before the date on which the mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations take effect under subsection (c)(3).

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH VERIFIABLE EDUCATION AND COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Effective beginning on the date on which the mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations take effect under subsection (c)(3), no appraiser may conduct an appraisal for any mortgage insured under title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) unless—

(1) the appraiser is in compliance with the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) section 202(g)(5) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(g)(5)), as amended by subsection (a); and

(2) if the appraiser was not approved to conduct such appraisals before the date on which the mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations take effect under subsection (c)(3), the appraiser is in compliance with subparagraph (D) of such section 202(g)(5).

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than the 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall issue a mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations that shall—

(1) implement the amendments made by subsection (a);

(2) clearly set forth all of the specific requirements under section 202(g)(5) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(g)(5)), as amended by this Act, for approval to conduct appraisals under title II of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.), which shall include—

(A) providing that, before the effective date of the mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations, a demonstration of competency and completion of training that meet the requirements under subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of such section 202(g)(5), as amended by subsection (a), shall be considered to fulfill the requirements under such subparagraphs; and

(B) providing a method for appraisers to demonstrate such prior competency and completion; and

(3) take effect not later than the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Secretary issues the mortgagee letter or other guidance or regulations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1733. A bill to limit the separation of children from their parents or legal guardians, to limit the detention of families and children, to provide unaccompanied alien children with access to counsel, to increase the number of immigration judges and support staff, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will address one of the most pressing immigration problems facing our nation.

For the past decade, thousands of families have fled violence and poverty to seek asylum in the United States. These families include vulnerable children who must be kept safe once they arrive in the United States. However, since the beginning of the Trump Administration, several new policies have been implemented.

Most disconcerting is the Trump policy to separate young children, even babies, from their mothers and fathers. Dozens of these children spent days and weeks in cages with nothing but thin mats and aluminum blankets.

We have also learned that the Trump Administration then deported many of these parents, leaving the children to be orphaned in this country. In fact, hundreds of children who were separated under this policy have now been apart from their parents for many months, without any immediate prospects for reunification. These children continue to experience extreme stress that leaves them vulnerable to serious, lifelong mental and physical health problems.

Even when families are reunified after months apart, some children no longer recognize the mothers and fathers. This is unconscionable. Today I am introducing the Protecting Immigrant Families and Improving Immigration Procedures Act, a bill that will not only end the practice of separating families at the border, but also put in place other safeguards to protect these at-risk groups.

The first component of the bill I am introducing today is the full text of the Keep Families Together Act, a bill I introduced earlier this year to halt the separation of families and which currently has more than 40 cosponsors. The President claimed to end his policy of separation in June 2018. However, we have since learned that the practice of separating families continues today.

In fact, the Inspector General for Health and Human Services found that thousands more children were separated than the administration initially revealed in June. Parents who try to protect their children from violence and poverty abroad should not be punished by having those children ripped from their arms. Children should not be subjected to severe trauma in the interest of deterring migration.

Instead, families should be kept together and given an opportunity to present their cases for asylum as has been done for the past seven decades.

The second part of the bill I'm introducing today ensures that families with children are not forced into prolonged, indefinite family detention in order to remain together. Child welfare experts, including the American Academy of Pediatrics and the United Nations, have found that detention of this sort has tremendous negative effects on children's health and welfare. This bill guarantees that the Trump Administration cannot reverse the crucial protections that are currently in place under the Flores settlement agreement.

The third piece of this bill would help address the backlog in our immigration courts while protecting the basic rights of children. This part of the bill contains provisions to provide adequate resources to our immigration court system. By adding additional judges and staff, courts will be able to reduce the crushing backlog of over a million pending deportation cases.

The fourth component of this legislation is Senator HIRONO's bill, the Fair Day in Court for Kids Act, that provides counsel for unaccompanied children. This is meant to ensure that these children receive a meaningful opportunity to present their cases in immigration court. This is important because young children, including toddlers, have been forced to represent themselves in immigration court in recent years. It is simply impossible for children to understand their legal immigration status or rights, let alone explain it to a judge.

This bill protects the most vulnerable children in by providing counsel when there is no parent or legal guardian available. The final part of the bill will ensure that immigration judges can manage their caseloads and prioritize the cases as needed. Currently, individuals in deportation proceedings who have been victims of human trafficking or have assisted with criminal prosecutions are often eligible for visas that would protect them from deportation. This bill would allow immigration judges to close these deportation cases quickly to protect these vulnerable individuals and conserve scarce courtroom time. This will be a crucial step in clearing the backlog of pending immigration cases.

By taking these steps, we will help put our immigration system on a pathway to respect the basic rights of children, particularly those who are fleeing violence and poverty abroad. These children are some of the most vulnerable people in the world, and it is absolutely essential that our legal system should treat them with fairness and respect.

These are goals that should be appealing to Democrats and Republicans alike. I hope my colleagues will join me in passing the Protecting Immigrant Families and Improving Immigration Procedures Act.

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

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

S. 1733

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 ''Protecting Families and Improving Immigration Procedures Act''.

SEC. 2. ENSURING THAT FAMILIES REMAIN TOGETHER.

(a) LIMITATION ON THE SEPARATION OF FAMILIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An agent or officer of a designated agency shall not remove a child from his or her parent or legal guardian at or near the port of entry or within 100 miles of the border of the United States unless 1 of the following situations has occurred:

(A) A State court, authorized under State law—

(i) terminates the rights of a parent or legal guardian;

(ii) determines that it is in the best interests of the child to be removed from his or her parent or legal guardian, in accordance with the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–89); or

(iii) makes any similar determination that is legally authorized under State law.

(B) An official from the State or county child welfare agency with expertise in child trauma and development determines that it is in the best interests of the child to be removed from his or her parent or legal guardian because the child—

(i) is in danger of abuse or neglect at the hands of the parent or legal guardian; or

(ii) is a danger to himself or herself or to others.

(C) The Chief Patrol Agent or the Area Port Director, in his or her official and undelegated capacity, authorizes separation, upon the recommendation by an agent or officer, based on a finding that—

(i) the child is a victim of trafficking or is at significant risk of becoming a victim of trafficking;

(ii) there is a strong likelihood that the adult is not the parent or legal guardian of the child; or

(iii) the child is in danger of abuse or neglect at the hands of the parent or legal guardian, or is a danger to himself or herself or to others.

(2) PROHIBITION ON SEPARATION.—An agency may not remove a child from a parent or legal guardian solely for the policy goal of deterring individuals from migrating to the United States or for the policy goal of promoting compliance with civil immigration laws.

(3) DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall ensure that a separation based upon a situation described in paragraph (1)(C)—

(A) is documented in writing; and

(B) includes the reason for such separation and the stated evidence for such separation.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SEPARATION BY AGENTS OR OFFICERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall develop training and guidance, with an emphasis on the best interests of the child, childhood trauma, attachment, and child development, for use by the agents and officers, in order to standardize separations authorized under subsection (a)(1)(C).

(2) ANNUAL REVIEW.—Not less frequently than annually, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(A) review the guidance developed under paragraph (1); and

(B) make recommendations to the Secretary to ensure that such guidance conforms to current evidence and best practices in child welfare, child development, and childhood trauma.

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The guidance developed under paragraph (1) shall incorporate the presumptions described in subsection (c).

(4) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) EVIDENCE-BASED.—The guidance and training developed under this subsection shall incorporate evidence-based practices.

(B) TRAINING REQUIRED.—

(i) INITIAL TRAINING.—All agents and officers of designated agencies, upon hire, and annually thereafter, shall complete training on adherence to the guidance under this subsection.

(ii) ANNUAL TRAINING.—All Chief Patrol Agents and Area Port Directors, upon hire, and annually thereafter, shall complete—

(I) training on adherence to the guidance under this subsection; and

(II) 90 minutes of child welfare practice training that is evidence-based and trauma-informed.

(c) PRESUMPTIONS.—The presumptions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) FAMILY UNITY.—There shall be a strong presumption in favor of family unity.

(2) SIBLINGS.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that sibling groups remain intact.

(3) DETENTION.—There is a presumption that detention is not in the best interests of families and children.

(d) REQUIRED POLICY FOR LOCATING SEPARATED CHILDREN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish final public guidance that describes, with specificity, the manner in which a parent or legal guardian may locate a child who was separated from the parent or legal guardian under subsection (a)(1). In developing the public guidance, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, immigrant advocacy organizations, child welfare organizations, and State child welfare agencies.

(2) WRITTEN NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall provide each parent or legal guardian who was separated, with written notice of the public guidance to locate a separated child.

(3) LANGUAGE ACCESS.—All guidance shall be available in English and Spanish, and at the request of the parent or legal guardian, in the language or manner that is understandable by the parent or legal guardian.

(e) REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR SEPARATED FAMILIES.—Not less frequently than monthly, the Secretary shall provide the parent or legal guardian of a child who was separated—

(1) a status report on the monthly activities of the child;

(2) information about the education and health of the child, including any medical treatment provided to the child or medical treatment recommended for the child;

(3) information about changes to the child's immigration status; and

(4) other information about the child, designed to promote and maintain family reunification, as the Secretary determines in his or her discretion.

(f) ANNUAL REPORT ON FAMILY SEPARATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to the committees of jurisdiction that describes each instance in which a child was separated from a parent or legal guardian and includes, for each such instance—

(1) the relationship of the adult and the child;

(2) the age and gender of the adult and child;

(3) the length of separation;

(4) whether the adult was charged with a crime, and if the adult was charged with a crime, the type of crime;

(5) whether the adult made a claim for asylum, expressed a fear to return, or applied for other immigration relief;

(6) whether the adult was prosecuted if charged with a crime and the associated outcome of such charges;

(7) the stated reason for, and evidence in support of, the separation;

(8) if the child was part of a sibling group at the time of separation, whether the sibling group has had physical contact and visitation;

(9) whether the child was rendered an unaccompanied alien child; and

(10) other information in the Secretary's discretion.

(g) CLARIFICATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.—If a child is separated from a parent or legal guardian, and a State court has not made a determination that the parental rights have been terminated, there is a presumption that—

(1) the parental rights remain intact; and

(2) the separation does not constitute an affirmative determination of abuse or neglect under Federal or State law.

(h) CLARIFICATION OF EXISTING LAW.—

(1) FEDERAL LAW.—Nothing in this section may be interpreted to supersede or modify Federal child welfare law, where applicable, including the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–89).

(2) STATE LAW.—Nothing in this section may be interpreted to supersede or modify State child welfare laws, as applicable.

(i) GAO REPORT ON PROSECUTION OF ASYLUM SEEKERS.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the prosecution of asylum seekers during the period beginning on January 1, 2008 and ending on December 31, 2018, including—

(A) the total number of persons who claimed a fear of persecution, received a favorable credible fear determination, and were referred for prosecution;

(B) an overview and analysis of the metrics used by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice to track the number of asylum seekers referred for prosecution;

(C) the total number of asylum seekers referred for prosecution, a breakdown and description of the criminal charges filed against asylum seekers during such period, and a breakdown and description of the convictions secured;

(D) the total number of asylum seekers who were separated from their children as a result of being referred for prosecution;

(E) a breakdown of the resources spent on prosecuting asylum seekers during such period, as well as any diversion of resources required to prosecute asylum seekers, and any costs imposed on States and localities;

(F) the total number of asylum seekers who were referred for prosecution and also went through immigration proceedings; and

(G) the total number of asylum seekers referred for prosecution who were deported before going through immigration proceedings.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress that describes the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

SEC. 3. FLORES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A family unit may be detained only in accordance with the holding made in Flores v. Sessions et al. (9th Cir. July 5, 2017; C.D. CA; July 24, 2015)) and the stipulated settlement agreement as filed in the United States District Court for the Central District of California on January 17, 1997 (CV 85 4544 RJK) (commonly known as the ''Flores settlement agreement'').

(b) RULEMAKING.—Any regulation proposed or promulgated to supersede the Flores settlement agreement is null and void.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed—

(1) to affect the application of the Flores settlement agreement to unaccompanied alien children; or

(2) to abrogate the Flores settlement agreement.

(d) REVIEW OF DETENTION DETERMINATIONS.—The review of any determination by the Secretary to detain an individual or family unit under this section shall be in accordance with all other provisions of law, holdings (including any holding made in Flores v. Sessions et al. (9th Cir. July 5, 2017; C.D. CA. July 24, 2015)), consent decrees, and settlement agreements (including the Flores settlement agreement).

SEC. 4. ACCESS TO COUNSEL FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL.—In any removal proceeding and in any appeal proceeding before the Attorney General from any such removal proceeding, an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act on 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))) shall be represented by Government-appointed counsel, at Government expense.

(b) LENGTH OF REPRESENTATION.—Once a child is designated as an unaccompanied alien child under subsection (a)—

(1) the child shall be represented by counsel at every stage of the proceedings from the child's initial appearance through the termination of immigration proceedings; and

(2) any ancillary matters appropriate to such proceedings even if the child reaches 18 years of age or is reunified with a parent or legal guardian while the proceedings are pending.

(c) NOTICE.—Not later than 72 hours after an unaccompanied alien child is taken into Federal custody, the child shall be notified that he or she will be provided with legal counsel in accordance with this section.

(d) WITHIN DETENTION FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall ensure that unaccompanied alien children have access to counsel inside all detention, holding, and border facilities.

(e) PRO BONO REPRESENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Attorney General should make every effort to utilize the services of competent counsel who agree to provide representation to such children under this section without charge.

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURES AND SYSTEMS.—The Attorney General shall develop the necessary mechanisms—

(A) to identify counsel available to provide pro bono legal assistance and representation to children under this section; and

(B) to recruit such counsel.

(f) CONTRACTS; GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may enter into contracts with, or award

grants to, nonprofit agencies with relevant expertise in the delivery of immigration-related legal services to children to carry out the responsibilities under this section, including providing legal orientation, screening cases for referral, recruiting, training, and overseeing pro bono attorneys.

(2) SUBCONTRACTS.—Nonprofit agencies may enter into subcontracts with, or award grants to, private voluntary agencies with relevant expertise in the delivery of immigration related legal services to children in order to carry out this section.

(g) MODEL GUIDELINES ON LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF CHILDREN.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES.—The Executive Office for Immigration Review, in consultation with voluntary agencies and national experts, shall develop model guidelines for the legal representation of alien children in immigration proceedings, which shall be based on the children's asylum guidelines, the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct, and other relevant domestic or international sources.

(2) PURPOSE OF GUIDELINES.—The guidelines developed under paragraph (1) shall be designed to help protect each child from any individual suspected of involvement in any criminal, harmful, or exploitative activity associated with the smuggling or trafficking of children, while ensuring the fairness of the removal proceeding in which the child is involved.

(h) DUTIES OF COUNSEL.—Counsel provided under this section shall—

(1) represent the unaccompanied alien child in all proceedings and matters relating to the immigration status of the child or other actions involving the Department of Homeland Security;

(2) appear in person for all individual merits hearings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review and interviews involving the Department of Homeland Security;

(3) owe the same duties of undivided loyalty, confidentiality, and competent representation to the child as is due to an adult client; and

(4) carry out other such duties as may be proscribed by the Attorney General or the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

SEC. 5. INCREASES IN IMMIGRATION JUDGES AND SUPPORT STAFF.

(a) IMMIGRATION JUDGES.—The Attorney General shall increase the total number of immigration judges to adjudicate pending cases and efficiently process future cases by not fewer than 75 judges during fiscal year 2019.

(b) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Attorney General shall—

(1) increase the total number of judicial law clerks by 75 during fiscal year 2019; and

(2) increase the total number of support staff for immigration judges, including legal assistants and interpreters, by 300 during fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 6. DOCKET MANAGEMENT FOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION.

Notwithstanding any opposition from the Secretary, immigration judges may administratively close cases, and the Board of Immigration Appeals may remand cases for administrative closure, if an individual in removal proceedings—

(1) appears to be prima facie eligible for a visa or other immigration benefit; and

(2) has a pending application for such benefit before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or another appropriate agency.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AGENT; OFFICER.—The terms ''agent'' and ''officer'' include contractors of the Federal Government.

(2) CHILD.—The term ''child'' means an individual who—

(A) has not attained 18 years of age; and

(B) has no permanent immigration status.

(3) COMMITTEES OF JURISDICTION.—The term ''committees of jurisdiction'' means—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(4) DANGER OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT AT THE HANDS OF THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.—The term ''danger of abuse or neglect at the hands of the parent or legal guardian'' shall not mean migrating to or crossing the United States border.

(5) DESIGNATED AGENCY.—The term ''designated agency'' means—

(A) the Department of Homeland Security;

(B) the Department of Justice; and

(C) the Department of Health and Human Services.

(6) FINDING.—The term ''finding'' means an individualized written assessment or screening by the trained agent or officer that includes a consultation with a child welfare specialist, formalized as required under subsection (b)(3) and consistent with subsections (c), (d), and (h).

(7) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 1734. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I am once again introducing legislation to allow the District of Columbia to receive funding and other benefits under the Coastal Zone Management Act. I am pleased to offer this companion legislation to a bill, H.R. 2185, introduced by the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

Few of us realize that 70 percent of the District is located within the coastal plain. Similar to my State of Delaware, sea level rise, upstream sources of water, degraded infrastructure, and coastal subsidence mean that the District could experience serious future cleanup and repair costs due to flooding—including damage to federal property, which makes up almost 30 percent of the District. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reports that since 1950, nuisance flooding has increased by more than 300% in the District. And, since 2006, DC has experienced two 100-year flooding events, and District officials estimate that a future 100-year flood event could cause over $1.2 billion in damages. Needless to say, these events will become more and more common due to climate change—including rising sea levels—and coastal subsidence.

The District of Columbia would use funding from the Coastal Zone Management Program for flood risk planning and environmental restoration to prevent and mitigate future flood damage. At the same time, this work would help to restore and conserve the District's coastal resources such as habitat, fisheries, and endangered species.

If included in the Coastal Zone Management Program, the District of Columbia would be eligible for $1 million or more of federal funding annually to assist in coastal flood-control projects, to combat non-point source water pollution, and to develop special area management plans in areas experiencing environmental justice and/or flooding issues.

The National Coastal Zone Management Program, housed in NOAA, was established through the passage of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. At the time, Congress recognized the need to manage the effects of increased growth in the nation's coastal zone, which includes jurisdictions bordering the oceans and the Great Lakes.

There are currently 34 jurisdictional coastal zone management programs, including both States and territories. In order for the District of Columbia to participate in the program, Congress must pass this amendment to the Coastal Zone Management Act that would include the District under the definition of a ''coastal state.''

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

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

S. 1734

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 ''Flood Prevention Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1972.

Section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4)) is amended by inserting ''the District of Columbia,'' after ''the term also includes''.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. REED, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1741. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to advance energy storage deployment by reducing the cost of energy storage through research, development, and demonstration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a set of three bills that will lower the cost of energy storage, increase flexibility in the power grid, and create a comprehensive set of grant programs to advance development of renewable energy technologies throughout the country.

Currently, many energy technologies—like energy storage—compete in unfair markets, making it hard for new innovations to measure up to more established technologies like those of the fossil fuel industry. Congress and the Department of Energy

can work hand-in-hand with industry to level the playing field, using a fair, tech-neutral approach when updating the electricity system, to benefit the American consumer.

My Reducing the Cost of Energy Storage Act will provide funding to the Department of Energy to research and develop ways to lower the cost of energy storage technologies. Ultimately, this bill will make it possible for renewable energy to be used on a more reliable and affordable basis.

To protect the power supply from disruptions caused by natural disasters, which can wipe out power to millions of homes, my Flexible Grid Infrastructure Act will require the Department of Energy to find and develop ways to make the power grid more flexible and responsive to these challenges. The bill will also connect displaced workers to training programs that will allow them to transition to high-skill clean energy jobs. Finally, this bill will provide States and utilities with resources to upgrade the flexibility and reliability of the power grid.

In order to ensure private sector growth in distributed energy technologies, my Distributed Energy Demonstration Act will create competitive, cost-share grant programs for new small-scale, grid-connected projects, such as rooftop solar panels, hot water heaters, electric vehicles, and modernized utility pricing technologies.

Together or apart, these bills will promote a more flexible electricity grid that can respond to power disruptions from natural disasters and ensure reliable, low-cost electricity for consumers now and in the future. They will also lower costs for energy storage technologies that make renewable energy more reliable and cost-effective, boost funding for cutting-edge research, and reward State and private sector innovations, which will make renewable energy more reliable and affordable for U.S. energy consumers.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself. Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1744. A bill to provide lawful permanent resident status for certain advanced STEM degree holders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD. There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1744

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 ''Keep STEM Talent Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR CERTAIN ADVANCED STEM DEGREE HOLDERS.

(a) ALIENS NOT SUBJECT TO DIRECT NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—Section 201(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(F)(i) Aliens who—

''(I) have earned a degree in a STEM field at the master's level or higher while physically present in the United States from a United States institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) accredited by an accrediting entity recognized by the Department of Education;

''(II) have an offer of employment from, or are employed by, a United States employer in a field related to such degree at a rate of pay that is higher than the median wage level for the occupational classification in the area of employment, as determined by the Secretary of Labor; and

''(III) are admissible pursuant to an approved labor certification under section 212(a)(5)(A)(i).

''(ii) In this subparagraph, the term 'STEM field' means a field of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics described in the most recent version of the Classification of Instructional Programs of the Department of Education taxonomy under the summary group of—

''(I) computer and information sciences and support services;

''(II) engineering;

''(III) mathematics and statistics;

''(IV) biological and biomedical sciences;

''(V) physical sciences;

''(VI) agriculture sciences; or

''(VII) natural resources and conservation sciences.''.

(b) PROCEDURE FOR GRANTING IMMIGRATION STATUS.—Section 204(a)(1)(F) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(F)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''203(b)(2)'' and all that follows through ''Attorney General''; and

(2) by inserting ''203(b)(2), 203(b)(3), or 201(b)(1)(F) may file a petition with the Secretary of Homeland Security''.

(c) DUAL INTENT FOR F NONIMMIGRANTS SEEKING ADVANCED STEM DEGREES AT UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—Notwithstanding sections 101(a)(15)(F)(i) and 214(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)(i), 1184(b)), an alien who is a bona fide student admitted to a program in a STEM field (as defined in section 201(b)(1)(F)(ii)) for a degree at the master's level or higher at a United States institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) accredited by an accrediting entity recognized by the Department of Education may obtain a student visa or extend or change nonimmigrant status to pursue such degree even if such alien intends to seek lawful permanent resident status in the United States.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1749. A bill to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 1749

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 ''Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. SEASONING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN REFINANCED MORTGAGE LOANS.

(a) GINNIE MAE.—Section 306(g)(1) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)(1)) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(b) VETERANS LOANS.—Section 3709(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter before paragraph (1), by striking ''is refinanced'' and inserting ''is a refinance''; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(1) the date on which the borrower has made at least six consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced; and

''(2) the date that is 210 days after the first payment due date of the loan being refinanced.''.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to restrict or otherwise modify the authorities of the Government National Mortgage Association.

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

S. 1753. A bill to promote accountability and effective administration in the execution of laws by restoring the original understanding of the President's constitutional power to remove subordinates from office; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, President Trump was famous for many things even before he was elected. One of those things was the catch-phrase ''You're fired,'' which he popularized on his reality TV show ''The Apprentice.''

This is a relatively commonplace phrase. It is something that most persons are familiar with, but it is not surprising that the phrase would have so much appeal for a television audience. I think the reason has something to do with the fact that it carries a certain power and resonance with it because the person who has the authority to use it within any organization is, generally speaking, a person who gets to call the shots. It is emblematic of executive control and, therefore, the ability to get things done within an organization.

That is not to say that good leaders get their way solely or even primarily by threatening to fire people who work for them. Effective leadership, more often than not, requires what are sometimes called soft leadership skills.

But the fact, nonetheless, remains that the head of an organization must always have hanging in reserve, sort of like an employer Damoclean sword—the absolute right to terminate a subordinate.

It is the ultimate and essential backstop that enforces and reifies an executive's power to make decisions. This is true for pretty much any leader, whether that leader happens to be the CEO of a corporation, the coach of a sports team, or a general out on the field of battle.

Yet, remarkably, under our laws, the President of the United States lacks authority over many high-ranking officers within the executive branch. Despite its elemental association with Executive power, Congress and the courts have time and again deprived the President of the ability to remove his subordinates at will.

These restrictions often take the form of statutory for-cause removal

protections, such as the provision of the Federal Trade Commission Act that provides that Commissioners may be removed only ''for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.''

In enacting laws like this, Congress has cast aside the original meaning of the Constitution and thereby eroded a critical safeguard of American freedom. As anyone who has studied the Constitution or constitutional law, for that matter, can guess, my reference to the FTC's for-cause protection is not accidental.

That statute formed the basis of the lawsuit that culminated in the 1935 decision by the Supreme Court in a case called Humphrey's Executor, in which the Supreme Court held for the first time that Congress may impose restrictions on the President's removal power.

In so holding, the Supreme Court overruled its earlier precedent in Myers v. United States, which had held that Congress may not limit the President's ability to remove principal officers within the Federal Government, but Humphrey's Executor didn't simply overrule Myers. Rather, as Justice Scalia later wrote, ''it gutt[ed], in six quick pages devoid of textual or historical precedent. . . . a carefully researched and reasoned 70-page opinion.'' That juxtaposition alone tells you what you need to know about these decisions. One had constitutional text and original understanding and historical precedent behind it. The other was constitutional law by judicial fiat.

Article II of the Constitution unquestionably establishes a unitary executive. The vesting clause provides that ''the executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.''

As Alexander Hamilton explained it in Federalist No. 70, placing the totality of the Executive power in a single individual was no happenstance. It was no mistake. It wasn't just sort of some fluke. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention recognized that a unified executive was essential to ensure energy and accountability in the execution of the laws, and the Constitution was drafted accordingly, consistent with this understanding.

Without the authority to supervise and direct, and, yes, ultimately fire his subordinates, it is impossible for the President to fulfill his duty imposed by article II to ''take care that the laws be faithfully executed.''

The Founders also understood that the President's removal power was the bedrock of his authority to oversee the executive branch. In a famous debate during the First Congress, James Madison argued that ''if any power whatsoever is in its nature Executive, it is the power of appointing, overseeing, and controlling those who execute the laws.''

He went on to note that ''if the President should possess alone the power of removal from office, those who are employed in the execution of the law will be in their proper situation, and the chain of dependence be preserved; [they] will depend, as they ought, on the President, and the President on the community.''

Madison's argument prevailed, and the First Congress declined, on constitutional grounds, for the reasons articulated by James Madison himself, to create for-cause removal protections for the heads of the newly established executive branch departments. They considered it; Madison raised, very persuasively, this constitutional argument against it; and then they voted it down. That was the original understanding of the removal power, and it predominated for nearly 150 years after the Founding.

Since Humphrey's Executor and its radical departure from the original understanding in 1935, for-cause removal protections, both statutory and otherwise, have, sadly, proliferated, giving rise to a vast, headless, out-of-control branch of government, a fourth branch of government, if you will, that exists beyond the control of the President and is therefore unaccountable to the people.

In fact, by some estimations, there are over 80 so-called independent agencies within the executive branch. These executive branch agencies that we refer to somehow as independent are entrusted with regulating immense swaths of American life—from competition policy and workplace safety regulations to labor relations and even securities laws. They make rules; they adjudicate rights; and they enforce laws. The potential for abuse is tremendous; the inconsistency with the republican principles this country was founded on, obvious.

Now, there are a lot of people here who like the sound of the term ''independent agency,'' and they might suppose, incorrectly, that an agency that is independent, that is beyond the control of the President of the United States to oversee, that that is somehow a good thing.

On closer inspection, we discover that quite the opposite is true. When we insulate someone from Presidential oversight, what we are doing is taking the American people out of the picture. There is a reason why we have elections every 4 years, and those elections focus on the election of a President. It is so there is some chain of accountability between the people and the executive branch of government.

That has become more important, not less, over the last few decades as we have created more and more executive branch agencies and we have entrusted those agencies with more and more power. It has never been more important than it is today to make sure the people are connected. If you disconnect the American people by insulating them from the political process, then you have a whole group of people who these days are charged not just with administrating the laws but, in some cases, with effectively making it and interpreting it, and you are taking them beyond the supervision that would otherwise be appropriate by the President of the United States within the executive branch of government.

In their fight against British tyranny, the Patriots of the American Revolution rallied behind the principle of ''no taxation without representation.'' Today we are faced with a somewhat different threat to freedom, as Chief Justice Roberts wrote in a case just a few years ago. ''The growth of the Executive Branch, which now wields vast power and touches almost every aspect of daily life, heightens the concern that it may slip from the Executive's control, and thus from that of the people.''

In other words, as Chief Justice Roberts explained, when you take this power away from the President, you are taking it away from the people. The people lose their input on and their control over these very important functions of what is appropriately described as the people's government.

The concern is further compounded by the existence of independent agencies that are, by law, divorced from any Presidential control. As a result, in this new fight against tyranny, our watchword perhaps must be ''no regulation without representation.'' That is why I have spearheaded the Article I Project and why I supported legislation such as the REINS Act and the Separation of Powers Restoration Act that would bring the Federal regulatory apparatus, as we know it, to heel.

Of course, more is needed. We need to not only reform Congress's relationship with the administrative state but the President's as well. To that end, I am introducing new legislation called the Take Care Act. The bill would restore the unitary executive envisioned by the Founders and, in fact, required by the Constitution by stripping away all existing for-cause removal protections from the so-called independent agencies. It would also limit Congress's ability to create for-cause protections by implication in the future and take other critical steps to fortify the President's directive authority.

Simply put, the Take Care Act would eliminate the headless fourth branch of government, empower the President to ensure faithful execution of the law, and make the bureaucracy accountable to the people again. Importantly, the Take Care Act would not cause the work of administrative agencies to become subject to the unmitigated whims and caprices of a President. There is still very real, very meaningful political constraints, including the Senate's advise and consent role, that would ensure, as they do now, in areas outside of these so-called independent agencies, that the executive officers can fulfill their congressionally assigned duties without undue interference.

In other words, although there are some so-called independent agencies as to which the President has no removal

power, there are a whole lot that are not. The President's Cabinet and many other positions within the Federal Government involve people who are appointed by the President, confirmed by the Senate, and who serve at the pleasure of the President who can be fired at any moment for any reason the President might deem appropriate.

Nevertheless, that does not mean that Presidents go around just firing people arbitrarily because Presidents understand that there is a political cost to doing that. We have seen in recent years, and we have seen earlier in American history, how Presidents, even when they have disagreements with members of their Cabinet or other people who serve at the pleasure of the President—Presidents are still reluctant to fire people because there are political costs attached to that, and especially where Congress perceives there might be a partisan political motive in mind, Congress may well take action.

In the case of the Senate, it almost inevitably will at least threaten, if not carry out the threat, to hold up future confirmations of Presidential appointees if Presidents abuse this power.

So it simply isn't true to say that this would open the floodgates and cause all Presidents to just fire people arbitrarily without hesitation in the future. What it would mean is that our elected President would have the power to represent the people and to oversee the executive branch of the Federal Government just as article II already requires.

So all this bill would do would be to rescind and limit unconstitutional restrictions on the President's removal power, and while it may be more convenient to limit this power by statute, convenience and efficiency are not the primary objectives or the hallmarks of a democratic government, as the Supreme Court has repeatedly reminded us.

Another famous catchphrase popularized by an American President is ''the buck stops here,'' which President Truman, of course, displayed on a placard on his desk in the Oval Office at the White House during his Presidency. What it means is, the President is the final decision maker within the executive branch, and, therefore, bears the sole and ultimate responsibility for executing the laws.

In order to fulfill that very special, sacred, important responsibility, the President must have plenary power to direct the President's subordinates in how they carry out their assigned tasks and, if necessary, fire them. That is what the Constitution and, indeed, common sense require. By restoring the original understanding and restoring the removal power to the Presidency, the Take Care Act would give the President this authority.

By taking this step, we would reempower the American people with that which is rightfully theirs to begin with.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 231—CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACK ON THE CHABAD OF POWAY SYNAGOGUE NEAR SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, ON APRIL 27, 2019

Ms. HARRIS (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 231

Whereas on April 27, 2019, a 19-year-old armed with an assault rifle attacked the Chabad of Poway Synagogue near San Diego, California, while congregants were celebrating the last day of the Passover holiday;

Whereas the gunman wounded Almog Peretz, Noya Dahan, and Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein;

Whereas Lori Gilbert Kaye, a founding member of the congregation, was killed while bravely saving the life of Rabbi Goldstein;

Whereas, in describing the attack, Rabbi Goldstein said—

(1) ''. . . Lori took the bullet for all of us. She died to protect all of us''; and

(2) ''This is Lori. This is her legacy, and her legacy will continue. It could have been so much worse.'';

Whereas Oscar Stewart, a veteran of the Army, and Jonathan Morales, a border patrol agent, bravely fought back, running toward the perpetrator of the attack;

Whereas law enforcement and first responders, including the San Diego Sheriff's Department, acted quickly and professionally to respond to the attack and care for the victims;

Whereas the perpetrator of the attack, who expressed White supremacist and White nationalist sentiments, entered the synagogue shouting anti-Semitic slurs;

Whereas the attack occurred 6 months to the day after the attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which killed 11 innocent people and injured 6 others, including 4 law enforcement officers;

Whereas anti-Semitism is an age-old form of prejudice, discrimination, persecution, and marginalization of Jewish people that runs counter to the values of the United States;

Whereas, according to an annual audit conducted by the Anti-Defamation League, in 2018—

(1) anti-Semitic incidents remained at near-historic levels in the United States; and

(2) the number of anti-Semitic incidents with known connections to extremists or inspired by extremist ideology reached the highest levels since 2004;

Whereas, in a manifesto attributed to the perpetrator of the attack, the perpetrator of the attack claimed responsibility for the burning of a mosque in Escondido, California, and demonstrated anti-Muslim bias;

Whereas growing White supremacy and White nationalism is—

(1) a threat to the security of the United States; and

(2) antithetical to the American values of dignity and respect of all people, including Jewish, Muslim, Black, Latino, Asian American, immigrant, and LGBTQ peoples; and

Whereas hate has no place in the United States and there is a duty to condemn all forms of hatred: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the horrific anti-Semitic attack on the Chabad of Poway Synagogue near San Diego, California, on April 27, 2019, which killed 1 individual and injured 3 others;

(2) honors the memory of Lori Gilbert Kaye, who was killed in the attack;

(3) expresses hope for a full and speedy recovery for the individuals injured in the attack;

(4) offers heartfelt condolences to—

(A) the Chabad of Poway congregation;

(B) the San Diego area Jewish community; and

(C) the friends and family of those individuals affected by the tragedy;

(5) recognizes the dedicated service of the law enforcement emergency response officials and medical professionals who responded to the attack and cared for the victims; and

(6) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to condemn—

(A) anti-Semitism;

(B) White supremacy;

(C) White nationalism; and

(D) all forms of hatred.

SENATE RESOLUTION 232—CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE EXTRADITION OR EXPULSION TO THE UNITED STATES OF CONVICTED FELONS JOANNE CHESIMARD AND WILLIAM MORALES AND ALL OTHER FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE WHO ARE RECEIVING SAFE HAVEN IN CUBA IN ORDER TO ESCAPE PROSECUTION OR CONFINEMENT FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES COMMITTED IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 232

Whereas Joanne Chesimard, one of the most wanted terrorists of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was convicted of the May 2, 1973, murder of New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster;

Whereas William Morales, leader and chief bomb-maker for the terrorist organization Fuerzas Armadas de Liberación Nacional, committed numerous terrorist attacks on United States soil, including the bombings of Fraunces Tavern in lower Manhattan on January 25, 1975, and the Mobil Oil employment office in New York on August 3, 1977, which killed 5 people and injured over 60 others;

Whereas more than 70 fugitives from the United States, charged with offenses ranging from hijacking to kidnapping to drug offenses to murder, are believed to be receiving safe haven in Cuba;

Whereas other fugitives from United States justice who are receiving safe haven in Cuba include Charles Hill, wanted for the killing of a State trooper in New Mexico, and Victor Manuel Gerena, on the list of the 10 most wanted fugitives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for carrying out a brutal robbery of a Wells Fargo armored car in Connecticut;

Whereas, according to the Treaty Between the United States and Cuba for the Mutual Extradition of Fugitives from Justice, signed at Washington April 6, 1904 (33 Stat. 2265), and the Additional Extradition Treaty Between the United States and Cuba, signed at Havana, January 14, 1926 (44 Stat. 2392), the United States has a bilateral extradition treaty with Cuba;

Whereas, in January 2002, the Government of Cuba deported to the United States Jesse

James Bell, a United States fugitive wanted on drug charges;

Whereas, in March 2002, the Government of Cuba extradited drug trafficker Luis Hernando Gomez Bustamante to Colombia, and Gomez Bustamante was subsequently extradited to the United States in July 2007 to face drug trafficking charges; and

Whereas it is imperative that the Government of Cuba abide by its extradition treaty with the United States and immediately extradite or expel to the United States those legally indicted or convicted of serious criminal offenses in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls for the immediate extradition or expulsion to the United States of convicted felons Joanne Chesimard and William Morales and all other fugitives from justice who are receiving safe haven in Cuba in order to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States;

(2) urges the international community to continue to press for the immediate extradition or expulsion of all fugitives from justice who are receiving safe haven in Cuba; and

(3) calls on the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to continue to press for the immediate extradition or expulsion from Cuba or from any other country of all fugitives from United States justice so that they may be tried and, if convicted, serve out their sentences.

SENATE RESOLUTION 233—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THOUGHT, AND EXPRESSION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 233

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that ''Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech'';

Whereas, in *Healy* v. *James*, 408 U.S. 169 (1972), the Supreme Court of the United States held that the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States applies in full force on the campuses of public colleges and universities;

Whereas, in *Widmar* v. *Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981), the Supreme Court of the United States observed that ''the campus of a public university, at least for its students, possesses many of the characteristics of a public forum'';

Whereas lower Federal courts have also held that the open, outdoor areas of the campuses of public colleges and universities are public forums;

Whereas section 112(a)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1011a(a)(2)) contains a sense of Congress noting that ''an institution of higher education should facilitate the free and open exchange of ideas'', ''students should not be intimidated, harassed, discouraged from speaking out, or discriminated against'', ''students should be treated equally and fairly'', and ''nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to modify, change, or infringe upon any constitutionally protected religious liberty, freedom, expression, or association'';

Whereas, despite the clarity of the applicable legal precedent and the vital importance of protecting public colleges in the United States as true ''marketplaces of ideas'', the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education has found that approximately 1 in 10 of the top colleges and universities in the United States quarantine student expression to so-called ''free speech zones'', and a survey of 466 schools found that almost 30 percent maintain severely restrictive speech codes that clearly and substantially prohibit constitutionally protected speech;

Whereas, according to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), ''Speech codes adopted by government-financed state colleges and universities amount to government censorship, in violation of the Constitution. And the ACLU believes that all campuses should adhere to First Amendment principles because academic freedom is a bedrock of education in a free society.'';

Whereas the University of Chicago, as part of its commitment ''to free and open inquiry in all matters'', issued a statement in which ''it guarantees all members of the University community the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn'', and more than 50 university administrations and faculty bodies have endorsed a version of the ''Chicago Statement'';

Whereas, in December 2014, the University of Hawaii at Hilo settled a lawsuit for $50,000 after it was sued in Federal court for prohibiting students from protesting the National Security Agency unless those students were standing in the tiny, flood-prone free speech zone at the university;

Whereas, in July 2015, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, settled a lawsuit for $35,000 after it was sued in Federal court for prohibiting a student from handing out flyers about animal abuse outside of the free speech zone at the university, comprising less than 0.01 percent of campus;

Whereas, in May 2016, a student-plaintiff settled her lawsuit against Blinn College in Texas for $50,000 after administrators told her she needed ''special permission'' to advocate for Second Amendment rights outside of the tiny free speech zone at the college;

Whereas, in February 2017, Georgia Gwinnett College agreed to modify its restrictive speech policies after two students sued in Federal court to challenge a requirement that students obtain prior authorization from administrators to engage in expressive activity within the limits of a tiny free speech zone, comprising less than 0.0015 percent of campus;

Whereas, in March 2017, Middlebury College students and protesters from the community prevented an invited speaker from giving his presentation and then attacked his car and assaulted a professor as the two attempted to leave, resulting in the professor suffering a concussion;

Whereas, in January 2018, Kellogg Community College in Michigan settled a lawsuit for $55,000 for arresting two students for handing out copies of the Constitution of the United States while talking with their fellow students on a sidewalk;

Whereas, in June 2018, the University of Michigan agreed to change its restrictive speech code on the same day the United States Department of Justice filed a statement of interest in support of a lawsuit in Federal court challenging the constitutionality of the speech code of the university;

Whereas, in December 2018, the Los Angeles Community College District, a 9-campus community college district that includes Pierce College, settled a lawsuit for $225,000 and changed its restrictive speech policies after it was sued in Federal court for prohibiting a Pierce College student from distributing Spanish-language copies of the Constitution of the United States on campus unless he stood in the free speech zone, which comprised approximately 0.003 percent of the total area of the 426 acres of the college;

Whereas, in December 2018, the University of California, Berkeley, home of the 1960s campus free speech movement, settled a lawsuit for $70,000 and changed its restrictive policies after it was sued in Federal court for singling out one student group, apart from other student groups, with the imposition of stricter rules for inviting ''high-profile'' public speakers;

Whereas the States of Virginia, Missouri, Arizona, Kentucky, Colorado, Utah, North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Dakota, and Iowa have passed legislation prohibiting public colleges and universities from quarantining expressive activities on the open outdoor areas of campuses to misleadingly labeled free speech zones; and

Whereas free speech zones have been used to restrict political speech from all parts of the political spectrum and have thus inhibited the free exchange of ideas at campuses across the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that free speech zones and restrictive speech codes are inherently at odds with the freedom of speech guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

(2) recognizes that institutions of higher education should facilitate and recommit themselves to protecting the free and open exchange of ideas;

(3) recognizes that freedom of expression and freedom of speech are sacred ideals of the United States that must be vigorously safeguarded in a world increasingly hostile to democracy;

(4) encourages the Secretary of Education to promote policies that foster spirited debate, academic freedom, intellectual curiosity, and viewpoint diversity on the campuses of public colleges and universities; and

(5) encourages the Attorney General to defend and protect the First Amendment across public colleges and universities.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, it is so interesting to always come to the floor and speak on topics that are important to Tennesseans and I think also to Americans. As I begin my remarks, I want to kind of build the context for this and take us back to a time I know the Presiding Officer recalls, and so do I. It was the sixties. I was a child who was growing up. I remember it as a decade where bold statements and brash behavior and activists from each side of the aisle set the standard for what we today look at and say is a modern-day political protest. What we saw in this decade was once-sleepy college campuses became the scenes of widespread unrest. Tensions were high and conditions were perfect for what else but a Supreme Court battle.

In September 1969, a group of students attending Central Connecticut State University decided they wanted to organize a local chapter of the organization Students for Democratic Society. The university president rejected the application, claiming that the SDS philosophy was ''antithetical to the school's policies'' and could be a disruptive influence on campus.

Now, I am sure he thought he had a good point. The national SDS organization was known for its fiery protests,

and its now-notorious acts of civil disobedience. They made it their business to make authority figures nervous. Nervousness, however, is not an exception to the First Amendment. The students knew that, so the lawsuits started flying. The students' case finally made it to the Supreme Court, which held that ''the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States applies in full force on the campuses of public colleges and universities.'' That case, Healy v. James, was a win for free speech. Although precedent continues to trend in the right direction, the First Amendment is in danger on the American college campus. From so-called free speech zones to severely restricted speech codes, campus officials are doing their best to ensure that students are protected from anything that may challenge their preexisting notions of right and wrong.

Instead of creating a safe environment, these policies have backfired, creating an atmosphere of fear and violence toward opposing viewpoints.

Just this past April, protesters at the University of Texas at Austin used smoke bombs to shut down a pro-life speaker at a Young Conservatives of Texas event.

In 2017, the editorial staff at Wellesley College's student newspaper threatened hostility toward anyone whose beliefs—their beliefs; not just their words but their beliefs—did not fit into the acceptable liberal mold.

That same year, Middlebury College campus—their left behaved so disgracefully that one progressive columnist begged the students at his alma mater to find a way to protest views they disagree with without shutting down speech entirely.

In the face of such hostility toward free and open debate, I ask this body, what have we done, and what can be done to turn back the tide?

Today, on the eve of National Higher Education Day, I am introducing the Campus Free Speech Resolution of 2019. It is a first step in restoring sanity to free speech for American college students. This resolution first and foremost recognizes that free speech zones and restrictive speech codes contradict the guarantees of the First Amendment. It recognizes that universities should protect the free and open exchange of ideas and that freedom of speech is worth protecting in a world increasingly hostile to democracy.

Through this resolution, I encourage the Secretary of Education to promote policies that encourage intellectual curiosity, viewpoint diversity, and debate. Last but not least, I encourage the Attorney General to defend and protect the First Amendment.

Standing by as universities surrender to activists who value their own comfort over the free exchange of ideas isn't just a mistake; it is a moral inversion.

We have a duty to make sure younger generations understand that protecting the First Amendment means protecting one another in the public square—even if we want more than anything to shut down what we are hearing. I may disagree with what you have to say, but I will defend your right to say it.

Above all, we have a duty to help them understand that an America where curiosity is replaced by suspicion, where debate is replaced by intimidation, and where speech is replaced by silence is no America at all.

SENATE RESOLUTION 234—AFFIRMING THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO THE TWO-STATE SOLUTION TO THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT, AND NOTING THAT ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY IN THE WEST BANK WOULD UNDERMINE PEACE AND ISRAEL'S FUTURE AS A JEWISH AND DEMOCRATIC STATE

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 234

Whereas longstanding United States policy has recognized that a two-state solution to achieve peace between the Israelis and Palestinians would serve as the best hope for peace and security in the region;

Whereas roadmaps for peace outlined by President Bill Clinton, President George W. Bush, and President Barack Obama reflected the bipartisan United States policy promoting a negotiated two-state solution that supports the self-determination of both Israelis and Palestinians;

Whereas successive United States administrations of different political parties identified settlement expansion as an impediment to peace;

Whereas Israel's status as a Jewish and democratic state has been indispensable to its national identity throughout its history;

Whereas Israel has built and maintained relationships with its Arab neighbors;

Whereas ongoing security coordination between Israelis and Palestinians promotes stability;

Whereas deep United States-Israel cooperation provides significant mutual benefit to the security and prosperity of both countries and strengthens the unbreakable bond between the people of each country; and

Whereas any resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must guarantee Israel's security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the policy of the United States should be to preserve conditions conducive to a negotiated two-state solution;

(2) United States efforts to promote peace between the Israelis and Palestinians should explicitly endorse a two-state solution as the goal of any process to resolve the conflict's core issues;

(3) unilateral annexation of portions of the West Bank would jeopardize prospects for a two-state solution, harm Israel's relationship with its Arab neighbors, threaten Israel's Jewish and democratic identity, and undermine Israel's security; and

(4) a two-state solution is the best hope to preserve Israel's Jewish and democratic nature while fulfilling the Palestinians' right to self-determination, creating a foundation for just and durable peace and prosperity.

SENATE RESOLUTION 235—DESIGNATING JUNE 12, 2019, AS ''WOMEN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY''

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 235

Whereas, throughout all periods of the history of the United States, women have proudly served the United States to secure and preserve freedom and liberty for—

(1) the people of the United States; and

(2) the allies of the United States;

Whereas women have formally been a part of the United States Armed Forces since the establishment of the Army Nurse Corps in 1901, but have informally served since the inception of the United States military;

Whereas women have served honorably and with valor, including—

(1) disguised as male soldiers during the American Revolution and the Civil War;

(2) as nurses during World War I and World War II; and

(3) as combat helicopter pilots in Afghanistan;

Whereas, as of May 2019, women constitute approximately 15 percent of United States Armed Forces personnel on active duty, including—

(1) nearly 19 percent of active duty personnel in the Air Force;

(2) 18 percent of active duty personnel in the Navy;

(3) 14 percent of active duty personnel in the Army;

(4) 8 percent of active duty personnel in the Marine Corps; and

(5) nearly 15 percent of active duty personnel in the Coast Guard;

Whereas, as of May 2019, women constitute nearly 21 percent of personnel in the National Guard and Reserves;

Whereas by 2020—

(1) the population of women veterans is expected to reach 2,000,000, which represents an exponential increase from 1,100,000 in 1980; and

(2) women veterans are expected to constitute more than 10 percent of the total veteran population;

Whereas the United States is proud of and appreciates the service of all women veterans who have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which the United States was founded and which the United States continues to uphold;

Whereas women veterans have unique stories and should be encouraged to share their recollections through the Veterans History Project, which has worked since 2000 to collect and share the personal accounts of wartime veterans in the United States; and

Whereas, by designing June 12, 2019, as ''Women Veterans Appreciation Day'', the Senate can—

(1) highlight the growing presence of women in the Armed Forces and the National Guard; and

(2) pay respect to women veterans for their dutiful military service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates June 12, 2019, as ''Women Veterans Appreciation Day'' to recognize the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 236—REAFFIRMING THE STRONG PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TUNISIA AND THE UNITED STATES AND SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF TUNISIA IN THEIR CONTINUED PURSUIT OF DEMOCRATIC REFORMS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 236

Whereas relations between the United States and Tunisia began in 1795, and the 2 countries have partnered in trade and security since the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship, signed at Tunis, August 28, 1797;

Whereas the United States was the first major power to recognize a sovereign Tunisia, following its independence from France in 1956;

Whereas the people of the United States and of Tunisia share core values, such as respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law;

Whereas, on January 14, 2011, the peaceful mass protests of the Jasmine Revolution successfully brought to an end the authoritarian rule of President Ben Ali;

Whereas, in the aftermath of Ben Ali's resignation, Tunisians—

(1) initiated a peaceful, consensus-based, and inclusive transition to democracy;

(2) held the first competitive, multi-party democratic elections of the 2011 Arab Spring;

(3) adopted a new constitution in 2014; and

(4) held new elections under that constitution later that year;

Whereas, on December 31, 2014, after winning a free and fair presidential election, Beji Caid Essebsi was inaugurated as the first freely elected President of Tunisia;

Whereas, on October 9, 2015, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet, a coalition of 4 civil society organizations, the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize for the coalition's work—

(1) building on the promise of the 2011 Jasmine Revolution; and

(2) ensuring that the transition of Tunisia into a democracy did not descend into violence or renewed authoritarianism;

Whereas Tunisia has been the only North African country to achieve a ''Free'' rating by the Freedom House's annual Freedom in the World report, and has maintained a ''Free'' rating since 2015;

Whereas the political evolution of Tunisia stands as an inspiration for citizens of other states aspiring to establish the institutions of democracy after a history of autocratic rule;

Whereas Tunisia suffered significant terrorist attacks in 2015 and 2016;

Whereas, on October 29, 2018, a terrorist attack on Avenue Habib Bourguiba in Tunis wounded 20 people and was perpetrated by an unemployed university graduate who had been unemployed for 3 years and had no known ties to terrorist groups;

Whereas, in the aftermath of these attacks, citizens and leaders of Tunisia have reaffirmed their commitment to dialogue, pluralism, and democracy;

Whereas a significant number of Tunisian fighters for extremist groups, including the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) reportedly returned to Tunisia, many clandestinely, between 2011 and 2018;

Whereas Tunisia continues to face serious threats to its security from violent extremist groups operating within the country as well as in neighboring countries;

Whereas, in July 2015, President Obama designated Tunisia as a major non-NATO ally;

Whereas Tunisia has committed approximately 15 percent of its budget to defense and interior ministries for counterterrorism in recent years, at the expense of economic and social development;

Whereas Tunisia faces economic challenges, including high inflation and high unemployment, especially among young Tunisians;

Whereas the United States Government is committed to continuing a strong economic partnership with Tunisia as its government undertakes reforms to transform its economy to meet the aspirations of all of the citizens of Tunisia;

Whereas it is in the interest of the United States, and consistent with the values of the United States, to support the aspirations of the people of Tunisia in developing a pluralist democracy and transparent, effective institutions;

Whereas, in accordance with the United States-Tunisia strategic partnership, both countries are dedicated to working together to promote—

(1) economic development and business opportunities in Tunisia;

(2) education for the advancement of long-term development in Tunisia; and

(3) increased security cooperation to address common threats in Tunisia and across the region; and

Whereas the United States Government should provide a level of funding to strongly assist and reinforce Tunisia's promising transition into a democratic, stable, and prosperous nation:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the people of Tunisia for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections;

(2) commends the political leaders of Tunisia for their willingness to compromise and work together in the national interest;

(3) condemns all acts of terrorism, and extends condolences to the families of victims of terrorism and to the people and Government of Tunisia;

(4) commends the people and Government of Tunisia for their resilience in the face of terrorist attacks and their enduring commitment to a free, democratic, and peaceful Republic of Tunisia;

(5) encourages President Essebi, Head of Government Chahed, and the Parliament of Tunisia to work together to accelerate economic reforms and anti-corruption measures;

(6) looks forward to new free and fair parliamentary and presidential elections scheduled for the last several months of 2019;

(7) calls on the Government of Tunisia—

(A) to fully implement the Tunisian Constitution of 2014, including the protection of civil liberties and the establishment of new institutions, such as the Constitutional Court;

(B) to continue its commitment to democratic accountability and transitional justice, including with regard to corruption;

(C) to continue decentralizing political power to local governments, which is a key step toward more accountable governance and a means to address long-standing issues of dramatic regional disparity in health care, education, poverty, and infrastructure; and

(D) to further develop its plan to identify, prosecute, deradicalize, or reintegrate into society Tunisian fighters returned from abroad;

(8) calls on the neighbors and partners of Tunisia to work cooperatively with the Government of Tunisia to counter terrorist threats, secure borders, and support the democratic transition of Tunisia;

(9) reaffirms the national interest of the United States in continued democracy in Tunisia, including—

(A) respect for the rule of law;

(B) independent media;

(C) a vibrant civil society; and

(D) universal rights and freedoms, including equal rights for all citizens and freedom of speech;

(10) affirms the national interest of the United States in Tunisia's economic prosperity and development, including through increased foreign direct investment, tourism, entrepreneurship, technical cooperation, and strengthened trade ties;

(11) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Government to Tunisia, including a commitment to provide appropriate levels of assistance, in support of the ongoing transition of Tunisia to an inclusive, prosperous, and secure democracy;

(12) recognizes important partnerships, including—

(A) the U.S.-Tunisia Strategic Dialogue;

(B) the U.S.-Tunisia Joint Military Commission;

(C) the U.S.-Tunisia Joint Economic Commission;

(D) the Tunisian American Enterprise Fund; and

(E) international educational exchange programs, including the Fulbright Program and the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program;

(13) urges increased United States engagement and cooperation with the people and Government of Tunisia, including—

(A) Tunisia's democratic institutions;

(B) civil society;

(C) schools and universities;

(D) independent media; and

(E) the private sector; and

(14) reaffirms the historic and continuing friendship between the people of the United States and the people of Tunisia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 237—SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK IN 2019, WHICH INCLUDE INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RIGHTS, NEEDS, AND CONCERNS OF, AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST, VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 237

Whereas, in 2017, according to a survey by the Bureau of Justice Statistics—

(1) an estimated 5,600,000 violent victimizations were committed against residents of the United States who were 12 years of age or older; and

(2) households in the United States experienced an estimated 13,340,000 property victimizations;

Whereas, in 2017, only 45 percent of violent crimes and 36 percent of property victimizations were reported to police;

Whereas, as of 2015, the most conservative estimate for the economic losses sustained by victims of property crimes and victims of violent crime was approximately $11,200,000,000 per year;

Whereas the economic cost alone does not fully describe the emotional, physical, and psychological impact endured by a victim of crime;

Whereas crime can touch the life of any individual, regardless of the age, race, national origin, religion, or gender of the individual;

Whereas a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, schools, and communities by—

(1) protecting the rights of crime victims and survivors; and

(2) ensuring that resources and services are available to help rebuild the lives of the victims and survivors, including victims' compensation to reimburse victims for out-of-pocket expenses due to crime;

Whereas, despite impressive accomplishments in increasing the rights of, and services available to, crime victims and survivors and the families of the victims and survivors, many challenges remain to ensure that all crime victims and survivors and the families of the victims and survivors are—

(1) treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(2) offered support and services, regardless of whether the victims and survivors report crimes committed against them; and

(3) recognized as key participants within the criminal, juvenile, Federal, and Tribal justice systems in the United States when the victims and survivors report crimes;

Whereas crime victims and survivors in the United States and the families of the victims and survivors need and deserve support and assistance to help cope with the often devastating consequences of crime;

Whereas, since Congress passed the first resolution designating Crime Victims Week in 1985, communities across the United States have joined Congress and the Department of Justice in commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week to celebrate a shared vision of a comprehensive and collaborative response that identifies and addresses the many needs of crime victims and survivors and the families of the victims and survivors;

Whereas Congress and the President agree on the need for a renewed commitment to serve all victims and survivors of crime in the 21st century;

Whereas, in 2019, National Crime Victims' Rights Week was celebrated from April 7 through April 13, and the theme, ''Honoring our Past. Creating Hope for the Future.'', celebrates the progress made by those before us as we look to a future of crime victim services that is even more inclusive, accessible, and trauma-informed;

Whereas engaging communities in victim assistance is essential in promoting public safety;

Whereas the United States must empower crime victims and survivors by—

(1) protecting the legal rights of the victims and survivors; and

(2) providing the victims and survivors with services to help them in the aftermath of crime; and

Whereas the people of the United States recognize and appreciate the continued importance of—

(1) promoting the rights of, and services for, crime victims and survivors; and

(2) honoring crime victims and survivors and individuals who provide services for the victims and survivors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which include increasing individual and public awareness of—

(A) the impact of crime on victims and survivors and the families of the victims and survivors; and

(B) the challenges to achieving justice for victims and survivors of crime and the families of the victims and survivors and the many solutions available to meet those challenges; and

(2) recognizes that crime victims and survivors and the families of the victims and survivors should be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 238—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF JUNE 3 THROUGH JUNE 9, 2019, AS ''HEMP HISTORY WEEK''

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. PAUL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 238

Whereas Hemp History Week will be held from June 3 through June 9, 2019;

Whereas the goals of Hemp History Week are to commemorate the historical relevance of industrial hemp in the United States and to promote the full growth potential of the industrial hemp industry;

Whereas industrial hemp is an agricultural commodity that has been used for centuries to produce many innovative industrial and consumer products, including soap, fabric, textiles, construction materials, clothing, paper, cosmetics, food, and beverages;

Whereas the global market for hemp is estimated to consist of more than 25,000 products;

Whereas the value of hemp imported into the United States for use in the production of other retail products is estimated at approximately $76,000,000 annually;

Whereas the United States hemp industry estimates that the annual market value of hemp retail sales in the United States is more than $1,000,000,000;

Whereas, despite the legitimate uses of hemp, agricultural producers of the United States were for decades prohibited under law from growing hemp;

Whereas, in December 2018, Congress established a legal framework for agricultural producers to cultivate, grow, and sell hemp in the United States;

Whereas the United States is the largest consumer of hemp products in the world; and

Whereas industrial hemp holds great potential to bolster the agricultural economy of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of June 3 through June 9, 2019, as ''Hemp History Week'';

(2) recognizes the historical relevance of industrial hemp; and

(3) recognizes the growing economic potential of industrial hemp.

SENATE RESOLUTION 239—DESIGNATING JUNE 2019 AS ''GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH''

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 239

Whereas hundreds of millions of people in the United States participate in outdoor recreation annually;

Whereas Congress enacted the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–249; 130 Stat. 999) to assess and analyze the outdoor recreation economy of the United States and the effects attributable to the outdoor recreation economy on the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account released in September 2018 by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the United States Department of Commerce shows that outdoor recreation contributed more than $412,000,000,000 of current-dollar gross domestic product to the economy of the United States in 2016, comprising approximately 2.2 percent of the current-dollar gross domestic product;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account shows that the outdoor recreation sector experienced faster growth in real gross output, compensation, and employment than the overall economy in 2016, while also providing 4,546,000 jobs across the country;

Whereas the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–6) encouraged the Department of Commerce to continue its work with the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account;

Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with positive health outcomes and better quality of life;

Whereas outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States; and

Whereas June 2019 is an appropriate month to designate as ''Great Outdoors Month'' to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2019 as ''Great Outdoors Month''; and

(2) encourages all people in the United States to recreate in the great outdoors in June 2019 and year-round.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 19—CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. CON. RES. 19

Whereas, on May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy, Jr., before a joint session of Congress, declared, ''Now it is time to take longer strides—time for a great new American enterprise—time for this Nation to take a clearly leading role in space achievement, which in many ways may hold the key to our future on Earth'', setting the goal of sending astronauts to the Moon and returning them safely to the Earth;

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (in this preamble referred to as ''NASA'') mobilized and established the Apollo space program to meet the goal set by President Kennedy;

Whereas the Apollo space program built on the achievements of the prior space programs of NASA, including the Mercury and Gemini missions;

Whereas the successful Moon landing honored the tragic sacrifice of every astronaut whose life had previously been lost in the service of United States spaceflight research, including—

(1) Roger B. Chaffee, Virgil I. ''Gus'' Grissom, and Edward H. White II, the astronauts whose lives were lost during pre-flight tests for Apollo 1; and

(2) Theodore C. Freeman, Charles A. Bassett II, Elliot See, Jr., Robert H. Lawrence, Jr., Michael J. Adams, and Clifton C. Williams, Jr.;

Whereas the crew of the Apollo 11 mission consisted of—

(1) Neil Armstrong, Mission Commander;

(2) Edwin E. ''Buzz'' Aldrin, Lunar Module Pilot; and

(3) Michael Collins, Command Module Pilot;

Whereas James A. Lovell, Jr., Fred W. Haise, Jr., and William A. Anders stood ready to support or stand in for the Apollo 11 crew;

Whereas, on July 16, 1969, the Apollo 11 crew launched from the NASA Launch Operations Center, now known as the John F. Kennedy Space Center, aboard a Saturn V rocket;

Whereas, on July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed the Eagle Lunar Module on the surface of the Moon, and Neil Armstrong said to Mission Control in Houston, Texas, ''Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed.'';

Whereas, when Neil Armstrong took the first step onto the Moon, he declared, ''That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.'';

Whereas Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin planted the flag of the United States in lunar soil, recording the achievement of the country as the first to land on the Moon;

Whereas Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin placed a plaque on the Moon that reads, ''We came in peace for all mankind'', recording the peaceful, scientific intent of the Apollo missions;

Whereas the Apollo 11 crew collected lunar samples and conducted experiments to gain a better understanding of the composition of the Moon and conditions on its surface;

Whereas the Lunar Laser Ranging Retroreflector installed by the Apollo 11 crew is still used to measure the distance of the Moon from the surface of the Earth;

Whereas the success of the Apollo 11 Moon landing was due to the skill, dedication, and collective effort of tens of thousands of workers, scientists, engineers, and contractors of the United States;

Whereas the trajectory calculations of Katherine Johnson and other mathematicians in the computer pool at NASA were critical to the design of the Apollo 11 mission and the rendezvous of the Apollo 11 Lunar Lander with the Command and Service Module in lunar orbit;

Whereas the Apollo 11 mission demonstrated the focus and capability of the scientific community of the United States and established the United States as the world leader in space exploration;

Whereas the Apollo 11 Moon landing was broadcasted live over radio and television to millions across the world;

Whereas, 50 years later, the Apollo 11 Moon landing continues to inspire national scientific efforts in space, medicine, and other fields; and

Whereas the knowledge and experience gained from the Apollo space program continues to inform missions to Mars, the far reaches of the solar system, and beyond: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing;

(2) honors the bravery and skill of the crew of Apollo 11, Neil Armstrong, Edwin E. ''Buzz'' Aldrin, and Michael Collins;

(3) commends the efforts of all individuals of the United States who contributed to the achievement of the Apollo 11 Moon landing, exemplifying a cooperative effort on a national scale that continues to inspire scientific progress; and

(4) supports the continued leadership of the United States in the exploration and utilization of space through human spaceflight.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 8 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 BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security, Nazak Nikakhtar, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Industry and Security, and Ian Paul Steff, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, both of the Department of Commerce, Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Paul Shmotolokha, of Washington, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and Allison Herren Lee, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 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 Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Robert Wallace, of Wyoming, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 10:15 a.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 Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Peter Joseph Phipps, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, William Shaw Stickman IV, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and Jennifer Philpott Wilson, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at a time to be determined, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of James Byrne, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted for the remainder of the day to my fellow, Dr. Kali Cyrus, and that they be granted for the rest of the year to the interns in my office, named Jyot Singh, Darcy Farwell, Alexandra Hartman, Jordan Sicklick, Holly McGrath, Jordan Adjepong, and Cady Stanton.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 6

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6) to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 28, 2019 AS ''HONORING THE NATION'S FIRST RESPONDERS DAY''

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 108, S. Con. Res. 15.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 15) expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2019, as ''Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day''.

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

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

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 15) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 1, 2019, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

MEASURING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BROADBAND ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1289 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1289) to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the effects of broadband deployment and adoption on the economy of the United States, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed 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 bill (S. 1289) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1289

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 ''Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REGARDING THE EFFECT OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY ON THE ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term ''Assistant Secretary'' means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

(3) BROADBAND.—The term ''broadband'' means an Internet Protocol-based transmission service that enables users to send and receive voice, video, data, or graphics, or a combination of those items.

(4) DIGITAL ECONOMY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term ''digital economy'' has the meaning given the term by the Secretary in carrying out this section.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing a definition for the term ''digital economy'' under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consider—

(i) the digital-enabling infrastructure that a computer network needs to exist and operate; and

(ii) the roles of e-commerce and digital media.

(5) DIGITAL MEDIA.—The term ''digital media'' means the content that participants in e-commerce create and access.

(6) E-COMMERCE.—The term ''e-commerce'' means the digital transactions that take place using the infrastructure described in paragraph (4)(B)(i).

(7) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce and the Assistant Secretary, shall conduct an assessment and analysis regarding the contribution of the digital economy to the economy of the United States.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS AND CONSULTATION.—In conducting each assessment and analysis required under subsection (b), the Secretary shall—

(1) consider the impact of—

(A) the deployment and adoption of—

(i) digital-enabling infrastructure; and

(ii) broadband;

(B) e-commerce and platform-enabled peer-to-peer commerce; and

(C) the production and consumption of digital media, including free media; and

(2) consult with—

(A) the heads of any agencies and offices of the Federal Government as the Secretary considers appropriate, including the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission;

(B) representatives of the business community, including rural and urban internet service providers and telecommunications infrastructure providers;

(C) representatives from State, local, and tribal government agencies; and

(D) representatives from consumer and community organizations.

(d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report regarding the findings of the Secretary with respect to each assessment and analysis conducted under subsection (b).

PROTECTING AFFORDABLE MORTGAGES FOR VETERANS ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1749, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1749) to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1749) was passed, as follows:

S. 1749

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 ''Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. SEASONING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN REFINANCED MORTGAGE LOANS.

(a) GINNIE MAE.—Section 306(g)(1) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)(1)) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(b) VETERANS LOANS.—Section 3709(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter before paragraph (1), by striking ''is refinanced'' and inserting ''is a refinance''; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(1) the date on which the borrower has made at least six consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced; and

''(2) the date that is 210 days after the first payment due date of the loan being refinanced.''.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to restrict or otherwise modify the authorities of the Government National Mortgage Association.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent 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.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 2019, THROUGH JUNE 9, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL FISHING AND BOATING WEEK''

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 174.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 174) expressing support for the designation of the week of June 1, 2019, through June 9, 2019, as ''National Fishing and Boating Week''.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 174) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 30, 2019, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 221 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 221) 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.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 221) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, was printed in the RECORD of May 23, 2019, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 237, S. Res. 238, and S. Res. 239.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions (S. Res. 237, S. Res. 238, and S. Res. 239) were agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S.J. RES 20 AND S.J. RES. 26

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that with respect to S.J. Res. 20 and S.J. Res 26, Senator PAUL, or his designee, be recognized at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader, but no later than June 14, to make a motion to discharge such resolution; further, that there be up to an hour of debate on each motion, equally divided between the proponents and the opponents, with 7 minutes reserved for both the chairman and the ranking member respectively, prior to each vote; and that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote in relation to the motion to discharge; further, that if either motion to discharge is agreed to, the joint resolution be eligible for the expedited procedures under the Arms Export Control Act.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019, AND MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn, to then convene for a pro forma session only, with no business conducted on Thursday, June 6, at 10:30 a.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, June 6, it next convene at 3 p.m., Monday, June 10, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Holte nomination. Finally, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen upon disposition of the Hertling nomination.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Holte, Alston, Jr., and Hertling nominations, as well as cloture on the Morrison nomination, in the order listed at 5:30 p.m., Monday, June 10.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019, AT 10:30 A.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:21 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 6, 2019, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

AMY KARPEL, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 16, 2023, VICE IRVING A. WILLIAMSON, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KELLEY ECKELS CURRIE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KENNETH CHARLES CANTERBURY, JR., OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS, AND EXPLOSIVES, VICE BYRON TODD JONES, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. ERIC P. WENDT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL R. BERRY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHEL M. RUSSELL, SR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. CURTIS A. BUZZARD
COL. ANDREW C. HILMES
COL. PATRICK R. MICHAELIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH L. BIEHLER
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM B. BLAYLOCK II
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS R. BOUCHARD
BRIG. GEN. PAUL B. CHAUNCEY III
BRIG. GEN. JOHANNA P. CLYBORNE
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM J. EDWARDS
BRIG. GEN. LEE M. ELLIS
BRIG. GEN. PABLO ESTRADA, JR.
BRIG. GEN. LAPTHE C. FLORA
BRIG. GEN. TROY D. GALLOWAY
BRIG. GEN. LEE W. HOPKINS
BRIG. GEN. MARVIN T. HUNT
BRIG. GEN. MARK C. JACKSON
BRIG. GEN. RICHARD F. JOHNSON
BRIG. GEN. TIM C. LAWSON
BRIG. GEN. KEVIN D. LYONS
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL A. MITCHELL
BRIG. GEN. MICHEL A. NATALI
BRIG. GEN. CHAD J. PARKER
BRIG. GEN. GREGORY C. PORTER
BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY D. SMILEY
BRIG. GEN. DAVID N. VESPER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. HUAN T. NGUYEN

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

JASON A. KOSKINEN

To be major

ROBIN T. BINGHAM

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

SEAN C. HEIDGERKEN
JOHN J. HOSEY, JR.
EDWARD J. LYNCH
STEVEN R. MEEK
STEPHEN J. MIKO
JOHN F. POPIAK
MICHAEL J. SIEBER
CLINT E. TRACY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JESSE ABREU
GERARD M. ACOSTA
TRAVIS D. ADKINS
KEVIN W. AGNESS
RICKY L. ALLBRITTON
WILLETTE L. ALSTONWILLIAMS
CHRISTOPHER W. ANDERSON
DAPHNE H. AUSTIN
BRETT A. AYVAZIAN
ROB W. BARNHILL
SHARI R. BENNETT
SCOTT M. BISHOP
PAUL M. BONANO
ERIC L. BOOKER
PETER A. BOOKER
LUCAS J. A. BRAXTON
ANDRE L. BROWN
JACOB M. BROWN
TAVI N. BRUNSON
NATHANAEL D. BRYANT
THOMAS A. BUCHHOLZ
BEIRE D. CASTRO
FAITH M. CHAMBERLAIN
BONNIE B. B. CLEMENTE
CHRISTOPHER F. CONLEY
RALPH M. CRUM
ELIZABETH H. CURTIS
KANDACE M. DAFFIN
BOBBY H. DAVIS
ERIC B. DENNIS
KHANH T. DIEP
ANTHONY E. DOUGLAS
ANDREW J. DUUS
ANGEL R. ESTRADA
CARL J. FAISON
NICOLE E. FISCHER
JAMES M. GALLAGHER
JAMES E. GANNON
CEDRIC D. GASKIN, JR.
ERIN M. GILLIAM
ANH H. HA
MICHAEL D. HAGERTY, JR.
MICHAEL F. HAMMOND
JOSEPH M. HERMAN
CRYSTAL M. HILLS
NED C. HOLT
DANIEL L. HORN
RYAN A. HOWELL
YU K. HU
ANTHONY E. HUGHLEY
ROBIN D. HUSTED
FRANK E. JEFFERSON, JR.
BENJAMIN G. JOHNSON
ERIK C. JOHNSON
LEE M. JOHNSON
JEFFERY W. JURAND
SHAWN L. KADLEC
ROBERT L. KELLAM
BRIAN J. KETZ
DAVID P. KEY
GREGORY W. LEIPHART
ANDREW S. LUNOFF
MICHAEL R. MAI
TIMOTHY E. MATTHEWS
CRAIG M. MCILWAIN
JAMES W. MCKENNA
BRETT M. MEDLIN
JOHN G. MISENHEIMER, JR.
MARK S. MORGAN
JARED P. NOVAK
ROBERT L. PETROSKY, JR.
KEVIN M. POLOSKY
GRETA A. RAILSBACK
JOE A. RATLIFF
TONI M. RIEKE
PERNELL A. ROBINSON
RIZALDO D. L. SALVADOR
GINA D. SANNICOLAS
JOHN L. SCHIMMING
MICHAEL G. SCHOONOVER
JUSTIN R. SHELL
SHAWANTA D. SMART
ADAM D. SMITH
LANCE M. SNEED
MICHAEL P. SOLOVEY
JENNY T. STACY
NATASHA J. STANLEY
TONEY R. STEPHENSON
JEREMY L. STLAURENT
TIMOTHY SUGARS
JASON F. TATE
STACY M. TOMIC
KECIA M. TROY
SANTEE B. VASQUEZ
LISA A. VILLARREALRENNARD
JEFFREY E. WAGSTAFF
RALPH L. WARE
MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
MICHELLE M. WILLIAMS
ANTHONY L. WILSON
JULIA A. WILSON
ROBERT J. WOLFE
JOSEPH W. YOUNG
JAMES J. ZACCHINO, JR.
D001385
D006471

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

RICHARD R. ABELKIS
LEONARDO ADAMS
CHRISTOPHER H. BACHMANN
STEPHEN J. BANKS
THEODORE A. BANNER
JACQUELYN M. BARCOMB
LEE A. BARNARD
DEREK S. BICKLER
JAMES N. BLAIN, JR.
JOSHUA J. BRADLEY
LOUIVE B. BROGAN
DONALD K. BROOKS
ANDREW R. BROWN
JOSEPH P. BUCCINO
GEOFFREY R. BULL
MATTHEW D. BUTT
KATHLEEN S. CAGE
ERICA L. CAMERON
JASON L. CAMPBELL
KWOK F. CHIU
ANDREW P. CLARK
SEAN P. COAKLEY
JONATHAN D. CORNETT
RANDY R. COTE
JULIA O. COXEN
ZACHARY W. COYAN
MICHAEL P. CULLINANE
STEVEN B. CUNNINGHAM
STEPHEN M. DAIL
VICTOR M. DEEKENS
CHRISTOPHER S. DENHAM
MARK A. DENTON
TRAVIS J. DOLAN
BRIAN J. FICKEL
BRIAN P. FLEMING
JOSHUA A. GILLEN
JOSEPH C. GUIDO, JR.
BRETT I. HANSON
EDMOND A. HARDY
MATTHEW W. HEIM
SHANNON E. HELBERG
CAROL M. HICKEY
ANDREW J. HIERSTETTER
KEITH D. HOCKMAN
ZACHARY B. HOHN
RICHARD C. HYDE
KIRK A. INGOLD
JOHN M. IVES
BRIAN P. JACOBSON
CRAIG S. JAYSON
JAMES R. JOHNSON
BRIAN M. JORGENSON
BRIAN M. KADET
CHARLES J. KARELS
MINDY A. KIMBALL
RICHARD A. KIPHUTH
DIANE E. KLEIN
MATTHEW D. KOEHLER
ERIK E. KOENIG
CHRISTOPHER M. KORPELA
MICHAEL T. KOSUDA
KANAME K. KUNIYUKI II
KARLTON L. LANE
MARK J. LAVIN II
ALEX M. LEONOVICH
THEODORE T. LIEBREICH
MICHAEL I. MAHARAJ
CHRISTOPHER E. MARKS
CHRISTOPHER S. MARTIN
CHRISTOPHER M. MARTINEZ
RAYMOND M. MATTOX
MICHAEL E. MCCARTHY
DAVIS K. MCELWAIN
KEITH D. MCMANUS
ZACHARY F. MILLER
MATTHEW J. MOAKLER
DANIEL R. MORRIS
IAN H. MURRAY
RICHARD J. NOWINSKI
MARTIN L. ODONNELL
CHRISTOPHER J. ORTIONA
DAVID E. OWENS
BYRON C. PATERAS
KRISTY K. PERRY
ROBERT E. PETTY V
ROBERT W. PHILLIPS
GREGORY D. PIPES
BRANDON A. PRESSLEY
WAYNE E. PRINCE
MATTHEW R. PROVOST
PABLO A. RAGGIO
MANUEL F. RAMIREZ
JOHN M. REEDER
KLAUDIUS K. ROBINSON
JOSEPH A. ROMAN
JAMES M. ROSS
KENNETH J. RUTKA, JR.
TONI K. SABO
CADE M. SAIE
ADAM A. SANNUTTI
DARCY L. L. SCHNACK
MICHAEL S. SCIOLETTI
COREY N. SHEA
BRYAN P. SHRANK
JAMES A. SINK
DONALD E. SMITH II
SAMUEL P. SMITH, JR.
SANG M. SOK
DAVID K. SPENCER
MICHAEL P. STACHOUR
RYAN P. STAMATIS
JOEY J. SULLINGER
CHRISTOPHER S. SYNOWIEZ
MICHAEL D. TETER
JOSHUA P. TRIMBLE
JAMES O. TURNER, JR.
NICOLE E. VINSON
DAVID E. VIOLAND
STEVEN B. WALDROP
MARK R. WHITEMAN
CHIKE T. WILLIAMS
WINSTON S. WILLIAMS, JR.
CARL J. WOJTASZEK
DANIEL C. WOOD II
BRENDA D. ZOLLINGER
D006093
D013144
D013328
D014376
G010416
G010471
G010532

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

VINCENT A. AMERENA
RONALD E. ANZALONE
THOMAS J. ARRIAGA
ANTHONY P. BARBINA
STEPHEN L. BATTLE
HENRY M. BENNETT, JR.
AARON D. BOHRER
MANDI L. BOHRER
GARY S. BONHAM
JAMES L. BOOTH
JOSEPH S. BRANNON
JAY W. BROOKE
LOYD W. BROWN
SEAN M. BROWN
DANFORD W. BRYANT II
DARREN W. BUSS
THOMAS A. CALDWELL
GREGORY V. CAMPION
JOHN P. CARSON IV
JOHN M. CASIANO
JASON A. CLARKE
JASON T. COOK
JESSE T. CURRY
ADAM J. CZEKANSKI
RICHARD J. DAVIS
WILLIAM L. DAVIS
DAMON A. DELAROSA
MATTHEW B. DENNIS
HANNON A. DIDIER
ETHAN J. DIVEN
DWIGHT D. DOMENGEAUX, JR.
SEAN P. DONNELLY
PATRICK A. DOUGLAS
BRIAN M. DUCOTE
SAMUEL G. EDWARDS
JAMES M. EGAN
SCOTT J. EMMEL
JOHNNY A. EVANS, JR.
CHAD A. FROEHLICH
JON R. GARDNER
JOSEPH R. GEARY
JOHN J. GEIS III
BRIAN J. GERBER
WADE A. GERMANN
DANIEL C. GIBSON
JOHN B. GILLIAM
MICHAEL GOMEZ
MATTHEW J. GOMLAK
MATTHEW F. GOODING
STEVEN E. GVENTER
JEREMY T. GWINN
JEFFREY D. HALL
BRIAN P. HALLBERG
BRYAN M. HARRIS
JONATHAN L. HARVEY
MARCUS C. HAY
RALPH D. HEATON
MICHAEL D. HELTON
BRIAN T. HOFFMAN
KYLE M. HOGAN
ROBERT J. HOLCOMBE
RONALD J. HUGHES
RICHARD J. IKENA, JR.
SEDRICK L. JACKSON
TRAVIS A. JACOBS
ERIC JACOBSON
JEREMY W. JAMES
ANDREW Q. JORDAN
CHRISTOPHER E. JUDGE
STEPHEN M. KAPLACHINSKI
DEREK R. KELLER
ZACHARY D. KERNS
JAMES A. KIEVIT
CHRISTOPHER J. KIRK
ANDREW J. KISER
DAMON M. KNARR
ADAM J. LACKEY
PHILLIP H. LAMB
JEFFREY J. LESPERANCE
CHRISTOPHER M. LEUNG
RYAN P. LEVESQUE
ADAM J. LEWIS
ALEXANDER C. LOVASZ
ADAM L. LOWMASTER
SHARON R. LYGHT

TIMOTHY M. MAHONEY
MICHAEL J. MANNION
CHRISTOPHER M. MARQUEZ
ELIZABETH A. MARTIN
JARRET D. MATHEWS
ROBERT W. MATTHEWS
BRIAN E. MCCARTHY
SEAN P. MCGEE
THURMAN C. MCKENZIE
SCOTT W. MCLELLAN
ROBERT B. MCNELLIS
JON W. MEREDITH
KEYES M. METCALF
CARY J. METZ
JACOB W. MILLER
JAMES M. MITCHELL
PATRICK C. MOFFETT
PETER J. MOON
JOHN D. MORIS
MICHAEL G. MOUROUZIS
CARLOS E. MOYA
JEFFREY M. MUNN
THOMAS D. MURPHY, JR.
JENNIFER A. MYKINS
BRIAN J. NEWILL
DAVID A. NORRIS
LANCE A. OBRYAN
CHRISTOPHER W. OGWIN
DAVID J. PAINTER
FREDRICK B. PARKER
MARC E. PELINI
SCOTT A. PENCE
ESTHER S. PINCHASIN
DANIEL P. RAYCA
GINA M. RICHARDSMCCLOSKEY
ALEXIS RIVERAESPADA
JASON H. ROSENSTRAUCH
MATTHEW L. ROWLAND
JOSHUA R. RUISANCHEZ
KAREN L. RUTKA
JOHN W. SANDOR
VICTOR R. SATTERLUND
BRIAN P. SCHOELLHORN
GERALD P. SCHUCK
JONATHAN K. SHAFFNER
KEVIN R. SHARP
MICHAEL J. SHOUSE
KENT G. SOLHEIM
ANDREW C. STEADMAN
MICHAEL P. STEWART
TED L. STOKES, JR.
MICHAEL A. STONE
JONATHAN S. STOVER
NATHAN S. SURREY
DANIEL L. SWANSON
KELVIN P. SWINT
STEPHEN C. TAYLOR
DOUGLAS M. THOMAS
JASON C. TOWNSEND
MATTHEW P. TUCKER
RICHARD P. TUCKER
DARYL S. VONHAGEL
KARIN L. WATSON
MARCUS S. WELCH
JASON L. WEST
SETH A. WHEELER
MICHAEL T. WHITNEY
KIRK J. WHITTENBERGER
ROBERT J. WISHAM
TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF
MARCUS W. WRIGHT
MATTHEW T. ZIGLAR
D002263
D005922
D006292
D010375
D011554
D014888
D014896

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

MARTIN E. ROBERTS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

TODD W. GEYER
ERIC C. MCAFEE
ANTHONY J. SMOLA

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 5, 2019:

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

HEATH P. TARBERT, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION.

HEATH P. TARBERT, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2024.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SUSAN COMBS, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DAVID SCHENKER, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS).

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8043:

To be general

LT. GEN. DAVID H. BERGER

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on June 5, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

AMY KARPEL, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 16, 2020, VICE F. SCOTT KIEFF, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 16, 2019.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY AND REMEMBERING THE MEMBERS OF THE GREATEST GENERATION WHO SAVED FREEDOM IN THE WORLD

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, June 6, marks the 75th anniversary of Allied Forces' audacious amphibious landing at Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944.

This joint undertaking to liberate the continent of Europe from the clutches of an evil aggressor enemy was the first and most emphatic demonstration of the invincible strength of democratic nations when acting collectively.

For nearly seventy years, from April 4, 1949 to January 20, 2017, peace in Europe has been secured and no adversary, not the old Soviet Union or the contemporary Russian Federation, has dared to risk war by attacking a European ally of the United States because every American president has made clear that the United States is committed to Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty which holds that an attack on any NATO member is regarded as an attack on all of them.

Madam Speaker, "Operation Overlord," as D-Day was formally known, was the largest single amphibious assault in the history of warfare.

The success of D-Day, which was far from certain at the outset, led to the liberation of Western Europe, signaled the death knell of the German Wehrmacht, and paved the way to unconditional victory by the Allied Forces over the evils of Nazism, fascism, and Japanese imperialism.

It is no exaggeration to say that D-Day changed the course of human history.

The aim of the meticulously planned D-Day operation was to open a second front in the European war theater from which the Allied Forces could attack the German army and push east to capture Berlin.

With the Russian Army advancing from the east, coupled with the southern front opened by the Allied invasion of Italy from North Africa in 1942, the opening of a western front would set in motion the pincer movement that would catch the German Army in a trap from which there would be no escape.

The formidable German Army expected that the Allied Forces would try to launch an invasion from the western beaches of France.

They just did not know when or where.

So, in anticipation of an Allied invasion, the Nazis constructed the infamous Atlantic Wall, an extensive system of coastal fortifications built along the western coast of Europe and Scandinavia.

Under the direction of Field Marshal Rommel, the Atlantic Wall was reinforced by the addition of concrete pillboxes built along the beaches to house machine guns, antitank guns and light artillery.

Mines and antitank obstacles were planted on the beaches themselves and underwater obstacles and mines were placed in waters just off shore.

By the time of the D-Day landing, the Nazis had laid almost six million mines in northern France.

And awaiting Allied soldiers who made their way onto and away from the beaches were gun emplacements and minefields extended inland.

"War is hell," said General William Tecumseh Sherman during the Civil War.

And that is an apt description of what awaited the brave Allied warriors who set sail from England to the beaches of Normandy in the early morning of June 6, 1944, at the beginning of what has rightly been called "The Longest Day."

But they were buoyed in their resolve by the millions of prayers from Americans and others back home, of all races, religions, and creeds, invoking the Lord's blessing, mercy, and grace.

With the outcome in doubt, President Franklin Roosevelt asked the nation to join him in this solemn 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, and to set free a suffering humanity.
>
> "Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.
>
> "They will need Thy blessings.
>
> "For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace.
>
> "They fight not for the lust of conquest.
>
> "They fight to end conquest.
>
> "They fight to liberate.
>
> "They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people.
>
> "They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home."

The prayers were needed because the cost of D-Day was high; U.S. casualties on D-Day totaled more than 2,499 dead, 3,184 wounded, 1,928 missing, and 26 captured.

Our British and Canadian allies suffered terrible losses on D-Day as well: approximately 2,700 for the British and 946 for the Canadians.

German casualties are estimated at 4,000 to 9,000.

In total, the number of combatants killed, wounded or missing in the Battle of Normandy for both sides exceeded 425,000, not including the estimated 15,000 to 20,000 French civilians killed.

But the operation was a success .

More than 156,000 troops or paratroopers came ashore on D-Day, 73,000 from the U.S., 83,000 from Great Britain and Canada.

By the end of June 11, D-Day +5, 326,547 troops, 54,186 vehicles and 104,428 tons of supplies had come ashore.

And with them came the seeds for the victory in Europe that would come less than a year later, on May 8, 1945, with the fall of Berlin and the unconditional surrender of the Nazis.

On the eve of the Normandy invasion, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, addressed the soldiers, sailors, and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and said to them that they were about to embark upon a "Great Crusade," and that the "eyes of the world" were upon them.

He told them that their task would not be easy because the "enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely."

But, General Eisenhower said, "this is the year 1944. The tide has turned. The free men of the world are marching together to victory."

And march to victory they did, fully justifying General Eisenhower's "confidence in their courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle."

Because of the heroism of these men who willingly risked their lives to be the tip of the spear of liberty, the war was won, and a world was saved for freedom.

Madam Speaker, D-Day was, and remains, a day like no other in the history of man's sojourn on earth.

We remember Gettysburg.

There, President Lincoln paid tribute to those "who gave their lives so that the nation might live."

It is equally fitting and proper that we never forget D-Day and that we continue to honor those who risked all and gave all so that the light of freedom would never be extinguished in the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following votes because I remained in my congressional district due to a death in the family.

Had I been present, I would have voted: yes on Roll Call Vote No. 232; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 233; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 234; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 235; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 236; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 237; yes on Roll Call Vote No. 238; no on Roll Call Vote No. 239; and yes on Roll Call Vote No. 240.

COMMEMORATING THE 115TH ANNIVERSARY OF THAYER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Thayer United Methodist Church of Thayer, Illinois, for celebrating their 115th anniversary.

In 1904, Thayer United Methodist Church was officially opened as a place of worship for the residents of the town. Since then, the church has grown immensely; it now provides the area with far more than a place to pray. This is where the residents of Thayer come to make strides towards improving their local community.

The Thayer United Methodist Church is known throughout the area for the services that it has provided for the community over the last 115 years. Today, we celebrate the church for their dedication to serving Thayer. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Thayer United Methodist Church for a successful 115 years, and I wish them even more success going forward.

HONORING LAUREN BROWN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, a biology teacher in the Second Congressional District has been selected as the 2019 Outstanding Biology Teacher of the Year of South Carolina by the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT).

According to the New Irmo News, ''the award is given annually to a teacher who shows a passion for teaching biology. Each state, province, and territory recognizes an Outstanding Biology Teacher.''

Ms. Lauren Brown has been teaching biology for 9 years, the last five years have been at Spring Hill High School. She was also honored as the American Legion Teacher of the Year from Chapin Post 193. She has also served for three years as a coaching teacher with the University of South Carolina's Education program.

Our communities in the Second Congressional District are grateful for leadership like Ms. Lauren Brown's. Congratulations to Lauren for earning this distinct honor.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, on June 3, 2019, I missed Roll Call Number 234, On Approving the Journal, due to a longstanding prior commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind everyone that we have a responsibility to do everything we can to address the epidemic of senseless gun violence that is plaguing our nation.

June is Gun Violence Prevention Month and we must use this opportunity to come together to not only raise awareness of gun violence but also take action.

We're reminded again after the recent Virginia Beach Shooting that too many of our loved ones are lost to senseless gun violence that could be prevented by keeping firearms out of dangerous hands.

That is why I was proud to vote for H.R. 8 and urge my Senate colleagues to do the same.

This common-sense bill will prevent private firearm sales to prohibited purchasers, and close online and gun show loopholes. Thus, we will move towards ensuring firearms are obtained responsibly.

While this bill does not cover everything, it is a step in the right direction that will make the United States safer for our families and communities.

CONGRATULATING KENN AND BETH ZELTEN FOR BEING NAMED 2019 CITIZEN DRIVERS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Kenn and Beth Zelten for being named 2019 Citizen Drivers. Through their dedicated service, exceptional leadership, and steadfast devotion to their community, Kenn and Beth have become an indispensable part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The Citizen Driver program honors the hard-working professional truck drivers that demonstrate good citizenship, safety, community involvement, and leadership. None are more deserving of this honor than Kenn and Beth. During their more than 30-year career as a team, they have driven nearly 5 million miles, receiving multiple awards for their customer service, safety, efficiency, and overall excellence. When they're not driving, Kenn and Beth are active in their community—supporting charities like the St. Christopher Fund, The Salvation Army, Mission of Hope, and Landstar BCO Benevolence Fund, and working with several groups to help the less fortunate like Abundant Life Mission and Project Give.

There are more than 3.5 million professional truck drivers in the United States. While their work often goes unnoticed and underappreciated, it is vital to keeping our economy moving and daily life on track. Programs like Citizen Driver are a tremendous opportunity for us to recognize the hard work and dedication of professional drivers like Kenn and Beth that go above and beyond and serve as role models for every American.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Kenn and Beth Zelten for their decades of service and for being named 2019 Citizen Drivers. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such selfless and devoted individuals. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Kenn and Beth all the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from the floor on Monday, June 3rd. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 232, YEA on Roll Call No. 233, and YEA on Roll Call No. 234.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COLONEL RICHARD BELAND

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor life of Colonel Richard Beland of Poquoson, Virginia—a dedicated patriot and public servant who passed away surrounded by family on Friday, May 10, 2019.

His 30 years of service in the United States Air Force included training students for a decade, flying 290 combat missions in Vietnam, serving as an Advance Agent for Support and Security for Air Force One for two different administrations, and serving as a member of the NATO Flight Safety Group. Following his retirement in 1989, Colonel Beland served his local Poquoson Community's Board of Zoning Appeals for 18 years, with eight of those years as Chairman. He also faithfully served as a lector and usher at Langley Air Force Base Chapel.

Colonel Beland's dedication to his country and local community brings great honor to our district. I am proud to recognize Colonel Beland's leadership and the role he played in making America a better place.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, as an original co-sponsor of H.R. 6—American Dream and Promise Act, I would have voted YES on roll call No. 240, had I been present.

TORNADOES AND HEROISM

HON. WARREN DAVIDSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of heroes, in support of unity, and in support of the compassion that I witnessed in the Eighth District of Ohio after 19 tornadoes devastated Southwestern Ohio last week.

On May 27th, communities in Mercer, Miami, Darke, and Preble Counties, and counties adjacent to the Eighth District, were devastated by tornadoes with winds upwards of 140 miles per hour.

My wife Lisa and I took shelter in our basement as the storms passed. The totality of the destruction emerged with Tuesday's sunrise.

The caved roofs, toppled power lines, and staircases without surrounding structures gave powerful testimony to the violence of the storms.

Despite the terrible destruction in our district, we also saw signs of hope. Our communities always come together to help one another in times of need. It is why southwest Ohio is such a special place to call home.

Our first responders do an amazing job. There were no Democrats, no Republicans; there were just neighbors helping neighbors. It's too bad that it often takes a tragedy to highlight this special quality in us, but it is there—and it is a great thing to see.

I want to thank our first responders, Ohio Senators PORTMAN and BROWN for their leadership during this time of crisis, the Ohio delegation, Governor DeWine, and leaders across the country who are standing with the people of Ohio.

Madam Speaker, as relief and recovery efforts continue in Southwest Ohio, I use my time on the floor today to honor the heroes and survivors. We will rebuild and be stronger than before.

RECOGNIZING THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF NON-STOP TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Croatian Caucus, I rise today to bring attention to a very special milestone scheduled to take flight this coming Friday. On June 7, 2019, for the first time in twenty-eight years, non-stop transatlantic air travel will occur between the United States and the Republic of Croatia. American Airlines will have the honor of transporting passengers directly from Philadelphia International Airport to Dubrovnik International Airport in Croatia.

This event is especially momentous to me because my congressional district is home to the largest concentration of Croatians living in the United States. In fact, several of my constituents from San Pedro, California, will be on hand in Philadelphia to witness the inaugural flight and celebrate this exciting partnership with fellow Croatians, Croatian government officials, diplomats, and prominent civic leaders from Philadelphia.

The return to direct non-stop air service is yet another example of the United States' strong economic and political relationship with Croatia, a very important NATO ally. For me and my constituents, this new chapter will not only enhance these relationships but create opportunities to connect our communities and cultures. With this in mind, I am including in the RECORD a letter from Steven Rukavina, President of the National Federation of Croatian Americans, to Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney underscoring the significance of this first flight from Philadelphia and the strengthened relationship that will result between our two countries.

I wish this new endeavor between the United States and Croatia every success and look forward to one day soon being a passenger on this flight.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CROATIAN AMERICANS CULTURAL FOUNDATION,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2019.

Hon. JIM KENNEY,
Mayor, Philadelphia, PA.

DEAR MAYOR KENNEY: On behalf of the National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation (NFCA), and as a proud resident of Philadelphia, please allow me to share with you a quickly approaching milestone for our City.

The Croatian American community is so pleased that we will see the Croatian flag raised at City Hall on Friday, June 7th. Of course, we are thrilled that you and so many of Philadelphia's civic and business leaders will attend the Croatian gala celebration at the National Constitutional Center on June 6th, too.

These events will salute the first commercial non-stop flight in twenty-eight years from the United States to Croatia, which will depart Philadelphia International Airport on the evening of June 7. This historic American Airlines flight will touch down on Croatia's Adriatic coast in the City of Dubrovnik the next morning. I must say that I am very honored to be able to fly on this inaugural flight that night.

The non-stop flights that will follow will directly connect our World Heritage City of Philadelphia to the City of Dubrovnik—which is known as the ''Pearl of the Adriatic'' and which has also been included as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1979. This important Croatian city holds historic relevance as a significant Mediterranean port and sea power since the 13th century. Dubrovnik flourished really well throughout the 15th and 17th centuries and was lauded internationally for its skilled diplomacy and wealth! It is also historic and coincidental that the Republic of Ragusa—an aristocratic maritime republic that once included Dubrovnik—was one of the first political entities to recognize the independence of the United States of America in the 1770s.

In the coming years tourism between our two countries will only grow, and Americans will be able to further engage in the rich culture and history of Croatia. These newly inaugurated American Airlines non-stop flights will specifically allow Philadelphians the ease and comfort of non-stop travel to the Adriatic Coast. This will prompt many in our City to take a unique trip that they may not have before considered. This kind of unprecedented access will also draw many tourists to visit Philadelphia, too, as the departure city for their travels to and from Croatia.

The Croatian American community has also held a significant place in the history of the State of Pennsylvania. Croatian American immigration helped to significantly propel the steel industry in the western part of our Pennsylvania during the Second Industrial Revolution. Significantly, the Croatian Fraternal Union of America (CFU), which is now headquartered in Monroeville PA, will celebrate its 125th anniversary from September 21–25 in Pittsburgh.

The special bond between the U.S. and Croatia has been further strengthened during the past ten years with Croatia's 2009 ascension into full membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). This multilateral Euro-Atlantic security alliance membership and treaty, now has only further cemented the strong bilateral relationship between our two nations over the last ten years.

Looking to the future—with Croatia assuming the Presidency of the European Union in January, 2020—we hope to build on the success of these important air flight activities beginning in June via additional global-oriented events within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania during 2020, especially in our City of Philadelphia.

We applaud all your efforts to promote Philadelphia as a global destination for tourism, for international business growth, and now as a bridge to the City of Dubrovnik, another World Heritage site with a special bond to our historic American city!

Sincerely,

STEVE RUKAVINA,
President, National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation.

HONORING THE WORK OF KOJO NNAMDI

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Kojo Nnamdi and The Kojo Nnamdi Show for two decades on air with WAMU 88.5, Washington's National Public Radio news station.

No other local radio program brings the depth, sensitivity and familiarity with the important issues of the Washington, D.C. region better than The Kojo Nnamdi Show. Hosted by the universally beloved Kojo Nnamdi, the show has been at the center of critical conversations about society, community, race, housing, education, politics, the arts and more for 20 years.

While divisiveness has become the talk show norm, Nnamdi takes the time to create thoughtful dialogue—engendering trust among guests and listeners alike. Whether talking to citizens or politicians, he generates honest, productive discussions with guests, incorporating engagement with listeners.

Nnamdi makes it a priority to meet people where their lives happen—in the community. Nnamdi's conversations in communities around the region amplify the voices of those who would not be.

A native of Guyana, Nnamdi moved to D.C. in 1969 to engage with the civil rights movement. Now a longtime D.C. resident, Nnamdi brings both a global perspective and vast knowledge of the region to front page headlines and explores emerging stories before they are news.

From 1973 to 1985, Nnamdi worked at WHUR-FM, where he served as news editor and then news director, producing the award-winning local news program The Daily Drum. From 1985 to 2011, he hosted Evening Exchange, a public affairs television program broadcast by WHUT-TV at Howard University. Nnamdi became host of a WAMU program called Public Interest in August 1998, and the name was changed to The Kojo Nnamdi Show in September 2002.

In 2001, Nnamdi was honored as a civil rights hero by the National Council for Community Justice. In 2003, the Library of Congress selected Nnamdi as the keynote speaker for African American History Month. In addition to his hosting duties, Nnamdi has chaired the board of the Public Access Corporation of Washington, D.C. for the past 25 years. In 2014, Nnamdi was inducted into the Hall of

Fame of the D.C. chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, and in 2018, he was inducted into the D.C. Hall of Fame Society.

The Kojo Nnamdi Show has won numerous awards, including multiple Public Radio News Directors Incorporated and Associated Press honors, as well as the National Association of Black Broadcasters Salute to Excellence Award.

Over the years, Nnamdi has taken listeners on both intellectual and emotional journeys around the rapidly evolving Washington region. He has convened critical conversations for 20 years at the heart of change.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House to please join me in recognizing Kojo Nnamdi and The Kojo Nnamdi Show for 20 years of dedicated work in the Washington, D.C. area.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA CATHOLIC PARISH

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the 100th anniversary of St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Parish in Rogers City, Michigan. Through its dedication to education, faith, and its local community, St. Ignatius has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Founded in 1919 by Father C.T. Skowronski, St. Ignatius Church grew rapidly to serve the thriving community and growing Catholic congregation during the early 20th century. Over the next 100 years, St. Ignatius continued its success and worked to fulfill its mission of faith-filled liturgies, hospitality, evangelization, family life, and life-long education. The parish's dedication to its local community serves as an example for every person in Northern Michigan, and its impact on Michigan's First District cannot be understated. As Saint Ignatius of Loyola said, ''Love is shown more in deeds than in words.''

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Parish and its parishioners for 100 years of success, service, and faith. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in its future endeavors.

HONORING THE ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS WHO HELPED RESTORE ELECTRICITY TO PUERTO RICO

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the service of dozens of Arizonans who worked around the clock to repair the Puerto Rican electrical grid in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Their life-saving efforts helped restore food production, transportation, education, and health care services.

In the fall of 2017, Irma and Maria struck Puerto Rico in quick succession, less than two weeks apart. A Category 4 storm, Maria's 155 mph winds and rainfall compounded Irma's damage, and further devastated an island that is deeply vulnerable to the extremes of climate change. Flash floods and high winds damaged neighborhoods, houses, roads, schools, and businesses in a matter of mere hours. The storm also completely destroyed Puerto Rico's electric grid: 89 percent, or 2,100 miles of the island's transmission lines, and 24,000 miles of distribution lines, were gone.

This was the largest blackout in United States history. All 3.4 million of our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico lost power, including those for whom access to electricity can make the difference between life and death. Thousands of citizens, for example, rely on electricity for essential medical needs—to power their respirators, refrigerate their insulin, and sustain their dialysis treatments.

In the wake of Maria's landfall, with death tolls rising to 2,700, Puerto Ricans went to sleep each night in total darkness and uncertainty. This is why we recognize the commitment of the 83 Arizona Public Service line workers who, between January and March of 2018, traveled 3,000 miles from Arizona to Puerto Rico to rebuild and reenergize the island's electric grid. These Arizonans left their families for more than six weeks to work alongside new friends and fellow Americans in Puerto Rico. Together in partnership with Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) and 12 other public power utilities, APS workers helped install 5,000 poles and 4,400 miles of wire, restoring power to 97 percent of the island's residents.

I want to thank them for their service at a time of such dire need. As Puerto Ricans continue to rebuild after the hurricane, residents have rallied around the saying, ''Puerto Rico se levanta!''—Puerto Rico is rising again! But the APS line workers who served in Puerto Rico have demonstrated something more: ''Cuando Puerto Rico se levanta, el mundo se levanta también.'' When Puerto Rico rises, the rest of the world rises in tandem, alongside them.

IN HONOR OF ALVIN HUSTON PERRY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Mr. Alvin Huston Perry of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. Mr. Perry is part of a special group of heroes that served our nation during World War II.

Mr. Perry was born in August of 1923 and grew up on a farm in rural Anderson County. He was drafted into the United States Army in November of 1943. He was assigned to the 331st Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division. Mr. Perry's unit was part of the second wave of men to land on Omaha Beach after the D-Day invasion. German forces surprised Perry's company as fighting ensued in the hedgerows in Normandy. Mr. Perry was injured in the shoulder and his company was captured. He was taken to a German field hospital in Ruins, France where he was treated, From there, he was taken to Stalag XII–A in Limburg, Germany and later to Stalag VII–A in Musburg, Germany. He and his fellow prisoners lived in boxcars and were taken to Munich every day to work. He was a prisoner of war from July 1944 to April 1945.

Following liberation by American forces, Mr. Perry returned to serve stateside. At the war's end, he farmed and created a milk route delivering milk containers from dairy farms to distribution plants. He married his sweetheart Oneida, who he met in grade school.

Mr. Perry earned a Purple Heart, a Prisoner of War Medal, a Good Conduct Medal, and a WWII Victory Medal. He will be honored on June 7, 2019 with the French Legion of Honor, the highest decoration bestowed in France.

Mr. Perry and his fellow veterans are true heroes. As members of the ''Greatest Generation'', they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor the service of Mr. Alvin Huston Perry before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF RICKIE SPROULE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and service of Rickie Sproule. As a proud Veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Rickie has proven himself to be an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

The Continental Marines were formed by decree of the Second Continental Congress on November 10, 1775. Since the Revolutionary War, Marines served with the American Expeditionary Force on the Western Front of WWI, island hopped in the Pacific, landed on the beaches of North Korea, fought to protect the Republic of Vietnam, and defended Americans from the threat of global terrorism. Rickie served a crucial role during his service in the Marines, maintaining jet engines and ensuring the safety and fighting capacity of our Airmen. His unwavering devotion to duty perfectly exemplifies the spirit of the U.S. Marine Corps. We owe Rickie and his brothers in arms an enormous debt of gratitude. He has served our nation willingly, honorably, and without bias.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor today to acknowledge the extraordinary life of Rickie Sproule. I ask that you join with me and the people of Michigan's First District in thanking him for his unwavering commitment to our nation and its people.

HONORING THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, over the years, the Navy League of the United States has compiled an impressive record of accomplishments and is widely respected by both the private and public sector.

Navy League programs are welcomed in communities throughout the nation and its members are recognized for their integrity and patriotism.

In the words of President Theodore Roosevelt, ''It seems to me that all good Americans interested in the growth of their country and sensitive to its honor should give hearty support to the policies which the Navy League is founded. For the building and maintaining in proper shape of the American Navy, we must rely on nothing but the broad and farsighted patriotism of our people as a whole.''

In keeping with the wisdom and principles of President Theodore Roosevelt, it is my honor and privilege before the 116th Congress to recognize the 50,000 members and over 250 Councils of the Navy League of the United States at its National Convention June 19 to 22, 2019.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine data brokers and the impact on financial data privacy, credit, insurance, employment, and housing.

SD–538

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the crisis at the southwest border, including S. 1494, to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to protect alien minors and to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end abuse of the asylum system and establish refugee application and processing centers outside the United States.

SD–226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of William B. Kilbride, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

SD–406

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine the state of patent eligibility in America.

SD–226

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

To hold hearings to examine the global narcotics epidemic and the United States strategy to confront the rising epidemic.

SD–215

JUNE 12

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission.

SD–G50

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife

To hold a joint hearing to examine Waters of the United States regulations, focusing on their impact on states and the American people.

SD–406

10:30 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russia's counterproductive counterterrorism.

RHOB–2255

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Jeffrey Byard, of Alabama, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Troy D. Edgar, of California, to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Homeland Security, John McLeod Barger, of California, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and B. Chad Bungard, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

SD–342

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine competitive implications of vertical consolidation in the healthcare industry.

SD–226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration's contracting programs.

SR–428A

3 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness

To hold hearings to examine China's belt and road initiative.

SD–215

JUNE 13

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine certainty in global markets for the United States agriculture sector.

SR–328A

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3223–S3270

Measures Introduced: Thirty-seven bills and thirty-two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1717–1753, S.J. Res. 27–48, S. Res. 231–239, and S. Con. Res. 19. **Pages S3250–53**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 1590, to require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel. (S. Rept. No. 116–44) **Page S3250**

Measures Passed:

Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 15, expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2019, as ''Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day''. **Pages S3266–67**

Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 1289, to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the effects of broadband deployment and adoption on the economy of the United States, and the bill was then passed. **Page S3267**

Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act: Senate passed S. 1749, to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans. **Page S3267**

National Fishing and Boating Week: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 174, expressing support for the designation of the week of June 1, 2019, through June 9, 2019, as ''National Fishing and Boating Week'', and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S3267–68**

30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 221, 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 the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3068**

National Crime Victims' Rights Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 237, supporting the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week in 2019, which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of, and services available to assist, victims and survivors of crime in the United States. **Page S3268**

Hemp History Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 238, designating the week of June 3 through June 9, 2019, as ''Hemp History Week''. **Page S3268**

Great Outdoors Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 239, designating June 2019 as ''Great Outdoors Month''. **Page S3268**

Bahrain and Qatar Resolutions of Disapproval—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that with respect to S.J. Res. 20, relating to the disapproval of the proposed sale to the Government of Bahrain of certain defense articles and services, and S.J. Res. 26, relating to the disapproval of the proposed sale to the Government of Qatar of certain defense articles and services, Senator Paul, or his designee, be recognized at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, but no later than Friday, June 14, 2019, to make a motion to discharge such resolution; that there be up to an hour of debate on each motion equally divided between the proponents and the opponents, with 7 minutes reserved for both the Chairman and Ranking Member respectively, prior to each vote; that following the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on or in relation to the motion to discharge; and that if either motion to discharge is agreed to, the Joint Resolution be eligible for the expedited procedures under the Arms Export Control Act. **Page S3268**

Holte Nomination—Agreement: By 60 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 142), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Pages S3235–36**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, June 10, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Wednesday, June 5, 2019, ripen upon disposition of the nomination of Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Page S3268**

Alston Nomination—Cloture: By 74 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 143), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Rossie David Alston, Jr., of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Page S3536**

Hertling Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Page S3537**

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

By 66 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. EX. 144), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S3536**

Morrison Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Page S3237**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Wednesday, June 5, 2019, a vote on cloture will upon disposition of the nomination of Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Page S3237**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3237**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3237**

Barker Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio. **Page S3237**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Page S3237**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3237**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3237**

Maze Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama. **Page S3237**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio. **Page S3237**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3237**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3237**

Smith Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. **Page S3237**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama. **Page S3237**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3237**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3237**

Barber Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida. **Page S3738**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. **Page S3738**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3738**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Pages S3737–38

Boulee Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. Page S3738

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida. Page S3738

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S3738

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S3738

Stilwell Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David Stilwell, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs). Page S3738

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. Page S3738

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S3738

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S3738

Crawford Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Edward F. Crawford, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Ireland.

Page S3738

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of David Stilwell, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs). Page S3738

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S3738

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S3738

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 83 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. EX. 137), David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs). Pages S3227–28, S3270

By 84 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. EX. 138), Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Pages S3228, S3270

By 85 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. EX. 139), Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2024. Pages S3228, S3270

By 57 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 141), Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Pages S3229–35

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

By 56 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 140), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Pages S3228–29

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Pages S3245, S3270

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Amy Karpel, of Washington, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2023.

Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues.

Kenneth Charles Canterbury, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

28 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy.

Pages S3268–70

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Amy Karpel, of Washington, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 16, 2020, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2019. Page S3270

Messages from the House: Page S3749

Measures Read the First Time: Page S3749

Executive Communications: Pages S3749–50

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S3250

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3253–55

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S3255–66

Additional Statements: Pages S3247–48

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S3266

Privileges of the Floor: Page S3266

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—144) Pages S3228–29, S3235–36

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:21 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3268.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH FUNDING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine defense innovation and research funding, after receiving testimony from Michael D. Griffin, Under Secretary for Research and Engineering, and Steven H. Walker, Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, both of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security, Nazak Nikakhtar, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Industry and Security, and Ian Paul Steff, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, both of the Department of Commerce, Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Paul Shmotolokha, of Washington, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and Allison Herren Lee, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

STATE OF THE TELEVISION AND VIDEO MARKETPLACE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of the television and video marketplace, after receiving testimony from Michael K. Powell, NCTA—The Internet and Television Association, Gordon H. Smith, National Association of Broadcasters, and Craig Aaron, Free Press Action, all of Washington, D.C.; and David Kenny, Nielsen, New York, New York.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert Wallace, of Wyoming, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Enzi and Barrasso, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

THREATS TO TAXPAYER-FUNDED RESEARCH

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine foreign threats to taxpayer-funded research, focusing on oversight opportunities and policy solutions, after receiving testimony from Captain Michael Schmoyer, Public Health Service, Assistant Deputy Secretary for National Security, Director, Office of National Security, Lawrence A. Tabak, Principal Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health, and Leslie W. Hollie, Chief of Investigative Operations, Office of Inspector General, all of the Department of Health and Human Services; Louis A. Rodi III, Acting Assistant Director, National Security Investigations Division, Homeland Security Investigations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; and Joe W. Gray, Oregon Health and Science University Knight Cancer Institute, Portland.

30 YEARS AFTER TIANANMEN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine 30 years after Tiananmen, focusing on rule by fear, after receiving testimony from Xiao Qiang, China Digital Times, Berkeley, California; Sophie Richardson, Human Rights Watch, New York, New York; and Christopher Walker, National Endowment for Democracy, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Peter Joseph Phipps, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, William Shaw Stickman IV, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and Jennifer Philpott Wilson, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, who were introduced by Senators Casey and Toomey, and Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

STATE OF PATENT ELIGIBILITY IN AMERICA

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property concluded a hearing to examine the state of patent eligibility in America, after receiving testimony from Barbara A. Fiacco, American Intellectual Property Law Association, Arlington, Virginia; Scott Partridge, American Bar Association, Houston, Texas; Henry Hadad, Intellectual Property Owners Association, Princeton, New Jersey; David Jones, High Tech Inventors Alliance, Stephanie Martz, National Retail Federation, on behalf of United for Patent Reform, William Jenks, The Internet Association, Christopher A. Mohr, Software and Information Industry Association, Jeffrey K. Francer, Association for Accessible Medicines, Hans Sauer, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, and Natalie Derzko, Covington and Burling LLP, on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, all of Washington, D.C.; Paul Morinville, US Inventor, Inc., Highland, Indiana; Philip S. Johnson, Coalition for 21st Century Patent Reform, New Brunswick, New Jersey; Jeffrey A. Birchak, Fallbrook Technologies, Inc., Austin, Texas, on behalf of the Innovation Alliance; Rick Brandon, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on behalf of the Association of American Universities; and Kate Ruane, American Civil Liberties Union, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of James Byrne, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 51 public bills, H.R. 3100–3150; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 427–429, were introduced. **Pages H4341–43**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H4345**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1595, to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–104, Part 1). **Page H4341**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats Research Act of 2019: H.R. 1237, amended, to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 to establish an Ocean Acidification Advisory Board, to expand and improve the research on Ocean Acidification and Coastal Acidification, to establish and maintain a data archive system for Ocean Acidification data and Coastal Acidification data; **Pages H4318–25**

Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019: H.R. 1716, amended, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification; **Pages H4325–27**

Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019: H.R. 1921, amended, to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 395 yeas to 22 nays, Roll No. 241; and **Pages H4327–29, H4331–32**

National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019: H.R. 988, amended, to provide for a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments; **Pages H4329–31**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments.". **Page H4331**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, June 6th, and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 10th, and that the order of the House of January 3, 2019, regarding morning-hour debate not apply on that day. **Page H4337**

Senate Referral: S. 1235 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H4329.

Quorum Calls Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages H4331–32. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING THE IMPACTS OF RELOCATING USDA RESEARCH AGENCIES ON AGRICULTURE RESEARCH

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research held a hearing entitled "Examining the Impacts of Relocating USDA Research Agencies on Agriculture Research". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Department of Homeland Security held a markup on the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, FY 2020. The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, FY 2020 was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a markup on H.R. 2500, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020". H.R. 2500 was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

THIS IS NOT A DRILL: EDUCATION-RELATED RESPONSE AND RECOVERY IN THE WAKE OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled "This is Not a Drill: Education-Related Response and Recovery in the Wake of Natural Disasters". Testimony was heard from Frank T. Brogan, Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education; Glenn Muna, Commissioner, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System, Northern Mariana Islands; Steve Herrington, Superintendent of Schools, Sonoma County Schools, California; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 1373, the "Grand Canyon Centennial Protection Act"; and H.R. 2181, the "Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019". Testimony was heard from Michael Nedd, Deputy Director, Operations, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Coral Evans, Mayor, Flagstaff, Arizona; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 733, the "Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act"; H.R. 1031, the "Pala Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2019"; H.R. 1803, to nullify the Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle Oregon; and H.R. 2961, the "Samish Indian Land Reaffirmation Act". Testimony was heard from Darryl LaCounte, Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Frank Beum, Acting Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

OCEAN EXPLORATION: DIVING TO NEW DEPTHS AND DISCOVERIES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled "Ocean Exploration: Diving to New Depths and Discoveries". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "National Security Implications of Climate Change". Testimony was heard from Peter Kiemel, Counselor, National Security Council, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Jeff Ringhausen, Senior Naval Intelligence Manager Russia and Eurasia, Office of Naval Intelligence; and Rod Schoonover, Senior Analyst, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State.

IMPROVING CONSTITUENT ENGAGEMENT

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Improving Constituent Engagement". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Thursday, June 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Thursday, June 6

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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