



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019

No. 97

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 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.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Thank You for Your love and mercy that comes fresh daily. You keep us from dwelling in darkness, illuminating our path with the light of Your wisdom. Today, open the eyes of our lawmakers to the wonders of Your grace. May they see the majesty of Your inclusive love for people everywhere. Inspire our Senators to behold the works You are already doing to heal our Nation.

Lord, deliver us from all of the destructive forces that hinder us from doing Your will, for we find our shelter in You. Teach us to fulfill Your purposes on Earth as we strive to bring honor to Your Name.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 30 seconds.

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

### FOREIGN THREATS TO TAXPAYER-FUNDED RESEARCH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, last week, I held a hearing on foreign threats to taxpayer-funded research, and a classified briefing was held on

the very same subject. We learned a great deal of information regarding the very real and ongoing threat from foreign governments to U.S. research.

Congress must continue its oversight to ensure that the Federal Government has the right mix of authorities as well as focus to protect our research and intellectual property. The government spends billions and billions of dollars a year on research. Congress and the executive branch have a responsibility to the taxpayers to get the job done.

I yield the floor.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

### NOMINATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. This week, the Senate is making more progress in the personnel business. Since returning to more prompt consideration for unobjectionable, lower level nominees, we are continuing to fill important vacancies around the executive branch and on the Federal bench.

Yesterday we confirmed several more well-qualified nominees to important seats on the Federal judiciary—Ryan Holte of Ohio and Richard Hertling of Maryland to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and Rossie David Alston, of Virginia, to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. These brandnew judges possess impressive legal and academic credentials.

In the case of Mr. Holte, who taught law school for several years, 125 former students wrote our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to say their former professor would “provide impartial, unbiased, and principled decisions, and will apply the law faithfully no matter the litigants.”

That is exactly what this body should look for in every nominee we consider for the Federal bench. So I am

glad we will have the opportunity this week to consider six more distinguished judicial nominees.

First up today will be Sarah Daggett Morrison, tapped by the President to serve the Southern District of Ohio. Ms. Morrison is a graduate of Ohio State University and Capital University Law School. Earlier this year, the Judiciary Committee reported her nomination favorably on a voice vote.

After Ms. Morrison’s nomination is confirmed, we will turn to consider Pamela Barker for the Northern Virginia District of Ohio, Corey Maze for the Northern District of Alabama, Rodney Smith for the Southern District of Florida, Thomas Barber for the Middle District of Florida, and Jean-Paul Boulee for the Northern District of Georgia.

Following them, we will fill two more executive branch vacancies, one each at the State Department and in the diplomatic corps. I hope my colleagues will join me in voting to confirm each of these nominees with strong bipartisan support on the floor.

### HONG KONG

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, on an entirely different matter, like many of my colleagues, I watched images from Hong Kong this weekend and could not help but be moved by the residents of that metropolis. They are mounting a bold stand to preserve Hong Kong’s autonomy from China and, by extension, defend their liberties.

Over the weekend, more than 1 million residents, a staggering proportion of the population—about one in seven—took to the streets to protest a draft law that would allow the people of Hong Kong to be extradited to mainland China. Hong Kong residents rightly view this measure as another erosion of the rule of law and tightening of Beijing’s grip on their imperiled autonomy.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S3299

These are not just students or lawyers or intellectuals who have taken to the streets but a broad cross-section of Hong Kong's diverse society—all age groups, all professions, all walks of life—all committed to preserving the personal freedoms and judicial independence that have made Hong Kong such a special and prosperous city.

The Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, which I sponsored, has, for nearly three decades, enshrined America's commitment to preserving Hong Kong's special status and its freedoms. This draft law is inconsistent with the Hong Kong Policy Act and puts Hong Kong on the path of becoming just another one of China's cities subject to Beijing's whims.

As the Vice President stated last autumn, "For a time, Beijing inched toward greater liberty and respect for human rights. But in recent years, China has taken a sharp U-turn toward control and oppression of its own people."

I regret that reports from Guangdong to Xinjiang continue to prove him right as Beijing's grip on its own people grows tighter, even as the rest of the world marks its 30th anniversary of the violence in Tiananmen Square.

I encourage the administration to stay engaged and express our concerns with the authorities in Hong Kong before this proposal becomes law and the Chinese Communist Party further extends its control over the people of Hong Kong.

#### TARIFFS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on one final matter, last week's announcement of progress in negotiations with Mexico was a welcome development. It staved off the threat that tariffs would disrupt an important trading relationship and secured a promise that Mexican authorities will take more responsibility for their own borders, but, as I said yesterday, while this was a critical step, it does not absolve Congress of our duty to finally act—not even close.

It was May 1 when the administration first transmitted to Congress its urgent request for supplemental border funding. That will be 6 weeks ago tomorrow that the administration set up a request for supplemental funding for the crisis at the border—6 weeks—and this emergency request is essentially falling on deaf ears among our Democratic colleagues.

In the meantime, we should note that the month of May marks a third straight month with more than 100,000 individuals apprehended at the southern border. In fact, last month's total of more than 140,000 was the largest in the last 13 years of CBP data.

By the way, that includes more than 84,000 family units and more than 11,000 unaccompanied children. These are enormous numbers of people showing up at our border. The American personnel who are charged with securing

our Nation and looking after these individuals are simply overwhelmed. The agencies are overwhelmed. The facilities are overwhelmed. It is a true humanitarian crisis, totally unsustainable for these individuals for whom our national security and rule of law dictate that we need to detain.

At overcrowded facilities, beds are in short supply, medical care is wearing thin, money and personnel from across the Department of Homeland Security are being diverted from other important missions on an emergency basis to cover shortfalls, but even that cannot go on much longer.

This is from John Sanders, the Acting Commissioner of Customs and Border Control. He said: "We are at a full-blown emergency . . . the system is broken." The system is broken—that from the head of Customs and Border Patrol.

The professionals whom our Nation has entrusted to keep America safe and care for these people have been begging—literally begging—for more resources for 6 weeks. Their calls have solidified a national consensus that spans the entire political spectrum.

More than 1 month ago, the editorial board of the New York Times—not what you call devoted admirers of the Trump administration—wrote an editorial they titled—listen to this headline: "Congress, Give Trump His Border Money."

That is the New York Times. They wrote:

Something needs to be done. Soon. [But] unfortunately, political gamesmanship once again threatens to hold up desperately needed resources.

That was the New York Times in early May, at the time both Houses of Congress were negotiating the supplemental funding bill for recent natural disasters, but Democrats chose to come down to the left of the New York Times' editorial pages—that is pretty hard to do—and decided to deny the White House this border money.

One Member of the House Democratic conference complained that the need for border money was "political." Political.

Another House Democrat admitted to reporters that his own side was the problem. This is what he said: "In my opinion, we do have to come up with some money. But we've got to convince our more progressive friends."

Again, these are not resources for any remotely controversial cause. We are talking about humanitarian funding for caring for families and children who show up at the border in need of help. That is what we are talking about. This is not a subject where the political left should need week after week of convincing, but apparently our liberal colleagues just could not get past their animosity for the President, even on something like this.

During these last 6 weeks, the House has found plenty of time and energy for purely partisan things. There has been plenty of histrionics and political the-

ater. We have seen hearing room melodrama. We have seen some partisan messaging votes. We have seen plenty of political theater, opposing the President for the sake of opposing him. They have had time for all of that but nothing—nothing—for the urgent border crisis.

So, May 5, the New York Times: "Congress, Give Trump His Border Money."

May 23, "Democrats balked at allocating billions of dollars more toward border security."

June 9, very recently: "When Will Congress Get Serious About the Suffering at the Border?" Two New York Times editorials say: Give Trump the money for the border crisis. This is breathtaking—the alliance between the New York Times editorial board and the Trump administration being ignored by our Democratic colleagues.

So look, the question we have been asking ourselves every day as the House continues to ignore this crisis is, What is the problem here?

I suspect it is the question men and women we ask to secure the border are asking one another every day. When will our Democratic colleagues get serious about this?

Believe me, we know that our Democratic counterparts are not charter members of Donald Trump's personal fan club. We get that. They have made that abundantly clear over and over again. Their entire political agenda these days seems to be repeating that fact nice and loud, over and over again in case we hadn't already heard it.

We are all plenty familiar with "the resistance." We have seen that here in the Senate. That is why we have had so many nominations clogged up. But, look, "the resistance" doesn't pay the bills. "The resistance" doesn't produce the funding that the border facilities desperately need. "The resistance" doesn't plug the holes in our Nation's border security or improve humanitarian conditions down on the border.

There is only one way to fix this—bipartisan legislation with supplemental border funding. That is what we need to do.

So for everyone's sake, I think the entire country is hoping that Democrats remember their job is governing, not resisting. It is far past time to get serious about this and solve this problem.

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

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

#### 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 bill clerk read the nomination of Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

#### YEAR-ROUND SALE OF E15

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I came to the floor last week to talk about the challenges facing farmers right now. While the broader economy is thriving, a combination of low commodity prices, protracted trade disputes, and natural disasters and weather-related issues have left many farmers and ranchers struggling.

In my home State of South Dakota, farmers and ranchers are dealing with the aftermath of severe winter storms, heavy rainfall, bomb cyclones, and spring flooding. Planting is behind schedule, and many farmers will not be able to plant at all this year. Yet, while the news has generally been tough for farmers and ranchers lately, there are a couple of recent happenings that are worth celebrating.

Japan's announcement that it was lifting age limits on U.S. beef imports is a win for America's ranchers, who will be able to substantially increase their sales to Japan. Also, the administration's move to lift the ban on the year-round sale of E15—15-percent ethanol-blended fuel—went live in the Federal Register yesterday. This is great news for corn producers in South Dakota and around the Nation.

I have been advocating for higher blends of ethanol for more than a decade, and I have spent a lot of time advocating for the year-round sale of E15. Year-round E15 is a win-win-win-win situation. It is a win for consumers and for our economy. It is a win for the environment. It is a win for our Nation's energy security. It is also a big win for our Nation's agriculture industry.

Year-round E15 will not only provide consumers with a cheaper alternative at the pump, but it will keep gas prices lower. Plus, the year-round sale of E15 means more ethanol can be sold each year, for gas stations will have a greater incentive to sell E15 now that they will no longer have to go through the costly process of reworking and relabeling E15 pumps at the start of the summer's driving season and then of converting them back in the fall. Increased demand will fuel further growth in the ethanol industry, which already supports hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs and contributes tens of billions of dollars to our economy.

Year-round sales of E15 are also a win for our environment in that ethanol is a cleaner burning fuel than is regular gasoline, which means fewer greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, ethanol reduces greenhouse gas emissions by more than one-third. Biofuels like ethanol are key to there being a lower carbon energy future, and the next generation of advanced biofuels will further lower emissions.

Another major advantage to ethanol is that it diminishes our dependence on foreign oil. Ethanol is a homegrown fuel, and the more we are producing here at home the less we have to rely on unstable countries or far-off sources to meet our fuel needs.

Finally, of course, the year-round sale of E15 is a big win for our Nation's corn producers. America's farmers don't just feed our country. They help fuel it, too. Roughly half of the corn produced in my home State of South Dakota goes into ethanol production.

Increased demand for ethanol as a result of the administration's decision could boost demand for corn by up to 2 billion bushels. That would be a significant boost to U.S. corn producers at any point, but it is an especially big deal given the challenges the agriculture sector has faced over the past several years.

U.S. corn producers are one of the main reasons I have been a relentless advocate for higher blends of ethanol, and I am very happy the President has delivered on his commitment to year-round sales of E15. As we move forward, I will continue to advocate for biofuels and the environmental and economic benefits they bring. Conventional ethanol has laid the foundation for advanced biofuels, which will have even lower life cycle emissions.

American ingenuity has turned the corner to create ethanol from other parts of plants like corn kernel fiber, boosting yields, but we need the Environmental Protection Agency to end the yearlong delays and approve registrations.

I will also continue to urge the Environmental Protection Agency to stop its practice of granting small refiner exemptions to the renewable fuel standard that discourage demand for ethanol. These so-called hardship waivers should be limited only to instances where small refiners would no longer be profitable or competitive if they comply with their blending obligation. They should not be granted to refiners who are posting billion-dollar profits and seeking to game the system. We need to make sure the EPA is granting waivers appropriately and in a transparent manner.

That said, the year-round sale of E15 will actually help refiners because it will incentivize higher ethanol blending and drive down compliance costs.

I am thankful that President Trump made good on his commitment to our farmers to get the E15 rule done, and I am glad he is back in the heartland today so he can hear firsthand about

the difference this will make in farm country.

While we have a long way to go to get the agricultural economy thriving again, I am heartened by this victory for our corn producers, and I will continue to make our Nation's farmers and ranchers a priority here in Washington.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EQUAL PAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, later this afternoon, the U.S. women's soccer team will begin its quest for another World Cup title with its opening match against Thailand. As the entire Nation cheers them on as they take the field, I want to shine a light today on an issue the women's national team has been fighting for off the field: pay equity. The women make just as much of a sacrifice, put in just as much mental and physical energy, absorb just as much risk of injury as the men who play for the national team. Yet when you break it down, a women's national soccer team player earns a base salary of \$3,600 per game while a men's player earns \$5,000. Over the course of a season, if both the men's and women's teams have the same record, a male player could earn \$30,000 more than his female counterpart.

Female soccer players who earn the privilege of representing their country on the world stage get a much smaller bonus, \$15,000, than male soccer players who earn the same privilege, \$55,000. When a woman's national team wins a World Cup, something the U.S. women have done three times—with some New York State players helping—it wins a percentage of what a men's team gets if it wins at all, something the U.S. men have never done.

For the sake of comparison, U.S. soccer awarded the men's national team a \$5.4 million performance bonus for losing in the round of 16 in the 2014 World Cup. It awarded the women \$1.7 million for winning the World Cup.

Let me repeat that so you get the contrast. The women won the Cup and were given \$1.7 million. The men got into the final 16 and got \$5.4 million. That is discrimination staring us all in the face.

This is an issue of basic fairness. Performances aside—and the women have been excellent and often dominant over the past two decades—we shouldn't reward women less for doing the same work as men. We shouldn't say to generations of girls and boys who look up to these talented stars that women's

sports is in any way “less than” because it is not. These women, who inspire our country with their poise, tenacity, skill, and excellence every time they take the field, deserve to be fairly compensated.

Right now, the Senate could take a meaningful step to support the women’s international team by passing legislation that aims to end gender-based wage discrimination. The House passed a paycheck fairness bill months ago, which languished here in the Senate in Leader McConnell’s legislative graveyard. Bill after bill comes from the House, has the support of large percentages of Americans, gets Republican support in the House, and Leader McConnell just lets them lie there—another tombstone in the graveyard.

As the women of Team USA take the field today, I call on Leader McConnell to bring up the House legislation already passed that would aid in their fight for equal pay.

I will be rooting for Team USA women to kick off their campaign with a win against Thailand.

HUAWEI

Madam President, on another matter, Huawei, according to public reports, the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Russell Vought, is pushing a 2-year delay—a 2-year delay—in the implementation of key portions of a law intended to protect U.S. agencies and government contractors from Chinese telecom technology, chiefly Huawei.

This is deeply concerning for two reasons. First, from a national security standpoint, the FBI, CIA, and other members of the intelligence community have testified that the technology from Chinese telecom companies, such as Huawei and ZTE, present a national security risk, potentially allowing China to build backdoors into our networks, enabling their cyber theft and cyber espionage for which they are, unfortunately, well known. That is why Congress banned U.S. Government agencies and contractors from using this technology—because they are our highest valued targets. We have been encouraging our European allies to do the same.

Why on Earth, then, is the Acting Director of OMB, Russell Vought, asking for a 2-year delay in these rules? We passed the law more than a year ago. President Trump has signed it, and our agencies and contractors have had time to make sure their technology doesn’t come from Huawei.

There is simply no reason, in my mind, for such a lengthy delay. It would only extend a window of opportunity for what is already a dire threat to our national security.

The second reason this news concerns me so is that it is about the Trump administration’s broader approach to China. Across many issues in the Trump administration, it sometimes feels as though the right hand doesn’t know what the left hand is doing. A few weeks ago, the administration

issued an Executive order largely banning U.S. companies from selling equipment to Huawei, an action I praised. But then the Commerce Department abruptly delayed that decision by 3 months. Now we have this additional request from OMB to soft-pedal a different set of restrictions on Huawei.

China needs to understand that the United States is serious when it comes to our trade relationship. We must have a consistent policy implemented with rigor. This idea of reciprocity, of barring China’s companies from doing business here until they let our biggest companies do business there, is an important part of our overall effort to increase pressure on China to agree to meaningful economic reforms.

I am very troubled by the OMB’s request, and I plan on strenuously opposing the approval of the delay here in Congress.

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

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

#### NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today in defense of net neutrality. In April the House of Representatives took an important step in passing the Save the Internet Act, legislation that would overturn the Trump administration’s wrongheaded decision and restore net neutrality protections. Another way of saying it is that net neutrality is nondiscrimination online. That is what it is. It is the principle of nondiscrimination online so that large companies just can’t discriminate against smaller voices, smaller companies, and startups.

In the Senate, we have already successfully passed the same proposal last year. In April of 2018, my Congressional Review Act resolution passed in the Senate on a bipartisan vote of 52 to 47. In April 2018, on a bipartisan basis, we debated net neutrality and the Senate decided to join the majority of Americans and support a free and open internet.

In that vote we sent a message to President Trump about what that means: an internet, free of corporate control and open to all who want to communicate, engage, and innovate. We made it clear that Congress will not fall for President Trump’s special interest agenda and his broadband baron allies who just want to block, slow down, or discriminate against content online just to charge Americans more on their cable bills.

Unfortunately, the rules for the Congressional Review Act that allow just 30 Senators to force the majority to schedule a vote is not an option in this

Congress. So, instead, on this, the 1-year anniversary of President Trump’s net neutrality repeal going into effect, we will call for an immediate vote on the Save the Internet Act. Unfortunately, our Republican colleagues are failing to listen to the voices of their constituents and plan to block the vote from happening.

Let’s be clear. Net neutrality is just another way in which the Republican Party refuses to side with the ordinary people in our country—regular families, small businesses, and startup software companies. How do they get access to the internet in a way in which they cannot feel that corporate pressure restricting their ability to use this incredible invention to further the democratization of access to opportunity or, at the same time, to innovate in a way which continues to change not only our own country but our own world?

We can’t let big companies discriminate against individual consumers. We can’t let big companies stifle speech. Once you pay your monthly internet service bill, you can go anywhere you want on the internet without your provider slowing down or blocking your path to a website of your choosing.

This is a fight. It is a fight for innovation, for entrepreneurialism, for the American economy, and a fight for free speech—the cornerstone of our democracy—and a fight for the most powerful platform for commerce and communications in the history of the planet. The Save the Internet Act does exactly what the American people want. It restores the rules that ensure that families aren’t subject to higher prices, slower internet speeds, and even blocked websites because the big broadband providers want to pump up their profits.

Under Senator McConnell’s leadership, the Republicans are trying to bury this bill in a legislative graveyard. Instead of acting on legislation, which, again, passed the Senate a year ago—it just passed in the House in April of this year—Leader McConnell has been doing little but confirming unqualified, extreme-right nominees for the Trump administration.

Just listen to the bills the Senate Republicans refuse to act on: the Violence Against Women Act, no votes out here on the Senate floor; voting on democracy reform, no votes out here on the Senate floor; gun background checks, passed in the House but no vote here in the Senate; paycheck fairness; the Paris climate agreement—no, no, no.

But the Senate majority leader and his Republican colleagues can keep populating the legislative graveyard at their political peril because this is the agenda that the American people want to see the Senate debating, and they want to see these laws put on the books to protect families in our country. That is because the issues they are blocking are enormously popular, most with strong bipartisan support.

Take net neutrality. Now, 86 percent of Americans do not approve of the

Federal Communication Commission's action to repeal net neutrality rules, including 82 percent of Republicans, and we are not going to have a vote out here on the Senate floor.

On background checks for gun purchases, 97 percent of Americans support requiring background checks for all gun buyers, but we are not going to have a vote out here on the Senate floor.

On staying in the Paris climate agreement, nearly 70 percent of registered voters believe the United States should keep its promise and stay in that historic agreement to combat climate change, but the Republicans will not allow us to even have a vote on that out here on the Senate floor.

The only place where these issues don't have Republican support is in Senator MCCONNELL's office. Across the country, there are huge bipartisan numbers on each and every one of those issues. It is time that we do right by the American people, and we can start with the Save the Internet Act to protect the internet as we know it.

More than 100 outside advocacy organizations wrote to Senate leadership today urging a vote on the net neutrality legislation. They want action now, and Democrats are committed to fighting on their behalf.

I am joined today by some of our greatest fighters for net neutrality in the Senate and across our country. The ranking member of the Commerce Committee, MARIA CANTWELL from Washington State, will be out here in a few minutes, but now I am joined by Senator RON WYDEN of Oregon.

Senator WYDEN and I introduced net neutrality legislation 15 years ago in the House and in the Senate. Nobody understands this issue better than Senator WYDEN does. Partnering with Senator CANTWELL, we are going to continue this battle. Whether it is on the floor of the Senate or in the House or whether it is in the courts, we will not stop fighting until net neutrality is restored.

So, from my perspective, right from the very beginning, Senator WYDEN and I have been on the right side of history. We have been fighting for an issue that has overwhelming public support, and we are not going to give up until we have won this fight.

At this point, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to be able to join my friend Senator MARKEY here today. It has been exactly 1 year since the Trump FCC engineered the repeal of net neutrality, and I am going to spend the next few minutes making sure people understand what the effect of that has been. I want to begin by picking up on a point Senator MARKEY made with respect to what this is all about.

Net neutrality may still be a term that some people aren't familiar with, but what it is all about is a free and open internet. It means, in simple

English, that after you pay your internet access fee, you get to go where you want, when you want, and how you want. That is what net neutrality is all about, and that is the essence of a free and open internet. As Senator MARKEY said, we wish we had had this policy embedded once and for all in Federal law. We wish it had happened eons ago, because we have been working both in the Senate and in the House to do it.

Now, if you are just picking up on this, you probably want to know: Well, the Senators are saying how the Trump FCC changed things in the last year: exactly what has happened? I am not sure the sky is falling and the like. So what I am going to do for a few minutes is to talk about actually what has happened over the last year.

Suffice it to say that the big cable companies are counting on making these changes. As for these changes, which are going to hurt consumers in a steady, creeping way, my sense is that the American people ought to know, for example, what these changes are doing to them and their service and what they pay for it.

There is one example that you have already seen. The big carriers are selling so-called unlimited data plans that totally throw away the definition of the word "unlimited." To understand the complicated limits on internet access in these kind of new, newfangled unlimited plans, you almost need a degree in big-cable legal jargon. Consumers might be forced to swallow hard and accept it, but that doesn't make it acceptable.

Big cable companies and the entertainment giants are also reshaping their industries through megamergers. As big carriers merge, there is less competition and consumers have fewer choices. Some of those new megacorporations also own the content they distribute, and they want to reach as many consumers as possible. That means that what is happening now is that the internet is starting to fracture.

Sign up for internet service with one company, and you will be able to see their preferred bundle of content in high definition at top speeds. If you want to go outside their bundle of websites and streaming services, plan to pay a whole lot more.

That is a bad deal for the American consumer. American consumers ought to be able to access what they want and when they want to. As Senator MARKEY and I and Senator CANTWELL have talked about, it is also a nightmare for the startup companies, the engines of innovation in America that will not be able to afford special treatment and will not be able to compete with these behemoths.

Now, the Trump FCC repealed net neutrality—and I will close with this—by making some very farfetched promises. They said, for example, that there would be new innovation. They can produce new innovation, Senator MARKEY, without any regulation. That hadn't happened.

The Trump FCC said the level of private investment in telecom would boom. We are still waiting on that one too. The Trump FCC spun a tale about voluntary net neutrality. We could all do this voluntarily—claiming that the big cable companies would do the right thing on their own. That doesn't even pass the smell test.

By the way, colleagues, if the companies were fine with net neutrality, why would we need to get rid of it? They sure put a lot of effort into getting rid of this altogether.

The bottom line is, the Trump FCC has put consumers, from sea to shining sea—from Oregon, all the way across the country—basically at the hands of Big Cable. That is what they did when they repealed net neutrality.

I want to take some time to outline the changes we have seen in just the last year because not all of these changes are going to come at once. In fact, I think it is fair to say the big cable companies are counting on Americans not noticing sometimes when the terms of their contracts get worse, but, bit by bit, people are going to notice when their prices start rising. The fractures in the internet—I guess the big cable companies will try to figure out a way to say that, too, was a good deal for consumers, a discount on the content within one bundle rather than a price increase and data limits on everything else.

I will close with just one final point. That last example violates everything that Senator MARKEY, Senator CANTWELL, and I have stood for, which is an open and free internet after you pay your internet access fee. I say this today, as Senator CANTWELL gets ready to close this for us, we still envision what Senator MARKEY and I proposed, as I call it, eons ago. We still have made it clear that we are going to be out here fighting to embed, once and for all, in Federal law, an open and free internet. That means, after you pay your access fee, you get to go where you want, when you want, and how you want, and nothing less—nothing less—keeps pace with the American consumer.

I thank my colleagues, Senator MARKEY, for his leadership on this, and Senator CANTWELL, our leader on the Commerce Committee, and I look forward to working with both of them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor to join my colleague, the Senator from Oregon, who has been a long proponent of a very strong internet economy and privacy rights. I very much appreciate his leadership on so many of these technology issues. He and I represent a very strong technology economy in the Pacific Northwest, and we want to fight to keep that innovation.

He and I actually held a summit in our adjoining communities just about the app economy. This was several years ago—probably 7 or 8 years ago

now. He and I worked together to formulate, with our colleges, Washington State University and Oregon, literally just the app economy.

I think about the applications we saw 7 years ago. Some of them were for hiking trails, some of them were for solutions for our law enforcement to have better information, and some of them were just pure business applications. I think about how much we have grown that app economy in the last 7 to 10 years and how much it will be impacted by an internet that is not an open internet and universal in giving people access to service. I say this because those new startups know more than anybody else that if they are not the big behemoth in the market and they are a new interest competing against an existing business or if they have a new idea and they don't have the clout to have fast internet speeds, they are not going to reach consumers; they are not going to reach their clients; and they are not going to have a business model that is successful.

So I thank Senator WYDEN for his leadership for decades on these important issues. I thank my colleague Senator MARKEY for organizing us this morning to say one thing loud and clear: After 1 year, we already know what is happening on the internet. One thing the Senate can do is protect consumers from big cable companies from overcharging them. That is why we are out here to say that we should have a vote to protect consumers, to protect companies that produce 20 percent of our economy over 377,000 jobs in my State. I guarantee you I will be here this morning to articulate why an internet service needs to be protected. We know we have to fight back against companies that want to gouge consumers or suppress competition.

It has been 1 year since the FCC decided to turn back protections for the internet. We are here today because we know we have already seen the inklings of what is more to come—companies that are doing things such as slowing down speeds or charging consumers more. We know more than 20 million people stood up and told the FCC they want strong internet protections, and they do not want to see large-scale companies overcharging or gouging them.

I don't even know how we can talk about getting broadband service if there are not going to be strong rules on the internet that protect consumers from being overcharged. The truth is, we know today that the internet is a great economy for us. It is helping us to research. It is helping us in life-saving healthcare. We had one of the FCC administrators out in the Northwest looking at healthcare applications, and they are phenomenal for helping everything from PTSD to looking at ways to deliver just-in-time healthcare for those who are in remote parts of our State.

We know the internet is a great equalizer. It is helping people from dif-

ferent backgrounds participate in the economy, and it is helping with economic empowerment, but innovative businesses in every small town and every city need to have an internet that is going to give them access to create jobs and move their local economies forward. Today, in the United States, three cable companies—just three cable companies—have control of internet access for 70 percent of Americans, and 80 percent of rural Americans still only have one choice for high-speed broadband for their homes and businesses. We are not likely to get competition where the consumer can just say: You are artificially slowing me down and charging me too much; I am just going to the competition. That is not likely to happen. That is why we need a strong FCC approach to protecting an open internet and saying they shouldn't block, throttle, and manipulate internet access. Without these protections, Big Cable can move faster in charging more. So I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to say it is time to hold these companies accountable and put consumers ahead of these big cable profits.

I can guarantee that the American people know better. Literally, it doesn't matter what political affiliation you have, the majority of Americans all oppose repealing protections that make for an open internet. They know it is time for us to protect consumers and that this is only going to get more complex as our economy depends more and more on an open internet.

As my colleague from Oregon has said, the Trump FCC has given a green light to companies, basically, to keep doing whatever they want and to continue to take more out of consumers' pockets.

Today, on the Senate floor, we have an opportunity. My colleague from Massachusetts, who has been as much a great leader on these issues and has been working to protect an open internet for decades, has an opportunity to say where we stand in protecting the American consumer. Just last year, a bipartisan majority in the U.S. Senate—49 Democrats and 3 Republicans—joined together to overturn the FCC's repealing of internet protections. We were here together to say we want the internet protected.

Now the House of Representatives has done its job. It has basically protected the internet and taken an initiative. It is time for Leader MCCONNELL to put the big cable companies on notice and to allow debate on the Senate floor and hold them accountable so we can say we want an open internet, and this type of practice should be fought against.

I hope our colleagues will be given the opportunity for this debate, to look at why it is so important to protect consumers, the innovation economy, and a free and open internet.

Tomorrow there is an FCC hearing before the Senate Commerce Com-

mittee, and I hope we will be able to ask these important questions about why cable companies are continuing to gouge consumers in many areas.

I thank the Presiding Officer, and I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I think Senator CANTWELL and Senator WYDEN have done an excellent job in laying out the parameters of the problems that exist if we do not have net neutrality enshrined as the law of the land.

We believe the principles of non-discrimination—the principles that ensure that the internet is open and accessible to the smallest voices as well as the largest voices. We need laws to protect the smallest voices. We need protections to ensure that they are going to be heard, that they can innovate, that they can take their entrepreneurial zeal, their insights into the additional changes that can be made in this longstanding—now a 20-year history of dynamic changes that have taken place in the online commercial world and that they will be able to innovate.

They should not have to get permission to innovate. They should not have to get permission to be able to change the way in which people communicate in our country. We shouldn't have to hire lawyers to negotiate with the lawyers of the biggest companies in the United States in order to ensure that investors aren't going to lose all their money as the small company gets tipped upside down and has all of their resources absolutely devastated by anticompetitive activity. That is what this is all about—democracy and capitalism, entrepreneurial spirit, the ability to innovate, the ability to be able to go to the marketplace.

In order for capitalism to work, it has to have a conscience. Capitalism without a conscience allows for unfettered large corporations to take advantage of small companies, startups, and individuals in our society. It has to have a conscience. Net neutrality is the conscience for the online world we live in. It ensures that there is fairness, openness, and it ensures that the apertures that are there cannot be narrowed just because of the corporate agenda of an individual huge company.

That is the essence of this whole debate. It is something we believe is at the heart of what this 21st century platform of commerce should include. It will be, in a lot of ways, the defining issue of whether this entire era is one that is characterized by fairness or one that is characterized by monopolistic or duopoly practices.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1644

Mr. President, on behalf of Senator CANTWELL and Senator WYDEN and myself, I ask unanimous consent, as in legislative session, that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 74, H.R. 1644, a bill to restore the open internet order

of the Federal Communications Commission; 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. WICKER. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I don't think the answer to the question is going to be a surprise to my friend from Massachusetts. I will only say this, and I will try to do it briefly. I have been amazed, over the last 1½ years and even longer, at the intense, overblown rhetoric about this issue of net neutrality and the hyperbole we have heard on the floor of the Senate and elsewhere.

About 1½ years ago, the FCC voted on the Restoring Internet Freedom Order. It went into effect. It repealed what most of us considered a heavy-handed approach based on a law that took effect back in 1934.

When the FCC implemented this new restoring internet freedom order back a year and a half ago, I was just astounded by what was being said by my friends on the left. One Senator warned that this was practically the end of Netflix, YouTube, and Amazon. Another cautioned:

They want to get rid of the Federal Communications Commission's net neutrality rules so that . . . Internet Service Providers can indiscriminately charge more for internet fast lanes, slow down websites, block websites, make it harder and maybe even impossible for inventors, entrepreneurs.

One tweet from my friends on the Democratic side said: "If we don't save net neutrality, you'll get the internet one word at a time." That quote got three Pinocchios from even the Washington Post.

These things never happened. As a matter of fact, people on the other side of the issue who actually have taken the position of the Senator from Massachusetts have admitted that ISPs are delivering on consumers' expectations. They are not throttling websites.

As a matter of fact, here is what has happened since the FCC order went into effect a year and a half ago: Broadband providers large and small have deployed fiber networks to 5.9 million new homes—the largest number ever recorded. More Americans are connected at higher speeds than ever before. Capital expenditures have rebounded from the slump they suffered when the internet was subjected to title II.

This should surprise no one because the internet has thrived during Democratic and Republican administrations and during Democratic majorities on the FCC and Republican majorities on the FCC when we have taken the light-touch regulatory approach.

The issue seems to be title II regulation of rates. I would simply say to my

brothers and sisters on the other side of the aisle that we can pass a law tomorrow afternoon providing Americans with all the protection they want from blocking, throttling, and preventing paid prioritization. What we will not do and what this President will not sign is legislation authorizing the Federal Government to set internet rates in the old 1934 Bell System of title II regulations. For that reason, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, despite the Republican objections today, Senator CANTWELL, Senator WYDEN, and I, and tens of millions of people across this country will not stop fighting until net neutrality is fully restored. Whether in the Halls of Congress or in the courts of our country, this is going to be a fight that is fought until it is finally won.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, this Congress, I have the great privilege of cochairing the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control with the senior Senator from California, DIANNE FEINSTEIN. As more families across the country lose their loved ones to the scourge of opioids, the work of this caucus could not be more important.

Today, people in our country are more likely to die from an opioid overdose than a car crash, but that hasn't always been the case. Our country's opioid abuse epidemic began in the 1990s when pharmaceutical companies promoted aggressive pain management, assuring the medical community that patients would not become addicted to these drugs. As a result, doctors began to prescribe more and more of them. We know what happened next. In the decades since, we have faced a steady increase in opioid abuse and have undertaken aggressive efforts to address this epidemic.

There has been a concerted effort across the country to attack overprescribing of opioids in the hope of preventing more people from becoming addicted. But that alone cannot be our sole focus. Of the more than 70,000 overdose deaths in America in 2017, more than half were the result of heroin and synthetic opioids, not prescription drugs.

The more we step up our efforts to limit prescription opioid diversion, the higher the demand for other illicit drugs, many of which are funneled into our communities by criminal organizations operating across international borders. These groups run sophisticated drug trafficking operations, moving vast amounts of cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, and other illegal drugs through Central America and Mexico and into the United States. With Customs and Border Protection personnel spread thin because of the current humanitarian

and security crisis at the border, these criminal organizations have no problem exploiting the security gaps.

I can say confidently that without coordinated government response, the problem is going to get worse and worse, which means more and more Americans will die as a result of drug overdoses.

In the past, this caucus has examined everything from prescription drug abuse, to the expansion of fentanyl, to trafficking across our southern border. As these and other hearings have illustrated, there is no single contributor to this crisis and no silver bullet.

The opioid epidemic is called a crisis for a reason: It is pervasive and all-encompassing. We can't look at the problem through a soda straw, focusing only on how the drugs get here or how to more effectively treat those who are already addicted. We need to take a more holistic approach that focuses on reducing supply by reducing demand and eliminating the myriad of factors that fueled this fire.

The International Narcotics Control Caucus will hold a hearing this afternoon to examine how the U.S. Government can expand our international efforts against drug abuse and narcotics trafficking and take the first step toward developing a comprehensive strategy.

Our first witness will be the Secretary of State, Secretary Pompeo, whose Department works across the U.S. Government and with our partners around the world to combat this transnational crime. We look forward to hearing from him, as well as other experts on the second panel about the growing epidemic and what Congress must do, working in a bipartisan effort, to address it.

As I said earlier, our whole-of-government strategy must focus on supply and demand. Last Congress, we passed landmark legislation to combat the opioid crisis, which President Trump called "the single largest bill to combat a drug crisis in the history of the country." Through the collaboration of 70 bipartisan proposals in the Senate, this law aims to not only stem the tide of drugs coming across the border but to offer some support and hope to those suffering from drug addiction. It was a major bipartisan accomplishment and one that I hope we can continue to build on in this Congress because a great deal of work remains to be done.

Beyond supply and demand, we need to take aim at the criminal organizations that traffic drugs and engage in a whole host of criminal activity. As others have pointed out, these criminal organizations are commodity-agnostic—they will engage in human trafficking, migrant smuggling, money laundering, counterfeit goods, public corruption, and the list goes on and on. What they are really about is making money. They don't care anything for the migrants or the people affected by their crimes. The real kicker here is that while these criminal organizations are

perpetuating the opioid epidemic, fueling a cycle of violence, and abusing innocent civilians, they are growing richer and richer by the minute.

Targeting these organizations means more than stopping the flow of drugs into our country; it means ending a cycle of crime and violence and working together with Mexico and Central American countries to help them escape the savage grip of these criminal organizations.

Additionally, we need to strengthen security cooperation with our international partners so that they are able to more effectively fight side by side with us. Mexico and Central and South American nations often lack the ability to adequately counter the trafficking occurring within their borders, and corruption serves as a major roadblock in efforts to stop criminal activity.

There are a number of programs in place already—many of which began through the Merida Initiative—which have yielded positive results, but we need to look at all of these and make sure we understand what works and what does not work so we can justify the expenditure of U.S. taxpayer dollars in this fight. By strengthening and expanding these operations, we can help our southern neighbors fight drugs, crime, and corruption within their own borders, which would more effectively reduce the flow of drugs and other illicit goods moving across our southern border.

Finally, if we want any of these efforts to be sustainable, we can't just focus on law and order; we must look at ways to invest in economic development to help these countries build stronger economies. These are beautiful, vibrant countries that are also victims of endemic crime in the region. Helping them promote economic security will carry immense benefits for the entire region, and it is something we need to discuss more in the coming months.

Senator FEINSTEIN and I have worked together in the past on legislation to address the drug epidemic, such as the Substance Abuse Prevention Act, which is now the law of the land. This Congress, we will continue our important work together on the International Narcotics Control Caucus. I look forward to hearing from our distinguished witnesses this afternoon and engaging in a larger discussion—hopefully a nationwide discussion—about how we can reverse the devastation caused by the opioid crisis and drug overdoses in America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRUZ). The clerk will call the roll. The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

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

## RECESS

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

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

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

### FOREIGN AGENTS DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, for nearly 2 years Special Counsel Mueller's investigation captivated Washington. Most of the media reporting focused on speculation and false allegations of a criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin. This reporting was fueled by critics eager to all but guarantee the President's guilt. After a very exhaustive investigation—and, of course, millions and millions of taxpayer dollars being spent by the Mueller investigation—many of those same critics still can't accept that Mueller and his investigative team of Democratic donors found no collusion or crime.

The continuing political noise over the last 2 years, however, risks drowning out critical siren warnings of another real threat—self-interested and surreptitious foreign influence in our political discourse. Mueller's team indicted dozens of Russians for a scheme to sow discord in American politics through our social media and the release of hacked emails. However, not enough attention has been paid to foreign interests secretly enlisting American cutouts to directly influence our laws, our public policies, and, most importantly, public opinion to destroy our social cohesion.

This is a very serious problem that should send shivers down the spine of anyone in government who meets with lobbyists. If lobbyists or public relations firms are pushing policy preferences at the behest of foreign powers and foreign interests, we ought to know about it.

This week I introduced legislation to strengthen and also fine-tune enforcement authorities to better expose clandestine foreign influence campaigns. My bipartisan bill, the Foreign Agents Disclosure and Registration Enhancement Act, will encourage greater compliance with a very often ignored requirement for lobbyists working on behalf of foreign entities to tell the U.S. people who they are working for. It accomplishes this by creating critical updates to one of our Nation's oldest lobbying disclosure laws.

Way back in 1938, Congress first passed a bill to accomplish a way to expose this foreign influence in America, particularly within our government. That bill passed in 1938 is called the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The bill was meant to unmask Nazi propa-

ganda and identify foreign attempts to influence Congress and the American public. Until recently, however, this Foreign Agents Registration Act has been seldom used.

Now—get this—only 15 violators of this act have been criminally prosecuted since 1966, and 1966 was the date when this law was last updated. Of course, now I am trying to update it again. About half of these prosecutions, of the 15, stem from the work of Special Counsel Mueller's investigation, though that is not due to the lack of foreign influence efforts to affect our Federal decision making.

As part of my oversight efforts, I first raised concerns about the shoddy Foreign Agent Registration Act enforcement in 2015. Now, I did this before Donald Trump launched his Presidential campaign. I did it when a former Clinton White House staffer and a lawyer for a Georgian political party failed to register as foreign agents.

I also raised concerns about work for Ukrainians by Paul Manafort and the Podesta Group, and about reports that the Democratic National Committee worked with Ukraine to undermine the Trump campaign. I raised concerns when the firm behind the discredited Steele dossier failed to register for its lobbying work to repeal U.S. sanctions against Russia.

Now, as it turned out, that is the same lobbying effort that was behind the bait and switch at the Trump Tower in June of 2016. I don't have to go into details about that Trump Tower meeting. That is a very famous and well documented meeting.

I even subpoenaed Manafort to testify at the Judiciary Committee hearing on lax Foreign Agents Registration Act enforcement, and I praised Mueller for dusting off the law that had been ignored by lobbyists and prosecutors for so long because they really didn't want the American public to know that they were working for a foreign country.

Now, that may sound like that is something illegal. What is illegal is that you don't tell the American people whom you are working for. It is not, as far as I know, illegal to work for the interests of another country, as they might have some legitimate interest in our policymaking, but the point is that the public ought to know whom they are working for.

Now, I talked about subpoenaing Manafort, and in the end Manafort, his colleague Rick Gates, and former Obama White House Counsel Greg Craig were among those indicted for violating this Foreign Agents Registration Act.

My Foreign Agents Registration Act oversight activities have been done without regard to power, party, or privilege. I happen to have a reputation as an equal-opportunity overseer to see that the laws are faithfully enforced, and I believe that this very act of registration of foreign agents ought to be better enforced and enforced equally.

Now, all of this talk about this law may have started as a creative tactic by an aggressive team of investigators to pressure Manafort into spilling nonexistent details on the Trump campaign, but Mueller's probe had the positive effect of shining a light on the Justice Department's registration unit on the enforcement of this law of 1938, and it also has shown light, as well, on a legion of lobbyists who work for foreign agents who had flown under the radar for very many years.

Now, because of all this transparency, the charges spurred a rush on K Street. New foreign agent registrations increased by 50 percent from 2016 to 2017. Now, I can't believe a single one of those people registering of that 50 percent increase in registration didn't realize this law existed, but they probably thought they could get away with something that most people have been getting away with for decades.

Now, Attorney General Barr also recently pledged to prioritize enforcement of that law as he heads up the Justice Department, and, of course, we all ought to be pleased to hear that from the Attorney General.

However, even though the 1938 law is finally being taken more seriously, that law still lacks key enforcement authorities needed to investigate and hold accountable covert conveyors of foreign interests.

The 1938 law also includes a broad exemption for anyone already registered with Congress as a lobbyist. It is time that we ask whether this exemption continues to serve the public interest and operates as intended.

Moreover, even those registered under the 1938 law aren't required to clearly disclose that they are working on behalf of a foreign government or entity if they happen to be meeting with Capitol Hill or administration officials. Policymakers need to know when these meetings are driven by foreign interests.

Now, getting back to the legislation I am introducing, this bipartisan bill, based on my oversight work, grants Federal investigators a lot of new tools, such as civil investigative demand authority to help the Justice Department gain access to material needed to identify covert foreign influence and improve the act's compliance. This bill strengthens the Justice Department's hand in rooting out those who attempt to shield their operation from the American people and policymakers.

We have to ensure accountability, and to accomplish that goal, my bill provides key controls on who in the Justice Department can use the new authority, and it provides due process protection. This authority will also sunset after 5 years, requiring the Justice Department to demonstrate that the law has been appropriately used if Congress is to reauthorize it.

In addition, the bill requires a review of the new authority by the Justice Department's inspector general.

This bipartisan bill also improves deterrence by strengthening the penalties

that scofflaws face for violating the law's registration and disclosure requirements.

It also requires foreign agents to immediately disclose their clients. That way, policymakers—including those of us in the Senate—can evaluate their positions in light of those associations.

Even my own office has, in the past, been targeted by secretive lobbying efforts orchestrated by foreign powers, whose policy interests were diametrically opposed to those of our great country. I saw through the ploy, but anyone in government should have full awareness into who they are meeting with and why those meetings are taking place.

The bill requires the Justice Department to craft a comprehensive enforcement strategy for the law to better coordinate agency efforts, to analyze the law's current exemptions and fee structure, and to promote transparency by ensuring the ongoing proactive release of the law's advisory opinions.

Finally, it establishes a review of the Lobbying Disclosure Act exemptions to determine whether and to what extent it has been abused to conceal foreign influence.

Legitimate interests engaging in legitimate conduct shouldn't bear an unnecessary burden. Hopefully, in the way we have written this law, that unnecessary burden is avoided. But, at the same time, we must also be certain that this exemption hasn't created an opportunity for abuse by those who wish to operate in the dark. With this increase in registration under the 1938 law, we find that a lot of people must have been operating in the dark.

This bill is a product of my years-long oversight into the 1938 law as well as bipartisan cooperation. It reflects a consensus that the curtain over foreign influence has to be peeled back.

This year, compared to the bill I introduced last year—and we had competition with other bills last year—we have been able to find a bipartisan effort that combines what other Members' thinking is on the subject. So I am happy to announce that Senators FEINSTEIN, CORNYN, SHAHEEN, RUBIO, and YOUNG are cosponsors at the time of this introduction, and I hope that other Members will join us as well.

The Mueller investigation might not have brought the legal charges that many of the President's critics were hoping for. They were hoping for an excuse to get President Trump out of office. But at least that investigation by Mueller was a powerful indictment of our government's lax enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act and also of our willingness to take the bait of foreign powers seeking to wreak havoc on our civic discourse.

In the wake of the Mueller investigation, it is on us, right here in the Congress, to keep our eye on the ball. It is on us to strengthen our defenses against hidden foreign influence and preserve the voice of the American people. I believe with the introduction of

the bipartisan Foreign Agents Disclosure and Registration Enhancement Act that we will accomplish these ends.

Again, I welcome a lot of additional cosponsorship of my colleagues. This is definitely a good government piece of legislation.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). 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.

#### FLOODING IN ILLINOIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Saturday morning, I was in Alton, IL. This picture here is what we saw. You have to look closely to understand what I am looking at here. These grain elevators are in downtown Alton, IL, and this is the Mississippi River, which has now risen to the point that it is just below this red line. I know this red line a little bit because it marks the 1993 flood level of the same Mississippi River, so we are almost there. We were hoping over the weekend that the river would crest and that Alton and so many other communities in the Midwest would be spared further flooding.

The interesting thing is, when I went down there to talk to the people engaged in the recovery effort and trying to help fight these floodwaters, there was an insight I was really surprised to hear. I asked them what is different about this flood, because we get lots of floods in the Midwest. The difference with this flood, according to those who have done the research, is this is a flood of longer duration than any flood we have seen since 1927.

When I spoke to the mayor of the town of Alton, IL, I said: So this comes and goes? He said: It never goes, Senator. We have had six floods in the last 10 years that were supposed to be breaking historic records.

So let's step back for a minute and take an honest look at this, if we can, and realize that we are living in a little different world this year than we did just a few years ago. The extreme weather events, which we hear reported every single day, suggest that something is going on beyond just changes in the weather. When we see rainfall and snowfall in the upper Midwest, which is now responsible for this flooding situation here, we have to ask ourselves the obvious question: Is this just a one-off event, or are we seeing the new normal? And if this is the new normal, are we prepared for it?

When these floodwaters hopefully recede in the very near future, there will be a lot of repair work to be done. There is a lot of damage to homes, businesses, and families. But then there will be a big question: What do we do next? If this is the new normal in our weather patterns, if we are in fact seeing a change in our climate around

the United States and around the world, how will we respond? My first concern, of course, is my home State of Illinois and the folks who are kind enough to let me serve them in the U.S. Senate.

I want to do everything I can to work with the Army Corps of Engineers, which is a critical part of flood protection for the Midwest. These earthen levees you will see along the shorelines of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers have been sorely taxed by these floodwaters. When they are drenched and soaked over long periods of time, they tend to weaken. We count on the Army Corps of Engineers and the good people locally to step forward and help us fortify these levees. We need to continue to do that, maybe even more so because of the frequency of the floods we are seeing in the Midwest.

But we have a responsibility here in Washington too. What are we doing about the climate change that is happening around the world? What are we doing to make sure our kids and grandkids will inherit an Earth that is habitable and that won't face these kinds of awful occurrences on a regular basis? Are we willing to make sacrifices and changes in the comfort of our own lives just a little bit so that our kids and grandkids have a world that they can live in, a world that is habitable, that they can pass on to the next generation? I don't think that is too much to ask.

There was an agreement reached a few years ago in Paris. Every nation in the world signed up to do something. Every single nation in the world signed up to do something to reach a common goal of stopping the warming of this planet and everything that has followed. Then what happened with the election of this President? President Trump stepped forward and said: Count us out. The United States is not in the Paris Agreement any longer. We are the only nation in the world to step away from that agreement. The rest of the world understands the gravity of this challenge. Today, it is the floods in the Midwest. Tomorrow, it will be that tornado in Oklahoma. The list goes on and on and on.

I stand ready to work with everyone I can locally to deal with this, but I also plead with this administration—open your eyes to the reality of climate change in the world and what it is doing to the extreme weather patterns we currently face.

Our Governor, J. B. Pritzker, has declared a disaster in 34 of Illinois's 102 counties—about a third of the State. Four hundred Illinois National Guard men and women members are working sometimes around the clock to do their part, and my hat is off to them and their families for their extraordinary sacrifice.

The levees, like the Nutwood Levee, which isn't far from Alton, IL, were breached by floodwaters, and over the past week, a small town was evacuated. State and local officials have urged ev-

eryone there to be careful and make certain that they do everything they can to protect themselves and their property.

When you take a look at this picture taken in Alton, IL, you don't see the real story. There are a few people, families who are looking at floodwaters, but the real story is the coordinated effort, which is heartwarming. It is not just the Federal agencies, like the Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard; it is not just the State agencies, like the Illinois Emergency Management Agency; it is the local units of government, like the city of Alton and so many other cities, that have come together to coordinate their efforts and to make the best of what they have.

It is also an effort by a lot of charitable organizations. As you might expect, the Red Cross was on the scene almost immediately, and we also know the Salvation Army has been involved as well. They are all doing their part to make sure we work together.

But the one group that should be recognized—they may not have a formal title—are the men and women, the families and community leaders who stepped up and rolled up their sleeves to fill the sandbags to help their neighbors. It is not just a midwestern thing, but it is a midwestern thing, as far as I am concerned. Our people and our families across my State time and again step up to lend a helping hand to one another. In this time of need with this kind of flooding damage in Alton and all across our State, it does my heart proud to see that these folks have once again responded to this call.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 546

Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, I rise for the swift passage of bipartisan legislation I am leading with Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND known as the Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act.

I will never forget the images of the brave men and women running into danger to save lives during the September 11 terrorist attacks. I never had the privilege or honor of going to New York City prior to September 11, 2001, but I will never forget my first visit after September 11, 2001, going to Ground Zero, watching the firetrucks, with their flag, heading to Ground Zero to continue to work, and now that has become absolutely emblazoned in the minds of the people of this country.

The work they did wasn't just for those in Manhattan who suffered incredible loss but the work they carried

forth for our country—they became symbols of our security, symbols of our freedoms, symbols of our country's willingness, effort, and tenacity to fight back.

This legislation would ensure that all 9/11 first responders and survivors who have been injured by the toxins at Ground Zero would receive their full compensation through the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund now and into the future as more and more become ill with 9/11-related cancers.

When I visited Ground Zero, I will never forget that smell—a burning, acrid odor. These men and women didn't just visit it once but time and again to carry out the cleanup of Ground Zero. Unfortunately, thousands of first responders and survivors, including many who reside in my home State of Colorado, now suffer from illnesses and diseases from the toxins they inhaled day after day during the recovery efforts at Ground Zero.

It is unacceptable for this Congress to fail these heroes and their families. It is unacceptable to fail the families and heroes of September 11. There is no time to waste as Congress debates this issue. More and more people are becoming ill, more and more people are suffering. Today people such as Lou Alvarez came to Washington, DC, postponing a chemotherapy treatment to advocate for his fellow heroes.

The fund expires at the end of this year if we do not act. These men and women have already been forced to reduce their compensation. We have seen a reduction of their compensation for 9/11 first responders due to the impending insolvency.

Jon Stewart, a longtime advocate for the 9/11 responders, testified today before the House Judiciary Committee, expressing the urgency of making sure these first responders receive the care they deserve. He testified before members of the committee in the House about the need to act now because time is of the essence. He said that these men and women "responded in 5 seconds. They did their jobs, with courage, grace, tenacity, humility . . . 18 years later" it is time for Congress to do its job.

That is what I hope my colleagues will do—our job. Pass this important bipartisan legislation, recognizing the service and the sacrifice of these great heroes of 9/11.

Tomorrow the House companion legislation will be marked up in the Judiciary Committee. Congress must do the right thing. The Senate must do our job, and it must act on this legislation. I urge my colleagues to join this legislation to cosponsor the bill, to support this effort, and to support the effort in the House and Senate to swiftly pass this legislation to ensure these heroes receive the care they need and deserve.

We didn't know what was going to happen on September 11, but for the thousands of people involved at Ground Zero, we know what will happen if Congress fails to act. It is unacceptable.

That is why I urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation, to do the right thing and stand up for their fellow heroes who served our country so well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### VIRGINIA BEACH CITY HALL SHOOTING

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, I rise to talk about a sad tragedy that occurred in Virginia on May 31—the shooting deaths of 12 individuals in Virginia Beach.

It was a Friday. I was in Virginia Beach that day having meetings in the community on the boardwalk at a hotel with the Old Dominion Bar Association. It was a meeting about sea level rise with interested constituents.

I had just left Virginia Beach to drive back to my home, and after I left, within a couple of hours, I got word about a shooting at the Virginia Beach City Hall.

This is a city hall I know well. I was the mayor of Richmond and used to work closely with the mayor of Virginia Beach at that time. I also tried cases in the courthouse right there near Virginia Beach City Hall when I served as a private attorney in private practice.

I rise to talk about these 12 victims but also talk about my hope that the Virginia Beach shooting will lead us to stop being bystanders and take meaningful action to reduce gun violence.

If I could say a few words about each of the 12 individuals who were killed at Virginia Beach: Laquita Brown was a 4-year employee of the department of public works. She was known for her love of travel, her friends, and her ability to light up a room with her presence.

Ryan Keith Cox was a 12-year employee of the city. He had worked with the department of public utilities, was known for his kindness and beautiful singing voice. He became known just in the hours after the shooting as somebody who ran into danger looking for more people to save after ensuring his workers were sheltered in a barricaded room. He saved many lives on that horrible day and was killed himself doing so.

Tara Gallagher was a 6-year employee at the city of Virginia Beach. She worked as an engineer to provide clean drinking water to people. She was murdered in the shooting.

Mary Louise Gayle had worked for 24 years for the city in public works. She was known as a cheerful coworker and devoted mother and grandmother.

Alexander Mikhail Gusev was a 9-year employee of the city, emigrated from Belarus to Virginia Beach to find

a better life. He was known as a generous and devoted coworker, friend, uncle, and brother. He was murdered that day.

Joshua Hardy worked for the city for 4 years in the department of public utilities. He was known for his kind-hearted nature, love for family and faith.

Michelle “Missy” Langer worked for the city for 12 years and was known for her beaming smile and passion for the Pittsburgh Steelers. We have a lot of Steelers fans in Virginia. She had plans to retire soon. She was murdered that day.

Rick Nettleton was a 28-year employee of the city. He was a selfless leader in regional utility system planning and a veteran of the 130th Engineer Brigade of the Army.

Kate Nixon was a 10-year employee of the city who was known for her intellect. She was a loving wife and mother of three.

Chris Kelly Rapp had just been there 11 months as a city employee. He was known for his kindness and passion for playing the bagpipes. I met a couple at the memorial whose wedding he had graced with his bagpipe playing. He was devoted to his wife.

Bert Snelling was one of the 12 who was not a city employee. He was a contractor. He had come to the municipal center to get a permit that day, like so many people who walk into the building permits office to get a permit. I learned a lot about Bert because he was a contractor who had done the carpentry renovations on the mayor's home. The mayor talked about befriending this wonderful contractor in the community.

Then, finally, there was Bobby Williams. Bobby had worked for the city for 41 years in the department of public utilities. During the course of his time with Virginia Beach, he was awarded with eight service awards in recognition of his devoted work for the city, and he was planning on retiring later this year.

These were 12 beautiful people—12 lives lost—who had track records of accomplishment and more to give. They were new employees, 41-year employees, single, married with children, grandchildren. All just wanted to serve their colleagues. That is why they were there. They wanted to serve their fellow citizens of Virginia Beach.

I want to commend the response of city employees. Some of them alerted coworkers and pulled them into the shelter, saving unknowable numbers of lives.

I want to commend Virginia Beach officers. They responded within minutes of the first shootings. They heroically risked their lives, all four of them. Although they had all trained, including a training session the day before, most had not trained together. Imagine that you get this call and the four of you are going into a building where there is a shooting underway. You haven't trained together, but you

are trying to put your training to use. They did remarkable work.

One of the officers was shot while confronting the gunman. He survived because he was wearing a bulletproof vest that was likely funded by a bulletproof vest program through which the Senate and the House have, for years, enabled local jurisdictions to have bulletproof vests.

The gunman, who was killed in the firefight, was carrying high-caliber handguns with high-capacity ammunition magazines. By some reports, the magazines allowed the gun to fire up to 30 rounds in automatic succession. And he was carrying suppressors that suppressed the noise of these weapons, which made it more difficult for the responding officers to determine where the shooting was happening.

I want to commend the emergency personnel for treating the wounded and also those who have responded to the mental health needs of the families of the wounded and killed, of other city employees, of friends of the city employees, and of the entire community that was brutalized by this. These deaths have robbed Virginia Beach of some wonderful neighbors who served their communities in many ways.

I went to a memorial service a week after the shooting, last Thursday, June 6. I went to the memorial and saw the mountains of flowers that had been left by crosses with each of the names of the 12 on them. While I was there, I visited with everyday people who were coming by to pay respects. They wanted to tell me how proud they were of their city, the city employees, the bravery and heroism, and people pulling together. I met a couple for whom one of the guys had played bagpipes at their wedding. I met the mother of one of the victims and family members of others.

When they saw elected officials there, they wanted to talk about their pride in their city, but they also wanted to share with us as elected officials that we need to do something. It was a reminder that no place is safe and no place is immune to the epidemic of gun violence. Again and again, what people said to me is “I couldn't have imagined that this would have happened here.” But we have said that about schools; we have said that about night clubs; we have said that about concerts; we have said that about colleges; we have said that about communities all over this country—churches, synagogues, Sikh temples: “I couldn't have imagined that this would happen here.”

We can't forget that sometimes instances like this, in which there is mass violence, get headlines. We had a 9-year-old girl in Richmond who was killed at a neighborhood park by a gunshot a couple of weeks back. We had a shooting in Chesapeake, VA, near in time to the massacre of these 12, where many were injured—a mass shooting that affected a backyard barbecue. Many of those people were injured and were taken to the hospital.

I have had painful experience with this. I was the Governor of Virginia during what, at the time, was the worst shooting in the history of the United States—the massacre at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007. It was the worst day of my life. It is always going to be the worst day of my life, responding and immediately going to a campus and dealing with 32 families who had lost their kids, their spouses—students, grad students, professors, trying to deal with them in their grief, trying to provide answers, and trying to come up with solutions.

I was the mayor of Richmond at a time when our city had the second highest homicide rate in the United States.

Both of those experiences have given me a lot of scar tissue, so much so that when I hear of an instance like this in Virginia—just as other Virginians have the same feeling—you have both the fresh emotions of horror and sadness, and you feel like a bandaid has been torn off because you are reliving experiences that we have had to go through too many times.

Yet the one thing I have learned—and I have learned a lot, but the one thing I have learned is that we don't have to stand by and say that nothing can be done. I have learned that the pain is real, but there are solutions. In the midst of a horrible crime epidemic in Richmond, we took meaningful steps that brought the homicide rate down by 60 percent and reduced violent crime dramatically. You can take action. If you can take action that will keep people safer, then you have an obligation to take action.

In the aftermath of the shooting at Virginia Tech—where a deranged individual got the weapons of destruction that killed 32 people and wounded another couple dozen—we learned he got his weapons because of a glitch in the background check system. I was able to fix part of it with an executive order. There was more I wanted to do to make background checks universal and to make sure guns would not go into the hands of individuals deemed too dangerous to have them by Federal laws that have been on the books for decades, but some of what I wanted to do legislatively I couldn't get my legislature to do. At least we learned that if you have a better background check system, more people will be safer. If we banned high-capacity magazines, more people would be safer.

We have learned that there are steps you can take to keep people safer, and if you can take those steps, yet you choose not to, you are a bystander to this horrible violence.

On Monday morning, just yesterday, I met with community leaders in Charlottesville to discuss gun violence. Charlottesville is a community that has been deeply affected by violence in the last couple of years because of the riot led by White supremacists and Neo-Nazis, which caused the deaths of three people in August 2017. They un-

derstand violence. They understand the pain of it. They understand missing people who are contributing members of the community. They wanted to talk about what we needed to do. They were frustrated. They were frustrated by a General Assembly of Virginia and a Congress of the United States being bystanders and not being willing to take actions we need to take.

One teacher in our meeting told a very vivid story about how she has had to rearrange her classroom. She keeps a filing cabinet next to the front door. The door opens from the hall into her classroom. She has positioned a full filing cabinet next to the door, and she has figured out how to race to that cabinet and tip it over to block the door from being opened. Imagine that you go to school to be a teacher. You are trained in pedagogy. You are trained in how to motivate youngsters of all kinds. They don't teach you how to stop an active shooter, but we have to start teaching all our teachers how to do it. This teacher talked about it. The teacher talked about the drills they have to have in the first week of school every year. She has to take her class of elementary students into a bathroom, which is their designated hiding spot. She is taught to stand in front of the door of the bathroom and block it from being opened, so if there were a shooting going on and there were shots being fired through the door, she would be the one who would be injured or killed rather than her students. Imagine expecting that of our elementary school students in the United States circa 2019.

We have a sickness when we expect elementary school teachers to have to herd their kids into bathrooms. Imagine what the little second and third graders think when going into these drills. Even if they never have an active shooting incident, imagine what impression the drills make on their minds. We have a sickness.

The Virginians I talked to yesterday said: Look, we have to do something about it. Virginians are asking our General Assembly and our Congress to take action.

I am encouraged that the Governor of Virginia has undertaken a fairly unusual step. He has called the General Assembly back into session. The session is over in Virginia. He has called them back for a session on July 9 to consider gun safety measures that he is going to put on the table. Everybody can be held accountable. They can vote yes or no and propose amendments. Nobody will be able to hide. People have to be held accountable as to whether they are willing to take steps to keep people safe.

No single fix will prevent all gun violence. Each incident is different. Each person, each perpetrator, each victim is different. There is not one thing we are going to be able to do that is going to end gun violence or violence generally. That is not in our capacity to do.

I will tell you something. If there were a bridge collapse on an interstate in my State, we would be there immediately, trying to figure out how to fix the highways of our State. If there were an epidemic, we would be immediately figuring out how to come up with a vaccine.

When we have this repetitive catastrophe of gun deaths in this country, then we also have to be challenged to act. I applaud my Governor for recognizing that and pulling my legislature back on July 9. I wish them the best.

I hope we will do something here. We haven't had a meaningful debate about gun violence and gun safety regulations and laws on the floor of this body since April of 2013. I remember it well. I had just come to the Senate. It was almost precisely on the sixth anniversary of the shooting of Virginia Tech. We had a debate on the floor of the Senate about universal background checks, which 90 percent of Americans support. We had that debate in April of 2013. It was in the aftermath of the shooting at Sandy Hook. Little kids were massacred in their elementary school by these high-capacity weapons, and we had that debate.

The families of many of the victims of Sandy Hook were sitting in the Gallery surrounding us. Some were sitting next to family members for Virginia Tech or other shootings who had come to provide them support. There is a beautiful phrase in the letter of Paul to the Hebrews that talks about being surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses." That day, we had an opportunity to act to keep Americans safer, and we were surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses" who were sitting in the Gallery, just hoping that we might act to reduce the likelihood of crimes of this kind happening in the future, and we fell a few votes short. What a horrible day.

You don't want to fall short on something that is important, and you especially don't want to fall short when people whose lives have been irrevocably torn up by violence are sitting around, hoping that you will do the right thing. Yet we fell a few votes short.

We have an opportunity now. We can return—it is interesting, isn't it? I am thinking of the pages who have been here most recently. We haven't had that discussion for the last 6 years. There have been a lot of shootings in the last 6 years. Tomorrow is the anniversary of the shooting at the Pulse nightclub where 49 people were killed. We had the shooting at the Pulse nightclub that killed 49 people. More than 50 people were gunned down in a concert in Las Vegas. There were shootings at synagogues in California and Pittsburgh, shootings in Christian churches in Charleston—gun crime after gun crime in neighborhoods, suicides facilitated by guns, children finding loaded guns that were unlocked and killing themselves or killing or wounding others. There has been tragedy

after tragedy after tragedy. Yet there has not been a debate on the floor of the Senate since April of 2013.

I think it is time to have a debate. Guess what. We have an opportunity. There are two bills that have been passed by the House, by strong margins, that are now pending before this body. I ask that the Senate leadership allow us to have debates and votes on these bills.

One is a bill that would require background checks on all firearm sales in the country. There is a bipartisan consensus that certain people should not have weapons—felons, folks adjudicated mentally ill and dangerous, folks who are subjected to domestic violence protective orders. Yet the only way we can enforce those laws is by having a working background check system to make sure that before a weapon gets put into somebody's hand, we ensure that he is not prohibited from having a weapon.

One of the House bills would make the national background check system universal. We should take that bill up and debate it and vote on it on the floor of the greatest deliberative body in the world, the U.S. Senate.

The second bill that is pending here also deals with the background check system and deals with the quirk that has been known as the Charleston loophole. Just like with the Virginia Tech shooter, he got his weapons but shouldn't have been able to have gotten them because of his mental health adjudication. He got them because of there being a weakness in the background check system. In Charleston, another weakness showed itself. The individual who got the weapons and perpetrated that horrible atrocity in the church was not able to get a weapon, but there was a problem with the background check system. Current Federal law says, if you try to buy a weapon and then the background check is run on you and the check isn't done in 3 weeks, they have to put the weapon in your hand even though the check isn't done, even though you are prohibited from having a weapon. If they can't do it in 3 weeks, you get the weapon even though it is illegal for you to have the weapon. What kind of sense does that make? That is known as the Charleston loophole.

The House has passed a bill that would end that, that would say that you don't get the weapon until it has been confirmed that you are legally able to have that weapon. That bill is in the Senate right now, and we should be able to take it up.

I hope we will take up Federal legislation that I have filed with others to restrict high-capacity magazines to 10 rounds. I have introduced these bills in the past. So often, the police stop a lethal shooting, not at the start but when somebody is changing out a magazine. That gives some precious seconds to trained law enforcement officers to stop a crime before it gets worse. In the Parkland shooting in

Florida last year, police stopped the shooter because, as he was changing out the weapon, putting in the next magazine—he was not a trained marksman—he jammed the gun. That was what enabled the police to stop him or the carnage there would have been worse.

I would like to ban high-capacity magazines and limit them to 10. We should be able to do this because we already do it. In Virginia, as in virtually every State, we have a magazine limit. We put a limit on the number of rounds you can put in a magazine if you are hunting a bird or, in many States, if you are hunting a deer. Why do we have limitations on magazines that are used by hunters? Because it wouldn't be fair to the animal. It would not be fair to an animal to allow somebody with a high-capacity magazine to hunt it.

Are our sensibilities about animals so different than they are about humans? Do we want to protect animals more than we want to protect humans? If we accept bans and limitations on magazines that are used in hunting, why wouldn't we embrace a well-crafted limitation on high-capacity magazines that go into weapons that aren't for hunting animals but that are designed to kill or to wound people?

I think Congress can encourage State, local, and Tribal governments to adopt extreme risk protection orders that would remove firearms from the hands of individuals who exhibit signs of mental health crises—weapons that can be returned to them once the signs of crises are over. I also hope we will consider legislation—Senator KLOBUCHAR of Minnesota has promoted this for years—to prevent domestic abusers from keeping guns.

The bottom line is this. After each tragedy, we have an opportunity to learn and improve. There are Americans, even those who support guns in my State and even NRA members, who strongly support many of the common-sense measures that I have mentioned. The question is, Are we just going to keep offering platitudes or are we going to act to actually protect our communities?

Finally, after a high-profile shooting, it is common for us to offer thoughts and prayers to the victims. Some people get mad about that. I don't. That is really important. We should be offering thoughts and prayers to victims. It is an instinctive and common response that is a good response, and we should do it.

We also ask questions about perpetrators. What was the motive? Why did the person do this? We have a lot of unanswered questions about the city employee who shot 12 people in Virginia Beach—answers that we don't know and, in some instances, may never know. We don't yet have a good explanation for the motivation, for example, of the shooter who killed more than 50 people in Las Vegas.

Yet, while thoughts and prayers for victims are appropriate and questions

about perpetrators are appropriate, I think what the rest of us ought to do is look in the mirror and ask some questions about ourselves. It is hard for evil to exist in the world sometimes if there aren't bystanders. For most of the evil that exists in the world, there are bystanders who could stop it. Sadly, in recent years, the Congress of the United States and my State legislature have been bystanders.

There are questions that we have to ask ourselves as we have bills pending in the Senate that could be considered right now after the latest one of these tragedies. Are we going to continue to be bystanders? Will we respond to these tragedies with more than just thoughts and prayers when there are steps to be taken that we know will keep people safer? Will we have a meaningful debate and, hopefully, find a path forward with regard to them or will we continue the kind of gag rule that we will not take these matters up and not talk about them?

Those are the questions that are on the floor for the body, and I hope that the Senate will show courage and leadership in addressing these matters.

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

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

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the votes following the first vote in this series be 10 minutes in length.

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

Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Morrison nomination?

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is 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 Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 149 Ex.]

## YEAS—89

Baldwin	Grassley	Reed
Barrasso	Hassan	Risch
Bennet	Hawley	Roberts
Blackburn	Heinrich	Romney
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Boozman	Hoeven	Rounds
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Brown	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Isakson	Schatz
Cantwell	Johnson	Schumer
Capito	Jones	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kennedy	Shaheen
Casey	King	Shelby
Cassidy	Lankford	Sinema
Collins	Leahy	Smith
Coons	Lee	Stabenow
Cornyn	Manchin	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Tester
Cotton	McSally	Thune
Cramer	Menendez	Tillis
Crapo	Merkley	Toomey
Cruz	Moran	Udall
Daines	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Enzi	Paul	Wicker
Feinstein	Perdue	Wyden
Gardner	Peters	Young
Graham	Portman	

## NAYS—7

Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Warren
Gillibrand	Markey	
Harris	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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.

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 Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, 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.

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

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 89, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Ex.]

## YEAS—89

Baldwin	Graham	Reed
Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Bennet	Hassan	Roberts
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Blunt	Hoeven	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Brown	Isakson	Schatz
Burr	Johnson	Schumer
Cantwell	Jones	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Kennedy	Shaheen
Carper	King	Shelby
Casey	Lankford	Sinema
Cassidy	Leahy	Smith
Collins	Lee	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Sullivan
Cornyn	McConnell	Tester
Cortez Masto	McSally	Thune
Cotton	Menendez	Tillis
Cramer	Merkley	Toomey
Crapo	Moran	Udall
Cruz	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Daines	Murphy	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Whitehouse
Durbin	Paul	Wicker
Enzi	Perdue	Wyden
Feinstein	Peters	Young
Gardner	Portman	

## NAYS—7

Gillibrand	Klobuchar	Warren
Harris	Markey	
Hirono	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 89, the nays are 7.

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 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.

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 Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, 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 Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "aye."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 151 Ex.]

## YEAS—62

Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hassan	Roberts
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rosen
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Capito	Isakson	Sasse
Cardin	Johnson	Schatz
Carper	Jones	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lankford	Shaheen
Cornyn	Leahy	Shelby
Cortez Masto	Lee	Sinema
Cotton	Manchin	Sullivan
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Crapo	McSally	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Toomey
Daines	Murkowski	Wicker
Enzi	Paul	Young
Gardner	Perdue	

## NAYS—34

Baldwin	Hirono	Schumer
Bennet	Kaine	Smith
Blumenthal	King	Stabenow
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Tester
Casey	Markey	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Harris	Reed	
Heinrich	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 34.

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 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.

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 Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 77, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 152 Ex.]

YEAS—77

Baldwin	Feinstein	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Roberts
Boozman	Heinrich	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rosen
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Cantwell	Isakson	Sasse
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Jones	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Leahy	Tester
Cortez Masto	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Manchin	Tillis
Cramer	McConnell	Toomey
Crapo	McSally	Udall
Cruz	Moran	Warner
Daines	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murphy	Wicker
Durbin	Murray	Young
Enzi	Paul	

NAYS—19

Blumenthal	Markey	Smith
Casey	Menendez	Stabenow
Gillibrand	Merkley	Van Hollen
Harris	Peters	Warren
Hassan	Sanders	Wyden
Hirono	Schatz	
Klobuchar	Schumer	

NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 77, 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 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 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.

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 Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, 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 Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 75, nays 21, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 153 Ex.]

YEAS—75

Barrasso	Gardner	Perdue
Bennet	Graham	Portman
Blackburn	Grassley	Reed
Blunt	Hassan	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Roberts
Braun	Heinrich	Romney
Burr	Hoeven	Rosen
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cardin	Inhofe	Rubio
Carper	Isakson	Sasse
Casey	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Jones	Scott (SC)
Collins	Kaine	Shaheen
Coons	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	King	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Leahy	Tester
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Manchin	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Duckworth	McSally	Udall
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Enzi	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murphy	Wicker
	Paul	Young

NAYS—21

Baldwin	Brown	Gillibrand
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Harris

Hirono
Klobuchar
Markey
Menendez
Merkley

Murray
Peters
Sanders
Schatz
Schumer

Smith
Stabenow
Van Hollen
Warren
Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 75, the nays are 21.

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 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.

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 Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, 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 Iowa (Ms. ERNST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea".

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 154 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Cardin	Daines
Barrasso	Carper	Duckworth
Bennet	Casey	Enzi
Blackburn	Cassidy	Feinstein
Blumenthal	Collins	Gardner
Blunt	Coons	Graham
Boozman	Cornyn	Grassley
Braun	Cortez Masto	Hassan
Brown	Cotton	Hawley
Burr	Cramer	Heinrich
Cantwell	Crapo	Hoeven
Capito	Cruz	Hyde-Smith

Inhofe	Murphy	Shaheen
Isakson	Murray	Shelby
Johnson	Paul	Sinema
Jones	Perdue	Smith
Kaine	Peters	Stabenow
Kennedy	Portman	Sullivan
King	Reed	Tester
Lankford	Risch	Thune
Leahy	Roberts	Tillis
Lee	Romney	Toomey
Manchin	Rosen	Udall
McConnell	Rounds	Warner
McSally	Rubio	Whitehouse
Merkley	Sasse	Wicker
Moran	Scott (FL)	Wyden
Murkowski	Scott (SC)	Young

#### NAYS—12

Durbin	Klobuchar	Schatz
Gillibrand	Markley	Schumer
Harris	Menendez	Van Hollen
Hirono	Sanders	Warren

#### NOT VOTING—4

Alexander	Ernst
Booker	Fischer

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 12.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, the Senate vote on the confirmation of the Barker, Maze, Smith, Barber, and Boulee nominations in the order listed.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the information of all Senators, following the disposition of the Boulee nomination, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Stilwell nomination. This means that we will have six votes starting at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

#### REMEMBERING DR. MARY PAULINE FOX

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, my privilege to pay tribute to Dr. Mary Pauline Fox, a pioneer of public health in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 87. Mary's remarkable life included more than four decades of

service to eastern Kentucky communities, and the full effect of her legacy will continue to be felt throughout the region for years to come.

Mary began her exceptional career at the age of 19, graduating from Union College in Barbourville, KY. A trailblazer in her time, she then attended the University of Louisville's medical school as one of only five women in a class of 100. Mary also holds the distinction as one of the early women to participate in the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Soon after beginning her career as a doctor, the Kentucky Department of Health appointed Mary as a regional director, and for the next 7 years she oversaw healthcare delivery in 20 eastern Kentucky counties. Afterward, she served as the director of the Pike County Health Department for more than two decades. Mary only agreed to retire from her position after funding was secured to build the current health department facility located in Pikeville. To this day, that facility continues to operate in the same building, which now bears her name.

Even at the end of her career, Mary refused to slow down. In coordination with the U.S. Department of State, she was part of the first public health group in our country invited to China. She remained committed to her community, giving sought-after lectures on public health issues throughout the Commonwealth.

As a healer and a teacher, Mary made our Commonwealth a better place. Elaine and I commend her for her lifetime of service to others, and we send our condolences to her family and friends.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, on a Spring day in April 1891 in Lombard, IL, Ellen Martin, an attorney, and 14 other women marched to their voting place at the local general store to do something most of us take for granted today. They demanded to be allowed to vote. The town charter enfranchised all citizens and did not mention sex.

Stunned polling judges were forced to allow Ellen Martin and the 14 to vote. One account had a judge so flabbergasted that he fell into a flour barrel.

But this momentary right to vote was short-lived. The Lombard town council quickly changed the charter to, once again, allow only men to vote, but the spark had been struck. Four months later, the Illinois State charter was changed to allow women to vote in local school elections.

It took 28 years after that day in April for American women to achieve the right to vote. On this 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, we honor Ellen Martin and the countless other supporters of women's suffrage.

Sadly, Ellen Martin died in 1916. She did not live to see the 19th Amendment pass.

The women of my home State of Illinois won limited voting rights in 1913 through the legendary work of Grace Wilbur Trout, Jane Addams, Frances Willard, and countless others. Women had the right to vote only for Presidential electors and most local offices, but not for Governor, State representatives, or Members of Congress.

In Chicago, icon Ida B. Wells-Barnett founded the Alpha Suffrage Club in 1913 to educate African-American women about the right to vote. Their power at the polls helped elect Chicago's first Black alderman, Oscar DePriest, in 1914.

Women continued to organize across the country as many States granted suffrage. Both parties' Presidential candidates endorsed women's suffrage in 1916, and Montana elected Jeannette Rankin to the House of Representatives. There were still many fights ahead, but slowly, the country came around to women's suffrage.

Five years after Illinois gave women the right to vote in some elections, Congress passed the 19th Amendment giving women the right in all elections. This was the same amendment Susan B. Anthony brought to Congress in 1878. More than 70 years after the Seneca Falls Convention, the suffragettes had persevered and succeeded.

I am proud to say Illinois was the first State to ratify the 19th Amendment, but the work is unfinished.

This Congress has the most women in its ranks in the history of the body. The first woman Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI returned to her leadership post with 102 women as her colleagues in the House of Representatives, including Representatives CHERI BUSTOS, ROBIN KELLY, JAN SCHAROWSKY, and LAUREN UNDERWOOD of my home State. I am privileged to work with 25 powerful women Senators, one of whom was the first Senator, TAMMY DUCKWORTH, to ever give birth while in office.

The force of history is demanding we do more to make this a fairer and equal country. We have more women in office than ever, and women are 51 percent of the electorate, but less than a third of elected legislative bodies are women. President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act in 1963; yet the pay gap between men and women is just as real today as it was then. Women are still earning 78 cents for every dollar earned by men. For women of color, the gap is even greater with African-American women making 64 cents, while Hispanic women make only 56 cents.

State after State are imposing draconian laws on reproductive rights. *Roe v. Wade* has never been in more danger. We have the duty and privilege of honoring the sacrifice of those who marched for women's suffrage by ensuring their heirs have the right to choose.

As we honor the passage of the 19th Amendment, let's not forget that we

are still waiting to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. In 2023, it will be one century since the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment was introduced. Women have waited long enough for its ratification. Our generation must get it done.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. HARRIS. Madam President, I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 145, the confirmation of Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the US Court of Federal Claims.

Madam President, I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 146, the confirmation of Rossie David Alston, Jr., of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Madam President, I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 147, the confirmation of Richard A. Hertling, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROJECT SHARE

• Mr. KING. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Salmon Habitat and River Enhancement Program, known as Project SHARE. SHARE has spent the last quarter of a century focused on river habitat restoration in Downeast Maine, specifically for Atlantic salmon. Thanks to SHARE and its many partners, hundreds of restoration projects have been completed, improving Maine's waterways for marine life.

Founded in 1994, SHARE was built on the recognition that, without direct action, Atlantic salmon would go extinct from habitat destruction and overfishing. SHARE's work has focused on improving Maine's streams and rivers, a crucial habitat for salmon, as they require freshwater to breed. The organization uses a diverse range of methods during their projects, from the addition of clamshells to the stream or river in order to balance pH levels, to adding open bottom arch culverts and bridges to more effectively spread nutrients and ease passage in the waterways. While the goal of these projects is to help Atlantic salmon, the rest of Maine's marine life benefit from the improved living conditions in our fresh-water streams and rivers.

A hallmark of SHARE's success has been its emphasis on building partnerships in order to achieve its goals. SHARE has valued these partners since the beginning, when a wide range of State agencies, land owners, research and conservation groups, and more signed on as charter members. Their focus on cooperation between public

and private entities has clearly paid off, as they have completed more than 250 restoration projects in just the last 15 years. A key part of these partnerships is the work SHARE does with Maine's students. Including students from local schools and universities in their restoration projects has allowed SHARE to pass on the methods used to improve the safety and habitability of our waterways and the importance of Atlantic salmon to Maine and the rest of the country.

I would like to thank Project SHARE for their 25 years of commitment to improving Maine's waterways for Atlantic salmon and other marine life. Thanks to their hard work, 2,800 habitat units have been improved, with many more projects planned in the years to come. SHARE's dedication to protecting and restoring outdoor habitats ensures that Maine's wildlife will continue to thrive. Congratulations Project SHARE on reaching this impressive milestone, I look forward to seeing your work over the next 25 years.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:05 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 60. Joint resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to authorize unique and one-time arrangements for displays on the National Mall and the Washington Monument during the period beginning on July 16, 2019 and ending on July 20, 2019.

At 11:27 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 542. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory, and for other purposes.

H.R. 951. An act to promote bilateral tourism through cooperation between the United States and Mexico.

H.R. 1158. An act to authorize cyber incident response teams at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2083. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2140. An act to prevent child marriage in refugee settlements administered by the United Nations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2476. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding to secure nonprofit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2539. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prioritize the assignment of certain officers and intelligence analysts from the Transportation Security Administration and the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to locations with participating

State, local, and regional fusion centers in jurisdictions with a high-risk surface transportation asset in order to enhance the security of such assets, including by improving timely sharing of classified information regarding terrorist and other threats, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2590. An act to require a Department of Homeland Security overseas personnel enhancement plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2695. An act to rename the Success Dam in Tulare County, California, as the Richard L. Schafer Dam.

H.R. 3151. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize and improve the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 542. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 951. An act to promote bilateral tourism through cooperation between the United States and Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2083. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2140. An act to prevent child marriage in refugee settlements administered by the United Nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2476. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding to secure nonprofit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2539. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prioritize the assignment of certain officers and intelligence analysts from the Transportation Security Administration and the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to locations with participating State, local, and regional fusion centers in jurisdictions with a high-risk surface transportation asset in order to enhance the security of such assets, including by improving timely sharing of classified information regarding terrorist and other threats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2590. An act to require a Department of Homeland Security overseas personnel enhancement plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2695. An act to rename the Success Dam in Tulare County, California, as the Richard L. Schafer Dam; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1158. An act to authorize cyber incident response teams at the Department of Homeland Security, 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-1592. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael K. Nagata, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1593. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of two (2) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1594. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of nine (9) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1595. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of twelve (12) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1596. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility; New York, Erie County, Village of Akron, et al." ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2019-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1597. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility; Illinois: Beardstown, City of, Cass County" ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2019-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 5, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1598. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Reserve Policy on Payment System Risk; U.S. Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banking Organizations" (12 CFR Chapter 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1599. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commission Interpretation Regarding the Solely Incidental Prong of the Broker-Dealer Exclusion from the Definition of Investment Adviser" (17 CFR Part 276) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1600. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commis-

sion, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commission Interpretation Regarding Standard of Conduct for Investment Advisers" ((RIN3235-AM36) (17 CFR Part 276)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1601. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation Best Interest: The Broker-Dealer Standard of Conduct" ((RIN3235-AM35) (17 CFR Part 240)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1602. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Form CRS Relationship Summary; Amendments to Form ADV" ((RIN3232-AL27) (17 CFR Parts 200, 240, 249, 275, and 279)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1603. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2020 Section 223 Inflation-Adjusted Item" (Rev. Proc. 2019-25) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1604. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certain Transfers of Property to Regulated Investment Companies (RICs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts" (RIN1545-BO01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1605. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2019-0037–2019-0043); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1606. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and (d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to the Republic of Korea and Singapore to support the manufacture, integration, installation, operation, training, testing, maintenance, and repair of the F-15 Wide Field of View (WFOV) Heads-up Display (HUD) in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 18-100); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1607. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to the United Kingdom to support the manufacture, design, assembly, qualification, test, repair, and maintenance of the F-35 electrical power management system in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 19-007); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1608. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the Department of Education's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1609. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-up for the period of October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1610. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1611. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1612. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administrator's Semiannual Management Report to Congress for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1613. A communication from the Chairwoman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1614. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1615. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1616. A communication from the Regulation Policy Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Urgent Care" (RIN2900-AQ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1617. A communication from the Regulation Policy Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Veterans Community Care Program" (RIN2900-AQ46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1618. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations" (MB Docket No. 19-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM-81. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to exclude federal reserved water rights from any future designation of federal lands in Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 2004

Whereas, states are the primary authority for allocating, administering, protecting and developing water resources, and are primarily responsible for water supply planning within their boundaries; and

Whereas, states have the ultimate say in managing their water resources and are best suited to speak to the unique nature of water law and hydrology, particularly in western states such as Arizona; and

Whereas, states have primary authority to issue and manage water rights and are responsible for controlling and managing surface water and groundwater located within their boundaries, subject to international treaties, interstate agreements and judicial decrees; and

Whereas, Congress recognized states as the sole authority over non-navigable waters, including groundwater, and the United States Supreme Court has upheld this authority; and

Whereas, federal reserved water rights apply to waters within various types of federal land designations, including national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges; and

Whereas, federal reserved water rights differ from state appropriated water rights and may take priority over the water rights of individuals whose application dates are established later than the date of the federal withdrawal, even if the individuals are using the water at the time of withdrawal; and

Whereas, the exclusion of federal reserved water rights on any new federal designations in this state would allow Arizona to integrate the federal reserved water rights with the state administratively adjudicated water rights so that water sources can be managed with greater certainty. Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress 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.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-82. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the United States Congress pass H.R. 2360 which seeks to establish a Renewable Energy Grant Program within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the purpose of promoting renewable energy in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1084

Congressman Ted W. Lieu, the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico in Washington D.C., the Hon. Jennifer González-Colón, and Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett introduced

H. R. 2360 on April 25, 2019, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Renewable Energy Grant Program for the purpose of awarding funds to not-for-profit entities so they may develop and use renewable energy systems.

This legislation, which shall be known as the "Renewable Energy for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Act," seeks to promote investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy storage, and microgrid and smart grid projects. The organizations that are awarded these grants may receive technical assistance from the Department of Energy national laboratories. Furthermore, the measure appropriates funds for the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study regarding renewable energy and energy efficiency in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States not later than one hundred and eighty (180) days after the date of enactment of the Act. The study shall consider the potential to modify existing electric power systems, use renewable energy sources, expand the use of microgrids, and improve energy resiliency.

It is worth noting that H.R. 2360 is consistent with the recently approved Act No. 17-2019, known as the "Puerto Rico Energy Public Policy Act," which seeks to transform our electrical system into one that is robust, resilient, reliable, eco-friendly, and affordable, and that serves as the basis for the Island's economic development. Act No. 17, supra, directs the elimination of electric power generation from fossil fuels in Puerto Rico and, for such purpose, establishes a new and ambitious Renewable Portfolio Standard that requires that forty percent (40%) energy generation from renewable sources by 2025; sixty percent (60%) by 2040; and one hundred percent (100%) by 2050. In addition, it encourages the use of energy storage technology for all consumer levels, promotes the integration of distributed generation and microgrids, and seeks to attain thirty percent (30%) energy efficiency by 2040.

However, it is a fact that Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are exposed to suffering the consequences of catastrophic hurricanes such as Irma and Maria which left millions of U.S. citizens without electric power service for a long period of time. The passage of these two hurricanes in 2017 and the reality of climate change has once again raised awareness of the importance of having an electrical system that is resilient to weather events that have become stronger and more frequent.

H.R. 2360 complements the efforts made by the Government of Puerto Rico to transform our electrical system and contributes towards achieving one hundred percent (100%) energy generation from renewable sources by 2050, therefore, the Senate of Puerto Rico supports this important initiative.

*Be it resolved by the Senate of Puerto Rico:*

Section 1.—To express the support of the Senate of Puerto Rico to, and request the United States Congress to pass H.R. 2360 which seeks to establish a Renewable Energy Grant Program within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the purpose of promoting renewable energy in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States of America.

Section 2.—Upon its approval, a copy of this Resolution translated into English shall be delivered to the leadership of the United States Congress, congress members Ted W. Lieu and Stacey Plaskett, and the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico in Washington D.C., Jennifer González-Colón.

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

POM-83. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana

urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review and consider eliminating provisions of federal law which reduce Social Security benefits for those receiving pension benefits from certain federal, state, or local government retirement or pension systems, plans, or funds; to the Committee on Finance.

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Whereas, the Congress of the United States of America has enacted both the Government Pension Offset (GPO), reducing the spousal and survivor Social Security benefit, and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), reducing the earned Social Security benefits payable to any person who also receives a public pension benefit; and

Whereas, the GPO negatively affects a spouse or survivor receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by a spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO formula reduces the spousal or survivor Social Security benefit by two-thirds of the amount of the federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit received by the spouse or survivor, in many cases completely eliminating the Social Security benefit even though their spouses paid Social Security taxes for many years; and

Whereas, the GPO has a harsh effect on hundreds of thousands of citizens and undermines the original purpose of the Social Security dependent/survivor benefit; and

Whereas, according to recent Social Security Administration figures, more than half a million individuals nationally are affected by the GPO; and

Whereas, the WEP applies to those persons who have earned federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefits, in addition to working in employment covered under Social Security and paying into the Social Security system; and

Whereas, the WEP reduces the earned Social Security benefit using an averaged indexed monthly earnings formula and may reduce Social Security benefits for affected persons by as much as one-half of the retirement benefit earned as a public servant in employment not covered under Social Security; and

Whereas, the WEP causes hardworking individuals to lose a significant portion of the Social Security benefits that they earn themselves; and

Whereas, according to recent Social Security Administration figures, more than one and a half million individuals nationally are affected by the WEP; and

Whereas, in certain circumstances both the WEP and GPO can be applied to a qualifying survivor's benefit, each independently reducing the available benefit and in combination eliminating a large portion of the total Social Security benefit available to the survivor; and

Whereas, because of the calculation characteristics of the GPO and the WEP, they have a disproportionately negative effect on employees working in lower-wage government jobs, like policemen, firefighters, teachers, and state employees;

Whereas, Louisiana is making every effort to improve the quality of life of its citizens and to encourage them to live here lifelong, yet the current GPO and WEP provisions compromise their quality of life; and

Whereas, the number of people affected by GPO and WEP is growing every day as more and more people reach retirement age; and

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

Whereas, the GPO and WEP are established in federal law, and repeal of the GPO and the WEP can only be enacted by congress: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-84. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to support the reform of the Social Security offsets of the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE PAPER NO. 1204

Whereas, under current federal law, individuals who receive a Social Security benefit and a public retirement benefit derived from employment not covered under Social Security are subject to a reduction in the Social Security benefits; and

Whereas, these laws, contained in the federal Social Security Act, 42 United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter II, Federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits, and known as the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision, greatly affect public employees, particularly women; and

Whereas, the Windfall Elimination Provision reduces by a formula the Social Security benefit of a person who is also receiving a pension from a public employer that does not participate in Social Security; and

Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision are particularly burdensome on the finances of low-income and moderate-income public service workers, such as school teachers, clerical workers and school cafeteria employees, whose wages are low to start; and

Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision both unfairly reduce benefits for those public employees and their spouses whose careers cross the line between the private and public sectors; and

Whereas, since many lower-paying public service jobs are held by women, both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision have a disproportionately adverse effect on women; and

Whereas, in some cases, additional support in the form of income, housing, heating and prescription drug and other safety net assistance from state and local governments is needed to make up for the reductions imposed at the federal level; and

Whereas, other participants in Social Security do not have their benefits reduced in this manner; and

Whereas, to participate or not to participate in Social Security in public sector employment is a decision of employers, even though both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision directly punish employees and their spouses; and

Whereas, although the Government Pension Offset was enacted in 1977 and the Windfall Elimination Provision was enacted in 1983, many of the benefits in dispute were paid into Social Security prior to that time; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States work together to support reform proposals that include the following protections for low-income and moderate-income government retirees:

1. Protections permitting retention of a combined public pension and Social Security benefit with no applied reductions;

2. Protections permanently ensuring that level of benefit by indexing it to inflation; and

3. Protections ensuring that no current recipient's benefit is reduced by the reform legislation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designating May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122

Whereas, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and

Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the upper and lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horn of the spinal cord; and

Whereas, The initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

Whereas, As ALS progresses, the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking and breathing; and

Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

Whereas, Patients with ALS typically remain alert and are aware of the loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

Whereas, ALS affects military veterans at twice the rate of the general population; and

Whereas, ALS occurs in adulthood, most commonly between 40 and 70 years of age, peaking at approximately 55 years of age, and affects both men and women without bias; and

Whereas, More than 5,000 new ALS patients are diagnosed throughout the nation each year; and

Whereas, In Pennsylvania there are currently more than 1,000 individuals who have been formally diagnosed with ALS; and

Whereas, The \$750,000 in State funding appropriated by the General Assembly for ALS support services for 2018-2019 provided services to nearly 1,000 constituents and substantial savings to the State budget and taxpayers; and

Whereas, The ALS Association reports that on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

Whereas, ALS has no known cause, prevention or cure; and

Whereas, "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the negative impact this disease has on ALS patients and their families and recognizes the research being done to eradicate ALS: Now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate the month

of May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-86. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to provide medical treatment and other benefits for deported veterans of the United States Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 2001

Whereas, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, at least 239 veterans of the United States armed forces have been deported to at least 34 countries; and

Whereas, those who have honorably served our country have been denied medical treatment and other benefits from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and

Whereas, veterans who are deported and who were not seen by a VA doctor for evaluation are not allowed to claim their disabilities; and

Whereas, veterans who would otherwise seek treatment or post-traumatic stress disorder or other war-related injuries are denied approval unless they are about to die; and

Whereas, deported veterans have in fact died waiting for approval for medical treatment on the border; and

Whereas, these men and women have served in the United States armed forces and have earned the right to receive medical treatment and benefits.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress enact legislation providing medical treatment and other benefits for all veterans of the United States armed forces, including those who have been deported.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-87. A resolution adopted by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland memorializing its opposition to any expansion of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and any proposal to transfer the Baltimore-Washington Parkway from the National Park Service; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-88. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to pay increases for Members of Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Report to accompany S. 1589, An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-47).

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 1790. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-48).

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on Finance.

\*Randolph J. Stayin, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2026.

\*Amy Karpel, of Washington, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2023.

\*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. CRUZ:

S. 1771. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. JONES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1772. A bill to establish the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1773. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make improvements to the treatment of the United States territories under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy equivalent of a gallon of diesel in the case of liquefied natural gas for purposes of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund financing rate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. REED, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1775. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1776. A bill to amend title 31 of the United States Code to require that Federal children's programs be separately displayed and analyzed in the President's budget; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1777. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to include in the Annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices a section on conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, to amend the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to authorize the President to impose economic sanctions and a visa ban on the leader of an organization that commits sexual or gender-based violence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1778. A bill to provide appropriate information to Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies, pursuant to investigating terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. REED, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1779. A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1780. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for studies and reports relating to the impact of legislation on spending on children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1781. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JONES):

S. 1782. A bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1783. A bill to establish responsibility for the International Outfall Interceptor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. MCSALLY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1784. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Stamp Out Elder Abuse Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1785. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to exclude authorized generic drugs from calculation of the average manufacturer price for purposes of the Medicaid drug rebate program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1786. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to establish a minimum salary threshold for bona fide executive, administrative, and professional employees exempt from Federal overtime compensation requirements, and automatically update such threshold every 3 years; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1787. A bill to require the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a national employer notification service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1788. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to enhance penalties for theft of a firearm from a Federal firearms licensee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. UDALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. PAUL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1789. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations on disposition of charges and the convening of courts-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 1790. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1791. 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 or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 244. A resolution expressing support for free, fair, and transparent elections in the Republic of Guatemala in order to increase prosperity, security, and access to

justice for all Guatemalans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Res. 245. A resolution designating July 17, 2019, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 159

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 159, a bill to implement equal protection under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States for the right to life of each born and preborn human person.

S. 172

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 172, a bill to delay the reimposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2021.

S. 191

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) 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. 208

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 208, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 227

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 239

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Maine (Ms.

COLLINS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 239, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 277

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu, in recognition of his dedication to justice and equality.

S. 283

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 283, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under part B of the Medicare program by establishing a minimum payment amount under such part for bone mass measurement.

S. 287

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 287, a bill to amend the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to impose limitations on the authority of the President to adjust imports that are determined to threaten to impair national security, and for other purposes.

S. 340

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 340, a bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products.

S. 348

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 348, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 434

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to provide for a report on the maintenance of Federal land holdings under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior.

S. 436

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 436, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the development of public transportation operations safety risk reduction programs, and for other purposes.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 457, a bill to require that \$1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 504

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors 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 Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) 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. 569

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor 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. 634

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish tax credits to encourage individual and corporate taxpayers to contribute to scholarships for students through eligible scholarship-granting organizations and eligible workforce training organizations, and for other purposes.

S. 651

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 651, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs.

S. 679

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 679, a bill to exempt from the calculation of monthly income certain benefit paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

S. 684

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 684, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high-cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

S. 826

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 826, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify the final rule relating to flightcrew member duty and rest requirements for passenger operations of air carriers to apply to all-cargo operations of air carriers, and for other purposes.

S. 827

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to designate certain National Forest System land and certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers,

wildland recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to limit certain rolling stock procurements, and for other purposes.

S. 867

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) 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. 878

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 878, a bill to foster security in Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of services for homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1039

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) 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. 1077

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1077, a bill to establish a pilot program awarding competitive grants to organizations administering entrepreneurial development programming to formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1122

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) 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. 1183

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1183, a bill to establish an energy storage and microgrid grant and technical assistance program.

S. 1191

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachu-

setts (Mr. MARKEY) 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. 1198

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1198, a bill to ensure that significantly more students graduate college with the international knowledge and experience essential for success in today's global economy through the establishment of the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program in the Department of Education.

S. 1223

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 1247

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

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to prohibit the use of the poisons sodium fluoroacetate (known as "Compound 1080") and sodium cyanide for predator control.

S. 1331

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1331, a bill to provide additional protections for our veterans.

S. 1354

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1354, a bill to require certain protections for student loan borrowers, and for other purposes.

S. 1499

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1499, a bill to establish National Wildlife Corridors to provide for the protection and restoration of certain native fish, wildlife, and plant species, and for other purposes.

S. 1540

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1540, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 1554

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1554, a bill to provide for an automatic acquisition of United States citizenship for certain internationally adopted individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1555

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) 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. 1572

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1572, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional reporting on crime and harm that occurs during student participation in programs of study abroad, and for other purposes.

S. 1575

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1575, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to make available to the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention copies of consular reports of death of United States citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 1576

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1576, a bill to strengthen parity in mental health and substance use disorder benefits.

S. 1577

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1577, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit certain contracts between health insurance plans or issuers and health care providers.

S. 1618

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1618, a bill to

amend the Public Health Service Act to expand the capacity to improve health outcomes and increase access to specialized care.

S. 1642

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) 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. 1720

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1744

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1744, a bill to provide lawful permanent resident status for certain advanced STEM degree holders, and for other purposes.

S. 1750

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, a bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1755

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1755, a bill to ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities are prepared for disasters, and for other purposes.

S. 1769

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1769, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an offshore wind career training grant program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 80

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 80, a resolution establishing the John S. McCain III Human Rights Commission.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 120, a resolution opposing efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement targeting Israel.

S. RES. 242

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 242, a

resolution designating June 15, 2019, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day".

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. REED, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1775. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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. 1775

*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 Our Students and Taxpayers Act of 2019" or "POST Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. 85/15 RULE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(b)) is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (1)—
  - (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking "and" after the semicolon;
  - (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and
  - (C) by adding at the end the following:
 

“(F) meets the requirements of paragraph (2).”;
  - (2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and
  - (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:
 

“(2) REVENUE SOURCES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to qualify as a proprietary institution of higher education under this subsection, an institution shall derive not less than 15 percent of the institution's revenues from sources other than Federal funds, as calculated in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

“(B) FEDERAL FUNDS.—In this paragraph, the term ‘Federal funds’ means any Federal financial assistance provided, under this Act or any other Federal law, through a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other means to a proprietary institution, including Federal financial assistance that is disbursed or delivered to an institution or on behalf of a student or to a student to be used to attend the institution, except that such term shall not include any monthly housing stipend provided under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Program under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code.

“(C) IMPLEMENTATION OF NON-FEDERAL REVENUE REQUIREMENT.—In making calculations under subparagraph (A), an institution of higher education shall—

- “(i) use the cash basis of accounting;
- “(ii) consider as revenue only those funds generated by the institution from—
  - “(I) tuition, fees, and other institutional charges for students enrolled in programs eligible for assistance under title IV;
  - “(II) activities conducted by the institution that are necessary for the education and training of the institution's students, if such activities are—

“(aa) conducted on campus or at a facility under the control of the institution;

“(bb) managed under the supervision of a member of the institution’s faculty; and

“(cc) required to be performed by all students in a specific educational program at the institution; and

“(III) a contractual arrangement with a Federal agency for the purpose of providing job training to low-income individuals who are in need of such training;

“(iii) presume that any Federal funds that are disbursed or delivered to an institution on behalf of a student or directly to a student will be used to pay the student’s tuition, fees, or other institutional charges, regardless of whether the institution credits such funds to the student’s account or pays such funds directly to the student, except to the extent that the student’s tuition, fees, or other institutional charges are satisfied by—

“(I) grant funds provided by an outside source that—

“(aa) has no affiliation with the institution; and

“(bb) shares no employees with the institution; and

“(II) institutional scholarships described in clause (v);

“(iv) include no loans made by an institution of higher education as revenue to the school, except for payments made by students on such loans;

“(v) include a scholarship provided by the institution—

“(I) only if the scholarship is in the form of monetary aid based upon the academic achievements or financial need of students, disbursed to qualified student recipients during each fiscal year from an established restricted account; and

“(II) only to the extent that funds in that account represent designated funds, or income earned on such funds, from an outside source that—

“(aa) has no affiliation with the institution; and

“(bb) shares no employees with the institution; and

“(vi) exclude from revenues—

“(I) the amount of funds the institution received under part C of title IV, unless the institution used those funds to pay a student’s institutional charges;

“(II) the amount of funds the institution received under subpart 4 of part A of title IV;

“(III) the amount of funds provided by the institution as matching funds for any Federal program;

“(IV) the amount of Federal funds provided to the institution to pay institutional charges for a student that were refunded or returned; and

“(V) the amount charged for books, supplies, and equipment, unless the institution includes that amount as tuition, fees, or other institutional charges.

“(D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than July 1, 2020, and by July 1 of each succeeding year, the Secretary shall submit to the authorizing committees a report that contains, for each proprietary institution of higher education that receives assistance under title IV and as provided in the audited financial statements submitted to the Secretary by each institution pursuant to the requirements of section 487(c)—

“(i) the amount and percentage of such institution’s revenues received from Federal funds; and

“(ii) the amount and percentage of such institution’s revenues received from other sources.”.

(b) REPEAL OF EXISTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (24);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (25) through (29) as paragraphs (24) through (28), respectively;

(C) in paragraph (24)(A)(ii) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”; and

(D) in paragraph (26) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking “subsection (h)” and inserting “subsection (g)”;

(2) by striking subsection (d);

(3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (j) as subsections (d) through (i), respectively;

(4) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “(a)(25)” and inserting “(a)(24)”;

(5) in subsection (f)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (e)(2)” and inserting “subsection (d)(2)”; and

(6) in subsection (g)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (a)(27)” in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting “subsection (a)(26)”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 152 (20 U.S.C. 1019a)—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking “subsections (a)(27) and (h) of section 487” and inserting “subsections (a)(26) and (g) of section 487”; and

(B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i)(I), by striking “section 487(e)” and inserting “section 487(d)”;

(2) in section 153(c)(3) (20 U.S.C. 1019b(c)(3)), by striking “section 487(a)(25)” each place the term appears and inserting “section 487(a)(24)”;

(3) in section 496(c)(3)(A) (20 U.S.C. 1099b(c)(3)(A)), by striking “section 487(f)” and inserting “section 487(e)”; and

(4) in section 498(k)(1) (20 U.S.C. 1099c(k)(1)), by striking “section 487(f)” and inserting “section 487(e)”.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. MCSALLY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1784. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Stamp Out Elder Abuse Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, along with my colleagues, Senators JACKY ROSEN, MARTHA MCSALLY, and AMY KLOBUCHAR, I am introducing the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019, a bill that seeks to help combat the abuse and financial exploitation of our Nation’s seniors. Our bill would create a semipostal, or fundraising, stamp that would allow Postal Service customers to make a voluntary contribution to raise awareness and combat elder abuse by purchasing this special stamp.

The proceeds from this stamp would go to the Department of Health and Human Service’s (HHS) Administration on Community Living (ACL) and the Department of Justice (DOJ). The funding would allow the ACL to further support the development and advancement of emerging practices to prevent and respond to the abuse of older adults, and would assist DOJ in improving prosecution, data collection, litigation support, and initiatives that prevent elder abuse. Notably, this bill would help to provide needed addi-

tional revenue to tackle elder abuse without costing the Federal government a single penny.

Abuse of older Americans is sadly prevalent—no matter the person’s gender, race, religion, or ethnic or cultural background. Each year, hundreds of thousands of adults over the age of 60 are abused, neglected, or financially exploited. Abuse can happen in many places, including a person’s home, a family member’s house, an assisted living facility, or a nursing home. Just as abuse can occur in various settings, there are many types of elder abuse, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, abandonment, and financial exploitation, to name a few. Although there are different types of abuse, it is common for a victim to experience more than one form of abuse.

According to the National Council on Aging, approximately one in ten Americans aged 60 years old or older have experienced some form of elder abuse. According to the GAO, financial fraud targeting older Americans is a growing epidemic that costs seniors an estimated \$2.9 billion annually. We know, however, that the true number is probably much higher since many of these cases are never reported because the victim is too often embarrassed to report abuse, particularly when it involves a family member. In fact, the National Center on Elder Abuse reports that only one in 14 cases are reported to the authorities.

In Maine—the State with the oldest population by median age—an estimated 33,000 seniors each year are the victims of some kind of abuse or financial fraud. Moreover, in as many as 90 percent of financial cases, the senior is victimized by someone he or she knows well. A 2017 report of financial exploitation of Maine’s older adults found that in most cases, financial exploitation is perpetrated by a family member, typically the victim’s own adult child.

In a recent case in Maine, police charged a pastor in York County, Maine, with exploiting an incapacitated elderly woman. They say the man befriended the woman while he was volunteering at the assisted-living community where she lived. According to police, the State determined the woman to be incapacitated and assigned her a guardian and conservator. The pastor allegedly took the woman to her bank, withdrew money to have the locks changed on her former home, which had been on the market, and he took down the “for sale” sign.

Police say the pastor told the woman he would help her return to her house, even though it was not equipped for the wheelchair access she required. He suggested his daughter could live with the woman to care for her. Police say his goal was to ingratiate himself and have access to this woman’s financial accounts and property. Fortunately, in this case, the conservator, who was legally responsible for protecting the

woman's assets, identified and reported the suspected criminal activity to the police.

Combatting elder abuse of seniors is primarily the responsibility of State and local agencies, particularly adult protective services agencies. Prevention and response to cases of abuse require coordinated efforts, including State and local agencies, law enforcement, the social work and medical community, and financial institutions.

The Federal government also plays an important role in providing leadership to combat this problem. The Elder Justice Coordinating Council, led by HHS and DOJ, has brought other Federal agencies to the table to coordinate efforts to protect older individuals from abuse. Last year, the DOJ took a major action by directing all 94 U.S. Attorneys' offices to each designate an elder justice coordinator, who will develop strategies to protect seniors in their districts. This will promote greater cooperation between the DOJ and its law enforcement partners. While the best way to intervene in the problem of elder abuse is to prevent it from happening in the first place, when abuse does occur, it is crucial that the perpetrators of the crimes not go unpunished.

I worked closely on the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019 with Philip C. Marshall. Philip is the founder of Beyond Brooke, a campaign named to honor Philip's late grandmother, Brooke Astor, a well known philanthropist, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and victim of elder abuse and financial exploitation. In 2015, Mr. Marshall testified before the Senate Aging Committee about how his father mistreated his grandmother and mismanaged her assets while she suffered from Alzheimer's disease. In addition, I am pleased that the non-partisan Elder Justice Coalition, which represents more than 3,000 members, along with the National Center for Victims of Crime, the National Sheriffs Association, and the National Association on Area Agencies on Aging all support our bill.

Mr. President, I ask that letters from these organizations appear in the RECORD immediately following my remarks.

Preventing and combating elder abuse require law enforcement and social service agencies at all levels of government to work collaboratively with the private sector. The Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act would assist the Federal government's role to help make that happen. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

THE ELDER JUSTICE COALITION,  
Washington, DC, June 11, 2019.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,  
Chairman, Special Committee on Aging,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS: On behalf of the nonpartisan Elder Justice Coalition which represents more than 3,000 members, I write to congratulate you and Senators Rosen, McSally, and Klobuchar on the introduction of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019,

which will create a semi-postal stamp to provide additional funding to the federal government for programs to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The EJC is proud to have worked closely on this legislation with you, your staff and Philip C. Marshall, founder of Beyond Brooke, a cause-based campaign named to honor Philip's late grandmother, Brooke Astor, who was a well-known philanthropist, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a victim of elder abuse and elder financial exploitation.

We are pleased that the bill will direct the United States Postal Service to develop the semipostal stamp and use the proceeds from its sales to provide funding to augment the elder justice initiatives at both the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Justice. These programs include prevention, education, data collection, services to protect and support victims, and demonstration projects, in addition to initiatives to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation. Further, the departments will be able to use their resources to support dissemination of the stamp.

Thank you again for your leadership on this and other elder justice issues. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in securing passage of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019.

Sincerely,

ROBERT B. BLANCATO,  
National Coordinator.

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
VICTIMS OF CRIME,  
Arlington, VA, May 23, 2019.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,  
Chairman, Special Committee on Aging,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS: As the Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime which advocates for stronger rights, protections, and services for all crime victims and the advocates who serve them. I write to congratulate you on the introduction of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019, which will create a semi-postal stamp to provide additional funding to the federal government for programs to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

We are pleased that the bill will direct the United States Postal Service to develop the semi-postal stamp and use the proceeds from its sales to provide funding to augment the elder justice initiatives at both the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Justice. These programs include prevention, education, data collection, services to protect and support victims, and demonstration projects, in addition to initiatives to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation. Further, the departments will be able to use their resources to support dissemination of the stamp.

Thank you again for your leadership on this and other elder justice issues. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in securing passage of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019.

Sincerely,

MAI FERNANDEZ,  
Executive Director.

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION,  
Alexandria, VA, June 3, 2019.  
Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR COLLINS: On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the more than 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, I write to endorse the Stamp Out Elder Abuse

Act of 2019 proposed by Senator Collins. This Act initiates a semi postal stamp that not only raises elder abuse awareness, but also dedicates the proceeds to elder justice programs within DOJ and HHS.

As you may know, the NSA was one of the founding groups in the National Association of Triads, Inc. National Triads serves as a clearinghouse of information, best practices and early alert system for local Triads. Triad is a national community policing concept that partners law enforcement agencies with older adult volunteer groups and older adult related community services to educate older adults on crime and fraud, to reduce crime against the elderly, and eliminate the unwarranted fear of crime.

After twenty-two years in existence, there are Triads in more than 680 counties in 36 states. Triad serves 16 million seniors nationwide—nearly half of America's senior population. The National Sheriffs' Association and local sheriffs have long recognized the need to ensure the safety and quality of life for the growing number of senior citizens by supporting the formation of community partnerships under the auspice of Triad. Triad has a clear vision and a simple mission—to keep seniors safe from crime.

The Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019 makes a clear effort to increase awareness and support for the elderly community. We applaud the efforts to support prevention and education, investigation and prosecution, and victims' services in an effort in combat elder abuse.

Sincerely,

JONATHAN F. THOMPSON,  
Executive Director and CEO.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 244—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FREE, FAIR, AND TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA IN ORDER TO INCREASE PROSPERITY, SECURITY, AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL GUATEMALANS

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 244

Whereas Guatemala will hold general elections on June 16, 2019, and more than 7,600,000 Guatemalans are registered to vote for their next president, vice president, congressional representatives, and more than 300 mayors around the country;

Whereas, in the process leading up to the elections in Guatemala, there have been a series of troubling developments related to presidential candidates, with 6 of the 24 candidates facing allegations related to illicit activities, and at least 4 candidates having been excluded from the race;

Whereas, on April 17, 2019, Mario Estrada, a Guatemalan presidential candidate with the center-right National Change Union political party, was arrested in the United States and charged by the Department of Justice with conspiring to import cocaine into the United States, soliciting millions of dollars from the Sinaloa Drug Cartel, and other firearms offenses;

Whereas the case of Mario Estrada highlights the existence of linkages between certain Guatemalan political actors and transnational criminal organizations, and

the manner in which such criminal organizations have sought to influence the Guatemalan political system;

Whereas, on May 15, 2019, a Guatemalan court issued a politically motivated ruling that Thelma Aldana—Guatemala's former Attorney General who led efforts to tackle corruption in Guatemala—was ineligible to run in Guatemala's presidential election;

Whereas, according to Guatemalan media, approximately 150 candidates running for a seat in Guatemala's legislature have been cited with irregularities, including having received suspicious government contracts, not meeting electoral requirements, and possible linkages to narcotics trafficking;

Whereas Guatemala has a long history of debilitating corruption due to the pervasive influence of narcotics trafficking and organized crime, with the Department of State estimating earlier this decade that as much as 80 percent of the cocaine that eventually reached the United States had passed through Guatemala;

Whereas Guatemala's endemic corruption and criminality led to the 2006 agreement that established the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) as an independent body tasked with working with the Public Ministry to combat corruption, organized crime, and institutional impunity;

Whereas the United States Government provided considerable funding and political support for CICIG during both Republican and Democratic administrations, yet the Trump Administration has been notably silent on President Morales' efforts to undermine CICIG;

Whereas a May 2019 report to Congress by the Department of State report stated that Guatemala, with the support of CICIG since 2007, previously took steps "to root out clandestine networks of corrupt actors, including the uncovering of a massive corruption scheme in 2015 led by former President Perez-Molina and former Vice President Baldetti";

Whereas the May 2019 report also noted setbacks to Guatemala's fight against corruption and stated that "since announcing in 2018 it would not renew the [CICIG's] mandate, the Guatemalan Government has impeded anti-corruption efforts, attacked judicial independence, and misused U.S.-donated equipment";

Whereas setbacks to the fight against corruption weaken the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala;

Whereas weak rule of law, violence, corruption, human rights abuses, impunity, and failure to take effective actions to ameliorate widespread poverty in Guatemala contribute to the outflow of refugees and migrants towards the United States, including the more than 165,000 Guatemalan nationals who have been apprehended on the United States-Mexico border during the current fiscal year alone;

Whereas it is in the strategic interest of the United States to support free, fair, and transparent elections and encourage continued efforts to strengthen the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala; and

Whereas the Trump Administration announced in March 2019 that it will reprogram United States assistance for Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras, thereby undermining the ability of the United States Government to address challenges to security, the rule of law, and economic development in the Northern Triangle of Central America: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the people of Guatemala as they prepare to exercise their fundamental democratic right to vote in their country's upcoming June 16, 2019, general elections;

(2) encourages all Guatemalan political actors and institutions to take continued steps to uphold a free, fair, and transparent electoral process;

(3) expresses grave concerns about—

(A) the involvement of certain Guatemalan presidential candidates in illicit activities;

(B) efforts by international criminal organizations to influence the Guatemalan political system;

(C) the politically motivated disqualification of certain competitive, independent candidates in order to restrict the choices available to the people of Guatemala; and

(D) ongoing evidence of corruption of officials that permitted an estimated 1400 metric tons of cocaine to pass through Guatemala destined for the United States last year;

(4) encourages Guatemalan presidential candidates to commit to taking strong and sustained action following the election to strengthen the rule of law, combat corruption and impunity, and address human rights abuses and the underlying conditions of poverty in the country;

(5) urges the next president of Guatemala to take effective steps to strengthen the rule of law, address the influence of criminal organizations and drug cartels on Guatemala's political system, and combat corruption and impunity, including by reestablishing the mandate of the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG);

(6) condemns the efforts of President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales to expel and undermine CICIG;

(7) expresses dismay about the Trump Administration's failure to demonstrate America's commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Guatemala; and

(8) opposes the Trump Administration's decision to reprogram United States assistance to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 245—DESIGNATING JULY 17, 2019, AS "GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 245

Whereas an estimated 13,310 new cases of glioblastoma will be diagnosed in the United States in 2019;

Whereas glioblastoma is—

(1) the most common malignant (cancerous) brain tumor, accounting for 47 percent of all primary malignant brain tumors; and

(2) the most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat, and deadliest brain tumor;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 15,000 people in the United States will succumb to glioblastoma every year;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for glioblastoma patients is only 5.6 percent and the average survival for glioblastoma patients is estimated to be only 12 to 18 months;

Whereas glioblastoma is described as a disease that affects the "essence of self", as the treatment and removal of glioblastoma presents significant challenges because of the uniquely complex and fragile nature of the brain, the primary organ in the human body that controls not only cognitive ability, but the actions of every organ and limb;

Whereas brain cancer has—

(1) the highest per-patient initial cost of care for any cancer group, with an annualized mean net cost of care approaching \$150,000; and

(2) the highest annualized mean net costs for last-year-of-life care, relative to other cancers, at \$135,000 to \$210,000 (depending on age and gender) per patient;

Whereas, although research advances may fuel the development of new treatments for glioblastoma, challenging obstacles to accelerating progress toward new treatments for glioblastoma remain, and there are no screening or early detection methods;

Whereas, although glioblastoma was first described in medical and scientific literature in the 1920s, and despite its devastating prognosis, only 4 drugs and 1 medical device have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat glioblastoma since the 1920s, and the mortality rates associated with glioblastoma have changed little during the past 30 years; and

Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of glioblastoma, including both the urgent unmet medical need, as well as the opportunities for research and treatment advances for glioblastoma patients: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 17, 2019, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day";

(2) encourages increased public awareness of glioblastoma;

(3) honors those individuals who have lost their lives to that devastating disease or are currently living with it;

(4) supports efforts to develop better treatments for glioblastoma that will improve the long-term prognosis of individuals diagnosed with glioblastoma;

(5) expresses its support for those individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals; and

(6) urges a collaborative approach to brain tumor research, which is a promising means of advancing understanding of, and treatment for, glioblastoma.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 252. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 504, 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.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 252.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill D. 504, 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; as follows:

On page 10, strike line 16 and all that follows and insert the following:

Section 21703 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "during any period from—" and all that follows through the end of clause (vii) and inserting the following: "during—

"(i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or

"(ii) any time after December 7, 1941; or"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or time" after "a period"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or time" after "that period".

**SEC. 4. NONDISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING A STAFF POSITION IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 217 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 21704 the following new section:

**“§ 21704A. Nondiscrimination**

“The requirements for holding a staff position in the corporation may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 21704 the following new item:

“21704A. Nondiscrimination.”.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 6 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 Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, during schedule votes, to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Amy Karpel, of Washington, and Randolph J. Stayin, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR AND NUCLEAR SAFETY**

The Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of William B. Kilbride, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The Subcommittee on Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

**PROVIDING ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 45, S. 395.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 395) to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100 word plain language summary of the proposed rule.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 395) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 395

*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 “Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2019”.

**SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO POST A 100 WORD SUMMARY TO REGULATIONS.GOV.**

Section 553(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) the Internet address of a summary of not more than 100 words in length of the proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the Internet website under section 206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) (commonly known as regulations.gov).”.

**LET EVERYONE GET INVOLVED IN OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIONAL SERVICE ACT**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 504 and 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. 504) 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.

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 Tillis-Sinema amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, 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 amendment (No. 252) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To expand eligibility for membership in The American Legion and to prohibit discrimination with respect to staff positions)

On page 10, strike line 16 and all that follows and insert the following:

Section 21703 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “during any period from—” and all that follows through the end of clause (vii) and inserting the following: “during—

“(i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or

“(ii) any time after December 7, 1941; or”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or time” after “a period”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or time” after “that period”.

**SEC. 4. NONDISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING A STAFF POSITION IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 217 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 21704 the following new section:

**“§ 21704A. Nondiscrimination**

“The requirements for holding a staff position in the corporation may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 21704 the following new item:

“21704A. Nondiscrimination.”.

The bill (S. 504), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 504

*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 “Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act” or the “LEGION Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since the end of World War II, the Federal Government has designated specific periods of war, the dates of which are important for qualification for certain benefits or membership in veterans organizations established by Congress.

(2) In between those recognized periods of war, during so-called peacetime eras, the United States military has been involved in not fewer than 12 known eras, which are unrecognized by the United States Government as periods of war, resulting in numerous United States personnel combat casualties.

(3) Those 12 unrecognized war eras occurred at the direction of the then President of the United States, with full knowledge and consent of the then Congress.

(4) The first of those 12 unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel was the Greek Civil War, fought in Greece from 1946 to 1949 between the army of the Government of Greece, supported by active military personnel of the United States

and the United Kingdom, and the Democratic Army of Greece, the military branch of the Communist Party of Greece.

(5) During the Greek Civil War, one member of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed his life in service to the United States, and five others suffered non-combat deaths.

(6) The second of those unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel was the Chinese Civil War, which occurred during the aftermath of World War II.

(7) During the Chinese Civil War, the United States military equipped, trained, transported, and supplied the Kuomintang-led Government of the Republic of China with approximately \$4,430,000,000 in its resistance to the Communist Party of China.

(8) During the Chinese Civil War, 14 members of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 150 non-combatants of the United States lost their lives in the war, and 51 were wounded, resulting in 215 United States military casualties.

(9) The third unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel is known as the Cold War.

(10) The Cold War was a period spanning from approximately 1947 until 1991 when the Soviet Union collapsed.

(11) Although no direct large-scale military fighting occurred between the militaries of the United States and the Soviet Union, active United States military personnel served in multiple regional conflicts during the Cold War, resulting in the deaths of not fewer than 32 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and not fewer than 12 additional casualties.

(12) The fourth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel is known as the China Cold War.

(13) The China Cold War started when the Kuomintang-led Government of the Republic of China retreated to the island of Taiwan and lasted until 1972, after President Richard Nixon conducted a landmark state visit to China.

(14) During the military operations of the China Cold War, not fewer than 16 members of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed their lives in service to the United States.

(15) The fifth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Lebanon Crisis of 1958, which involved more than 14,000 United States personnel and resulted in the death of one member of the Armed Forces who sacrificed his life in service to the United States and five non-combat deaths.

(16) The sixth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961.

(17) The Bay of Pigs invasion was a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by a United States military group sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency that resulted in not fewer than one death of a member of the Armed Forces who sacrificed his life in service to the United States and 19 non-combat deaths.

(18) The seventh unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Cuban Missile Crisis, which took place between October 16 and October 28, 1962.

(19) The Cuban Missile Crisis directly related to homeland protection against the deployment of a Soviet ballistic missile in Cuba.

(20) During the Cuban Missile Crisis, one member of the Armed Forces sacrificed his life in service to the United States and 19 others died as non-combatants.

(21) The eighth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Dominican Civil War in 1965.

(22) Operations during the Dominican Civil War resulted in the deaths of 27 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 20 non-combat-related deaths, and 283 wounded.

(23) The ninth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Iran Hostage Crisis, which lasted from November 4, 1979, through January 20, 1981.

(24) The Iran Hostage Crisis involved military intervention by the United States which resulted in the deaths of 8 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to United States.

(25) The tenth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Salvadoran Civil War.

(26) The Salvadoran Civil War lasted more than 12 years, through the terms of two Presidential administrations of the United States, and resulted in the deaths of 22 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 15 non-combat deaths, and 35 other casualties.

(27) The 11th unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel started on April 5, 1986, when the La Belle discotheque in West Berlin, Germany, was bombed, killing two United States soldiers and wounding 79 other members of the Armed Forces, which triggered what became known as the Libyan Conflict.

(28) The military operations of the Libyan Conflict included numerous air strikes by United States military forces and resulted in the deaths of two members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States.

(29) The Libyan Conflict led to the 12th unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel, known collectively as the Persian Gulf Conflicts, which lasted from July 24, 1987, through September 26, 1988.

(30) The Persian Gulf Conflicts involved United States military missions to protect Kuwaiti-owned oil tankers which represented the largest United States naval convoy operation since World War II.

(31) The Persian Gulf Conflicts resulted in numerous military operations and the deaths of not fewer than 39 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and 31 wounded.

(32) Since the armistice that ended the hostilities of the Korean War on January 31, 1955, nearly 100 active United States military personnel have sacrificed their lives in service to the United States in South Korea, and more than 132 people of the United States have been wounded in-country.

(33) Since January 1, 1947, through all of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel, not fewer than 778 combat and non-combat members of the Armed Forces have sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and not fewer than 797 have been wounded.

(34) Since January 1, 1947, the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel who were wounded and killed serving their country were administered under orders from the commander in chief and with the consent of Congress, proving that the United States has been conducting deadly wartime service to protect the country consistently since December 7, 1941.

(35) Eligibility for membership in The American Legion is determined by Congress through the establishment of specific dates of declared and officially recognized hostilities in which United States military personnel are on active service.

(36) The American Legion provides invaluable services to its members and supports the community of veterans who sacrificed in service of the United States.

(37) Membership in The American Legion allows veterans to engage in public service activities, such as supporting Boys and Girls State and Nation, youth mentorship programs, and benefit assistance, career fairs, and employment assistance for veterans.

(38) The American Legion has gone on record as supporting the 12 unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel since the beginning of World War II.

(39) The American Legion has aided, assisted, and comforted the families of the men and women who were called to serve or volunteered to serve during all of the unrecognized war eras and continues to provide support to veterans of those eras.

(40) The American Legion has commended the heroic actions of all military personnel who risked their lives in defense of freedom during each of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in accordance with the history, tradition, and purposes of The American Legion, it is fair, proper, and reasonable that the privilege of membership in The American Legion should be extended to all military personnel who served on active military duty during all of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel.

#### SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.

Section 21703 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “during any period from—” and all that follows through the end of clause (vii) and inserting the following: “during—

“(i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or

“(ii) any time after December 7, 1941; or”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or time” after “a period”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or time” after “that period”.

#### SEC. 4. NONDISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING A STAFF POSITION IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 217 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 21704 the following new section:

##### “§ 21704A. Nondiscrimination

“The requirements for holding a staff position in the corporation may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 21704 the following new item:

“21704A. Nondiscrimination.”.

#### GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 245, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 245) designating July 17, 2019, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day.”

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 245) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE  
12, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 12; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Barker nomination, under the previous order.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:12 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10 a.m.

---

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 11, 2019:

THE JUDICIARY

SARAH DAGGETT MORRISON, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO.