The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VEASEY).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, June 11, 2019.
I hereby appoint the Honorable MARC A. VEASEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-OUR DEBATE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, June 11, 2019.
I hereby appoint the Honorable MARC A. VEASEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

HONORING ALLEN PINGEE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor the life and service of Allen “Al” Pingee of Lewis Run. Al passed away on Tuesday, April 23, at his home, surrounded by his family.

Al was a McKean County commissioner at the time of his death, and I flew a flag over the United States Capitol to be presented to Al’s family and his colleagues.

Prior to becoming a commissioner, Al was a member of the city of Bradford professional firefighters and retired as a captain in 1988. He then served as Bradford Township supervisor for 14 years, 11 of those years as chairman.

Al was a proud Vietnam veteran. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged as a corporal in September 1970.

Mr. Speaker, Al Pingee has served his Nation and his community.

Above all else, he was a family man, a loving husband of 36 years to his wife, Deborah, and father to his four children, Andy, Scott, Jeff, and Jodie. He was a grandfather, a brother, and a friend to many.

We remember Al Pingee for his exceptional service to others.

May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as National Dairy Month.

Dairy products like milk contain nine essential nutrients that may help reduce the risk for high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and certain cancers. Whether it is a protein to help build and repair the muscle tissue of active bodies or Vitamin A to help maintain healthy skin, dairy products are a natural nutrient powerhouse.

National Dairy Month started as National Milk Month in 1837 to stabilize the dairy demand when the production was at a surplus. Now, it has developed into an annual tradition that celebrates the contributions the dairy industry has made to the world.

Proudly, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is one of the largest milk-producing States in the Nation. I have a bill called the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which would allow for whole milk, both flavored and nonflavored, to be offered in school cafeterias.

Just last week, I introduced the School Milk Nutrition Act with Congresswoman JOE COURTNEY to expand milk options for students and reverse the decline of milk consumption in our schools. Our bill reaffirms recent regulation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture by providing schools with the option to serve low-fat milk with flavor and requires that the milk offered is consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

In November 2017, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced regulatory changes for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, including a provision that provides schools with the option to serve low-fat 1 percent flavored milk.

The School Milk Nutrition Act for 2019 will codify this milk provision and will maintain the option for schools to offer low-fat 1 percent flavored milk if it is consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

I urge my colleagues to sign on to these bills during National Dairy Month and allow our students the option of consuming the type of milk that they love and to receive the nutrition that they need.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to being, a week from today, in our State capital of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at 11 a.m. for a rally with all the advocates for nutrition for children and certainly for dairy farming, as we rally for whole milk for healthy kids.

HONORING AVANT P. COLEMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a great public servant, a father, a dedicated man of faith, a friend to many, and the longest-serving elected official in Wilson, North Carolina, city government, the Honorable Avant Patrick Coleman.
Avant Coleman, Mr. Speaker, better known as A.P., is a native of Edgecombe County, but he has resided in Wilson County for many decades. He received his formal education, earning his bachelor of science degree in agriculture and biology from historic North Carolina A&T State University. He went on to earn a master of science degree in adult education with a minor in sociology from North Carolina State University and a graduate of the Extension Executive Development Institute.

Professionally, A.P. used the full potential of his education and passion in his career, which began with teaching vocational agriculture in Lenior and Greene Counties. His desire to pour into our youth a conviction for community engagement led him to join the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, where he worked for 31 long years, retiring in March 1994. In this role, Mr. Speaker, he was responsible for offering programs, national initiatives that embraces young people of all beliefs and back-grounds and empowers them with leadership skills training for the betterment of their lives and their community.

A.P. Coleman has served on several council-appointed boards and committees throughout the State and the city, such as president of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, 1991 to 1992; chairman of Region L Council of Governments, 1990 to 1992, 2006 to 2007; a member of the Small Cities Council and National League of Cities, 1988 to 1995.

He has served on the board of directors of the Carolina Family Health Centers, Incorporated. That is our QFHC in the city. He served as director since 1999 and even served as chairman.

Mr. Coleman previously served as a board member for the local and regional Nations Bank and was the recipient of many leadership awards, including the Extension Service Superior Leadership Award. He received a certificate of appreciation after completing a 4-H caravan 6-week study tour of the United Kingdom, honoring his leadership in the States of Maryland and North Carolina.

He has served, Mr. Speaker, as finance committee chair for Carolina Smart Choices for Youth and as a chairman of the Wilson Preparatory Academy charter school.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Coleman has been a very engaged individual for decades. Throughout his years of public service, A.P. Coleman has been active with his local church, civic groups, and other charitable organizations. He is a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., where he serves as an elder. He is a past member of the board of directors for United Way, president of the Wilson chapter of the North Carolina A&T State University Alumni Association, vice president of Crime Stoppers, past member of the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf’s human rights committee, member of the Presbytery of the New Hope disaster committee, and recipient of prestigious accomplishments and awards.

Coleman is also a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and a life member of the NAACP. The most important thing to Avant Coleman has always been his family. He was married to the late Willa Monroe Coleman and is the proud father of three, Elliott, Wanda, and Jacqueline, and a proud grandfather of one grandson, Juan.

Avant is a family man, dear friend, and colleague to so many others. Mr. Speaker, he is also my neighbor, my next-door neighbor for the past 25 years. A man of principle and conviction to the importance of brotherly kindness, A.P.'s motto in life is the golden rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Coleman has lived an incredible life that, by the grace of God, has impacted the lives of so many. His selfless and lifelong dedication to public service and community are beyond remarkable, and he is truly a role model. His love for his family, friends, church, and community know no bounds.

I am honored today to pay tribute to such a dedicated and honorable public servant. I am proud to have A.P. Coleman as a constituent and friend. I thank him for his dedication, service, and continued role as an inspiration to all of us. God continues to bless A.P. Coleman and his family.

HONORING JANIE L. MINES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Southside Fire Department on March 19.

The fully volunteer fire department has protected the property of Union County since 1974 when the first call rang. The station has grown from as little as five calls a year to 98 calls in 2018 alone.

The foundation of Southside Fire Department was a community effort. The seed was planted in 1969 when a meeting was held at Roper Chevrolet to hear the public’s opinion on the organization of a fire district for the local area in Union County.

However, it was not until 1972 that Southside received its first truck and could finally open its station. Supported by the local community’s generosity, the fire department established itself and eventually joined South Carolina’s Firefighters Association.

For almost 50 years now, Southside Volunteer Fire Department has fought fires to protect the great folks in the district. The station currently has an ISO Class 3/9 rating and serves over 3,500 residents.

As a Nation, we ask much of our citizens. Yet, even on top of the burdens and the toil of everyday life, some
choose to volunteer to save the lives and property of their neighbors. With nothing to gain and everything to lose, they head straight toward danger.

I congratulate the fire chief, Michael Lancaster, and the rest of the crew at Southside Fire Department on this incredible feat. We thank them for their tireless, continued service to our community and our great Nation.

HONORING OTIS WASHINGTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of the late Coach Otis Washington.

A native of Selma, Alabama, Coach Washington was a legendary Louisiana Football Hall of Famer who instilled in his players winning spirit, strong character, and quest for excellence.

Sadly, Coach Washington passed away on Friday, May 21, 2019, at the age of 80.

Coach Washington was born on February 12, 1939, in Selma, Alabama, to Sadie and Otis Washington, Sr. He graduated from R.B. Hudson High School in 1957, where he was class president and a star athlete. He then graduated from Xavier University in New Orleans, where he was captain of the football team and an all-conference guard and linebacker.

Coach Washington's resume speaks for itself. As the head football coach, he led St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, Louisiana, to three State championships and, in his 11 seasons there, he guided the Purple Knights to 11 consecutive winning seasons and seven district titles.

In 1979, Coach Washington became the first African American football coach at LSU when he joined the staff as offensive line coach. Later, Coach Washington was hired as the head football coach at Southern University, where he led the Jaguars for six seasons.

Because of his many outstanding football achievements, Coach Washington was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 2015 and the St. Augustine Hall of Fame in 2017, among many, many other honors.

His success on the football field was matched by his many efforts in the community to promote fairness, equity, and justice. Coach Washington was a key figure in integrating the Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

While Coach Washington was often quick to downplay his role in integrating the league, he did so as a humble man who knew his place, but, more importantly, knew that his place was rising to the occasion and making sure that his players knew that they were just as good, if not better, than any other player on the field.

Coach Washington was a devout Catholic and a devoted member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His devotion to his faith began as a young boy in Selma, Alabama, where he was a member of the Don Bosco Catholic Boyo Club founded by Father Nelson Ziter in 1947.

He was also a devout husband to his wife of 52 years, Linda Patterson Washington of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, whom he met while coaching at St. Augustine. He is survived by his siblings, Carol, Olivia, Charlene, Theopolis, Sharon, and Irma; and many godchildren, special grandchildren, as well as nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. They will all miss him dearly.

On a personal note, I knew this amazing man as my “Uncle Otis.” He was one of my father’s childhood best friends growing up in Selma, Alabama. Uncle Otis, my dad, Charles Williams, and Ted Washington referred to themselves as the “Amigos” in grammar school, a name that stuck with them throughout their lives. These men never forgot the lessons that they learned from Father Ziter at the Don Bosco Boys Club in Selma. Their love for their hometown and their commitment to service through sports will always be remembered.

Uncle Otis and Auntie Linda were a constant presence in the lives of my twin brothers and myself. I could always count on them for words of encouragement and boasts of pride on my many accomplishments. I know that I stand today as Alabama’s first Black congresswoman because of the love, support, nurturing, and prayers of the mentors, family, and friends like Uncle Otis and Auntie Linda.

Like my dad, Uncle Otis will be missed but never forgotten. The legacy that Uncle Otis leaves behind will live on in the many lives that he impacted. May we find comfort in knowing that his legacy will endure and we are stronger and better because Uncle Otis’ light shines bright within us.

On behalf of Alabama’s Seventh Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life and legacy of Selma’s own Coach Otis Washington, a football coaching legend and Louisiana hall-of-famer. May we celebrate the totality of his life today and honor always his great accomplishments in sports and contributions in shaping the hearts, minds, and character of many men.

IT IS TIME TO MOVE ON

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, while the Judiciary Committee should be focused on securing the borders and overhauling a very broken immigration system, we also need to bring a clown and circus show to town.

When I looked up yesterday and saw John Dean, it took me back to the hot summer of 1974, when we saw John Dean and his cohorts on our television screens for days at a time. In an era with only three television stations—that is right, Mr. Speaker, we only had three stations growing up—Mr. Dean was on all three of them for hours at a time, day after day.

Bringing another convicted felon, and a biased one at that, who has tweeted 970 times anti-Trump propaganda, to bring this criminal to these Chambers was yet another embarrassment to the majority party. All of America realizes the Democratic leadership has dug a deep, deep hole for itself and, for all practical purposes, has started this impeachment process and hearings. Nevertheless, in contradiction to public wishes, it appears the Judiciary committee will continue to dig deeper by calling such a slanderous, offensive witness and move forward with impeachment.

After doing over 38 townhalls across the State of Kansas since January, everywhere I go, folks tell me the same thing: It is time to move on.

Mr. Speaker, we have real problems that need to be addressed. My folks back home are dealing with floods and tornadoes. The farmers can’t get their crops in the field, and China and the European Union are blocking us from exporting our commodities. All these things are real and we need to address them.

We have enough problems without the Washington swamp adding to our misery.

Folks back home want our border secured. They want a fair, streamlined immigration system, which helps fill the 70,000 open jobs we have across the State, from the aircraft industry, to high-tech jobs, Mr. Speaker, we need more people who are able and willing to work. And we all know this immigration reform is exactly what the Judiciary Committee Chamber was yet another embarrassment. Instead of fixing real problems, the Democrat-controlled House just keeps digging deeper down this false impeachment hole they have initiated.

Mr. Speaker, I want to stop and applaud the President for his most recent efforts to secure our borders. As we all know, over the course of less than 2 weeks—record time for diplomacy in this age—the President was able to leverage potential tariffs into real action by the Mexican government. That is right, real action with real results.

Thanks to these efforts, Mexico is going to place 6,000 new troops to control their southern border. Additionally, Mexico has agreed to shelter, feed, and help those who apply for asylum in this country. This all matters to Kansas, and we thank the President for his efforts.

This is huge. How huge is it? Well, I have been to the border, almost a year ago now, and I know a crisis when I see it. It was a crisis then and, by all measures, this crisis has literally doubled.
Every day, on average, we are now apprehending almost 5,000 people crossing the border illegally. We are housing, feeding, and providing healthcare to over 40,000 people daily. We literally have run out of bed space. We now have over 9,000 more people waiting for asylum hearings, of which only 10 percent have a legitimate claim.

Even in the words of the most liberal of newspapers, the New York Times agrees this is a crisis: While lawbreakers take hands and drag their feet, tens of thousands of migrant children are suffering.

"Congress needs to get serious about dealing with that suffering."

Mr. Speaker, it is a shame that Congress won’t do its job, that we won’t secure the border, and that we won’t overhaul a broken immigration system. Instead, the Democrats drive the agenda that started, for all practical purposes, an agenda that brings in the ghost of Christmas past, a convicted liar and felon, as their star witness for impeachment hearings.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to learn lessons about leadership. Leaders must at times endure criticism and attacks and stay the course. Leaders keep their word, they demand results, and they hold people accountable. Leaders keep the ship moving into high headwinds. Leaders think outside the box. They use the tools given them. They don’t make excuses. They never, never give up. Somehow, they always bring the light back to the objective, the goal at hand. When others won’t lift, they lift the entire weight. They show the path, they shine the light, and they go first when others are afraid. Leaders don’t repeat the mistakes of those who went before them over and over again.

Mr. Speaker, great leaders all have their own unique style. One of my heroes is General Dwight David Eisenhower, who was a visionary, able to move pieces around for the D-day Invasion, but also had the vision to see the need for an interstate highway system, a space program, and civil rights.

Another hero of mine is John Wayne’s Rooster Cogburn, the mythical marshal from the movie “True Grit,” who often, when he couldn’t get people to follow, well, I guess I would say, he just ran over them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our President for showing us what true leadership looks like, and what true grit looks like in real time, in real life.

Mr. Speaker, we need the President to keep leading.

LETTER FROM A CONSTITUENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to read a letter from my constituent, Pastor Dr. Ronald S. Williams, of Columbus.

Mr. Williams writes: “A mobster, con man, gangster in the White House? I think so.

"This past week, Special Counsel Robert Mueller gave a verbal synopsis of his 2-year investigative report. He is quoted as saying: ‘If we had confidence that the President clearly did not commit a crime, we would have said so.’ He also said: ‘The Constitution requires a process other than the criminal justice system to formally accuse a sitting President of wrongdoing.’

"This process would be impeachment. The question is, why hasn’t the United States Congress started a formal impeachment inquiry?"

"In our Nation’s Pledge of Allegiance, we state that the United States of America is ‘one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.’ Many of us have been taught to reiterate this pledge since elementary school. Today’s society compels one to ask the question: Are we truly one nation under God?

"NANCY PELOSI is a woman who I respect. However, I do believe her hesitancy to impeach this President is her opinion, based upon polls and her belief that it would further polarize the country. However, the country is already divided and polarized, which can be greatly contributed to the madness of the present Executive administration of the country.

"As a pastor, a father, a grandfather, and a friend of many, my answer to this question is, no, we are not.

"I recently engaged in a conversation with a pastor’s wife who resided in the small community that I attended graduate school. I knew the town was small and malignant with bigotry, ignorance, and racism. As we conversed, I discovered that she, too, was a bigot. She stated that the present administration was the ‘smartest and most intelligent to ever reside in the White House.’

"I asked her if she was out of her mind. ‘What about Roosevelt and Kennedy?’ she asked. I responded by asking her what she meant by that. She responded by saying, ‘They exploited women, and it was Obama that divided and polarized the Nation.’

"I knew at that point that she was steeped in her ignorant opinion. I responded by telling her that I was not alive during the Roosevelt years and during the administration of John F. Kennedy we did not have internet and the means of communication that we have today. Regardless, at least they both were with good men who publicly presented themselves as leaders. Secondly, the rightwing went after George W. Bush and the Ku Klux Klan and other hate organizations, is indefecible, condescending to anyone who challenges him, and hides behind his Twitter account, rather than dealing with the real issues in our country and around the world, and, to put icing on this cake, he is a proven liar.

"I believe the crooked ascension of Trump to the Oval Office is a gauge that measures the declining patriotic and moral values of many of the citizens of America, as well as being the revelation of the hidden bigotry, judgmental attitudes that yet exist in many of those who call themselves evangelicals.

"This President has surrounded himself with yes-men and -women who apparently refuse to challenge his madness for fear of his wrath. I believe I can safely assume that the United States is no longer a democracy. A democratic government is one that is governed by the people or their elected representatives. In 2 years, this man has turned the tide and the Nation is spiraling downhill quickly.

"My growing concern is that the Congress and Senate of these United States have more of a personal interest for themselves rather than a patriotic duty to the people they represent. The Republicans appear to have become a Trump cult, and the Democrats refuse to move against this man in a collective, decisive way.

"I remember the time that we were governed by principle and not by party. Congress, Senators, you were not elected to collect a paycheck, you were elected to be women and men of principle and maintain the health of a Democratic nation.

"It does not take a genius to discern that this man wants to be a dictator in the truest sense of the word. He appears to be drawn to the evil of tyrannical dictators and is alienating our country from our closest and most trusted allies. This President praises the leaders of Russia and North Korea, while at the same time has been condemning to the leaders of Canada, the United Kingdom, and Germany, just to name a few. Something is wrong with this.

"Despite all of this, there are still many, including evangelicals and people of color, who are resolute in their support of this administration.

"Thomas Paine wrote:’’

"Men must conquer their own spirits. Even in the shadows of the guillotine, we must preserve and endure in spite of the threat.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind members that remarks in debate may not engage in personalities toward the President, including by repeating remarks made elsewhere that would be improper if spoken in the Member’s own words.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT CARL MANN

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible life and heroic service of Sergeant Carl Mann.

"It is glaringly apparent that many who support the present administration are either racist, steeped in religious beliefs, ignorant, or, as my mother used to say, ‘just plain dumb.’ They have chosen to support a president who has a proven record of being sexually condescending to women, will not oppose Trump, the Ku Klux Klan and other hate organizations, is indefecible, condescending to anyone who challenges him, and hides behind
This past week, on the 75th anniversary of D-Day, I visited Normandy, France, where Sergeant Mann and more than 150,000 American troops stormed the beaches to gain a foothold in mainland Europe.

For his heroic service, Sergeant Mann, a native of Mount Vernon, Indiana, received three Purple Hearts and seven Bronze Stars while serving in the 5th Infantry Division of General George S. Patton's 3rd Army.

In fitting fashion of a true hero, Sergeant Mann was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on June 6, this year, the 75th anniversary of D-day.

Today, I take a moment to honor the selflessness that he and the Greatest Generation made so that we and future generations of Americans may enjoy boundless freedoms.

My prayers are with his children and grandchildren that carry on his legacy. His memory will forever be a reminder of a day of great tragedy, but also of future generations of Americans may enjoy boundless freedoms.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK). Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of a resident of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who passed away last month at the age of 96.

Malcolm Crooks, a lifelong resident of Solebury Township, was a noted environmental and conservation leader. He was the founding member of the Honey Hollow and Aquetong Watershed Associations and was a member of the first Solebury Township Planning Commission. He also served on numerous boards that promoted environmental protection, including those of the Bucks County Audubon Society and the Bucks County Planning Commission.

A man of devout faith, Malcolm was a member of Solebury Friends Meeting, and in the 1960s, he moved to Algeria and led a team of Quakers to assist local residents. Throughout his life, Malcolm and his wife, Elaine, continued to travel and immerse themselves in world cultures.

Mr. Speaker, Malcolm made our community a better place. Generations will continue to experience the beauty of our home because of his selfless work.

I send my prayers and condolences to Malcolm’s wife and his children—Sylvia, Malcolm, and Catherine—along with his entire family.

IN MEMORY OF PETE ROSSETTI

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and memory of an American patriot from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who passed away on June 5 at the age of 96. Pete Rossetti, a resident of Southampton, lived a life in service to our country and our community.

Born in Philadelphia, Pete served honorably in the United States Navy during World War II. He earned the American Theater, European Theater Combat Medal and was also a Purple Heart recipient. In January, Pete was awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal, the highest French military distinction, for his service. Pete served in several campaigns during the war, including the invasion of Sicily, Salerno, Angelo, and Normandy.

A graduate of Temple University, Pete earned a degree in business administration from Temple University, and he later worked as an employee benefit consultant.

Mr. Speaker, I send my deepest condolences to Pete’s children—Donna, Sandra, Carla, Joseph, and Mary Ellen—along with the entire Rossetti family. May they take comfort that he is now reunited with Annette and enjoying his eternal reward.

OUR ECONOMY IS SICK

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, this administration continues to tell us that our economic recovery is chugging along, that it has even been hypercharged under President Trump.

They say there is well over 7.5 million unfilled jobs and 6 million people looking for work, that wages are beginning to pick up. The stock market has reached record highs and the unemployment rate, record lows.

So why aren’t our constituents celebrating, saving, and spending at equal historic rates? Mr. Speaker, everyone in this Chamber knows what I am talking about. They can feel it. Why does it all seem so fragile, like this country is walking on economic eggshells?

Because that is how it feels to American families every single day. Because in today’s America, you can work a 12-hour shift, 7 days a week, year after year—get in one car accident on your way home from work and end up bankrupt.

Because the cost of a college education is leaving a generation of graduates with a high-interest mortgage without the house.

Because the cost of childcare is becoming even more unaffordable than that college degree.

Because the cost of a two-bedroom apartment swallows up the income of a full-time minimum wage worker in every single neighborhood in our country.

Because nearly 40 percent of Americans can’t afford an unexpected $400 medical bill, and skyrocketing pharmaceutical costs are forcing families to open GoFundMe pages to keep their kids alive.

Just over a decade after hitting rock bottom, our economy is still sick for a very simple reason: We haven’t correctly diagnosed the cause of that illness.

We are comforted by the improvement of external symptoms, like stock...
prices and unemployment rates; meanwhile, our economy’s heart is in dire straits. Small businesses are shuttered, factories are fleeing, family farms are closing, and once-prosperous American towns are barely scraping by.

To chronicit illness is a system that has whittled away protection, opportunity, justice, and dignity for the American worker.

Our workers rise like their parents before them. They work hard to provide for their family for well into the night; they skip lunch breaks; they defer vacation; they trade with coworkers to take an overtime shift—all to care for the ones they love. And yet the jobs that they hold won’t even allow for that.

The whole point of a job is to earn a living and make a life, to contribute to something purposeful, to be able to provide for your loved ones in return.

If Americans can’t meet the needs of Americans, then what is the point? How will the greatest economy in the world possibly endure if its people can’t keep up.

Mr. Speaker, I read a story a few weeks ago about a few local Home Depot employees who built a walker for a little boy whose parents were not certain that insurance would cover a proper one. And just yesterday, news sites blasted a story of a 9-year-old little boy in California who used his own allowance to pay off the lunch debts of his classmates.

The goodness of those workers, of those children is incredible, and thank God we have people like them among us. But a moral, a just, a fair, an accountable, and a decent economy wouldn’t call those stories heartwarming but heartbreaking, a damning indictment of a system that bars counterproductive, as public needs of basic dignity, particularly in their moments of deepest need.

A moral capitalism would put quality on the same page as quantity. It wouldn’t just ask for integrity and decency from the public and private factors running our economic show, it would demand it, with laws that work in tandem to guarantee that when our kids get sick, we can take care of them; when our roof falls, we can repair it; when our stomachs ache, we can fill them; and when we tire, we can rest.

Mr. Speaker, that shouldn’t be too much for anyone to ask.

GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the mothers, fathers, brothers, and daughters, the classmates and coworkers, the surviving family and community members, all of whom have been robbed of loved ones due to senseless acts of gun violence.

I rise on behalf of mothers with broken spirits and broken hearts.

I rise on behalf of fathers with deep wounds and invisible scars, a lifetime of guilt because they couldn’t keep their child out of harm’s way.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of young boys and girls, children traumatized and sad because they have attended more funerals than graduation parties.

I rise on behalf of survivors, community organizers, and advocates who selflessly trigger their own trauma to stand on the front lines of justice and movement building.

I rise on behalf of districts like mine, the Massachusetts Seventh, that are weighed down by systemic inequities, generational poverty, and cycles of violence.

Today, in partnership with organizers, advocates, and survivors, I am calling for a National Survivors of Homicide Movement, to amplify the voices of families and communities severely and disproportionately impacted by gun violence; to center their struggles, their stories, their truths; to foster peace; and to seek justice.

Already this year, 16 families across the Massachusetts Seventh have been robbed of their loved ones. I rise in remembrance of them and in recognition of those they left behind:

Emmanuel Molin, 32, survived by his two sons, mother, father, and five siblings;

Godfrey Jenkins Hall, 28, survived by his son, brother, and aunt;

Carl Reynolds, 28, survived by his mother, father, siblings, and daughter;

ELEANOR MALONEY, 74, SURVIVED BY FIVE CHILDREN, FIANCÉ, FATHER, AND SIBLINGS;

Kasim Kahrim, 36, survived by his three children;

Kendrick Price, 32, survived by his mother, grandmother, brothers, and godchildren;

HAKI SANDERS, 33, SURVIVED BY HIS BROTHER, SISTERS, AND GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN;

Haki Sanders, 33, survived by his mother;

Kevin Boyd, 33, survived by his wife, two sons, and brother;

Kevin Brewington, 33, survived by his mother, father, son, brothers, and sisters;

Carl Brown, 43, survived by his child; and

Luckinson Oruma, 60, survived by his wife and five children.

Tomorrow will mark the anniversary of 49 souls lost—lives we were robbed of 3 years ago at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, and the fear and trauma of those who survived and the families and loved ones that they left behind.

May we remember them. May we speak up for them. May we fight to ensure that there is no one else like them.

Long gone are the days of thoughts and prayers. Now is the time for outrage, for equitable outrage, policy, and change. This is a public health crisis, an epidemic.

Bullets do not discriminate. They don’t care if we are a Member of Congress, a World Series champion, a senior citizen, or a child.

It is up to Congress to demonstrate courage, to do what is right for our children, for our communities, for all survivors impacted by gun violence.

Enough is enough. These survivors deserve our respect. They deserve our resources. They deserve healing. They deserve justice.

In districts like the Massachusetts Seventh, community-based organizations are doing their job every day: Violence in Boston, Operation LIPSTICK, We Are Better Together, the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, the Justice Resource Institute, the Women Survivors of Homicide Movement, and the Bobby Mendes Peace Legacy project.

Our Suffolk County D.A., Rachael Rollins, is fighting hard to try to improve our clearance rates to get these surviving family members the justice they deserve.

It is time for Congress to do our job. Enough is enough.

COMMEMORATING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF MIGHTY MO

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KENNEDY). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. CASE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th birthday of one of the most iconic ships ever to sail the seven seas, the U.S. Navy’s USS Mighty Mo. Our last battleship, was commissioned June 11, 1944, after being laid down and launched at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. She went on to one of the longest and most distinguished careers of any Navy ship ever, earning 11 battle stars in three wars: World War II, the Korean war, and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

But she is best known for her role not in war but in peace. For of course it was on her decks at anchor in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945, V-J Day, that General Douglas MacArthur accepted the surrender of Japan, ending World War II.

Mighty Mo was finally struck from the register in 1995. For the last two decades, she has been moored in a place of honor at Pearl Harbor, alongside her fallen sisters—most notably, the USS Arizona—as a living museum under the loving stewardship of the USS Missouri Memorial Association in partnership with the U.S. Navy.

On her decks next year, on September 2, we will recognize the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. But for today, let us simply
wish Mighty Mo a heartfelt hau‘oli la hanau, happy birthday, and many more to come. Mahalo.

RECESS

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

Accordingly, (at 10 o’clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Jacob Isaac Pack, Beckley United Pentecostal Church, Beckley, West Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, today we want to say thank You. Thank You, Lord, for allowing us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Thank You, God, for trusting us with this awesome responsibility of continuing the proud traditions of this great Nation. We thank You, Lord, for the heritage of sacrifice that has been passed down by those who have come before us.

Father, as we endeavor to continue in that noble heritage, we ask You for Your wisdom and Your guidance. We ask You to grant unity to Your people and oneness of purpose. We ask that Your presence reside among all of the men and women here today who rise to the tasks of both leadership and service. We reverently ask that the results of our work bring peace, prosperity, and safety to all who are entrusted in our care.

In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

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

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

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

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING REVEREND JACOB ISAAC PACK

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to welcome Reverend Jacob Isaac Pack from Putnam County in my district as the guest chaplain today. Reverend Pack is an ordained minister with the United Pentecostal Church International and currently serves as the pastor of Beckley United Pentecostal Church.

Over the 20 years that he has been involved in ministry, Reverend Pack has served local congregations as well as in State and national offices of the United Pentecostal Church. Reverend Pack serves as the West Virginia-Western Maryland District Sunday school director and on the National Sunday School Committee.

Reverend Pack is actively involved in the public service sector with his position as the executive director of the Kanawha Public Service District, also in my congressional district. He serves in his local community as the vice president of the Putnam County Planning Commission.

Reverend Pack and his fabulous wife, Tiffany, have three wonderful children, Hayden, Jamison, and Juliette.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BROWN of Maryland). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING HENRY PARHAM

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

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Henry Parham, who is believed to be the last surviving African American combat veteran from D-day. Mr. Parham served in the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion, the only African American combat unit to land in Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Men from the 320th were in the first waves to land on Omaha Beach that day. They had the vital task of preventing enemy aircraft from attacking the beaches where men in equipment were pouring ashore. Their balloons prevented enemy planes from making effective attacks, but the balloons also made excellent targets for enemy fire. Back then, the Army, like most of American society, was segregated. Nevertheless, these African Americans risked their lives for their country, even as Blacks faced Jim Crow laws and racist violence back home.

Needless to say, the German bombs and bullets didn’t discriminate. Two thousand Americans died on Omaha Beach that day, including men from the 320th. Many more were wounded.

I want to recognize Henry Parham from the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion for his heroic service to our country. I invite my friend to represent Mr. Parham in Congress.

102 YEARS OF HONOR AT FORT JACKSON

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week was the 102nd anniversary and Victory Week at Fort Jackson in South Carolina.

Under the leadership of Brigadier General Milford Beagle, Jr., and Command Sergeant Major Jeremiah Gan, Fort Jackson is the bedrock for building readiness for all components of the Army.

This week, the Greater Columbia Region is being honored as a Great American Defense Communities Award recipient. The Columbia Chamber of Commerce, led by President Carl Blackstone and Chairman David Lockwood, provided the nomination, citing Fort Jackson, the South Carolina National Guard, and McEntire Joint Air Base.

Fort Jackson is the Nation’s largest basic training base, conducting over half of the Army’s basic combat training, with over 60,000 soldiers per year and with about 10,000 soldiers in basic combat training at any given time. Fort Jackson also trains more than 60 percent of all women entering the Army each year.

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

CLIMATE HEALTH PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, in Illinois, the spring rains have meant that less than one-half of the normal amount of corn had been planted this year. We are seeing catastrophic floods, record-setting tornadoes, and longer and more devastating fire seasons.
Climate change is not a future threat; it is a threat now, and we need to take urgent action. The decisions we make today will determine the future we leave to our children. We also need to prepare for the consequences of climate change, which are already affecting our environment, our infrastructure, our economy, and, yes, even our health.

More frequent and intense heat waves are leading to higher rates of heat stroke. Warmer temperatures are also directly affecting vector-, food-, and waterborne diseases and causing longer allergy seasons.

We need to understand and prepare for these changes. That is why I led a letter to the House Appropriations Committee urging support for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Climate and Health Program to help our city and State health departments address and prepare for the effects of climate change.

I am pleased that funding for their important work has increased to $15 million in this year’s bill. I urge my colleagues to support this provision to help vulnerable communities adapt to the health threats of climate change.

CONDITIONS OF MIGRANT DETENTION FACILITIES ARE INHUMANE

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am joined today by my colleagues to show our country the inhumane conditions of migrant detention facilities.

As a grandfather and an immigrant, my heart breaks every time another child dies in U.S. custody.

Migrants are escaping some of the harshest political and economic turmoil of Central America only to have their children die once they arrive here. Like 1-year-old Marlee Juarez and her mother who fled domestic abuse in Guatemala, then she died in a U.S. hospital after receiving inadequate care.

We don’t allow prisoners to die. How are we allowing children to die in Federal custody?

Last week, the inspector general of DHS confirmed what we already knew: Conditions are dangerous and unsanitary.

This is cruel and un-American. This cannot be the new normal. What the President is doing is anything but normal.

When Attorney General Sessions initiated this, it was a bad way to move forward.

Is this the message that President Trump wants to send the world, that the U.S. is where children come to die? How many children must die before this administration acts?

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, June is National Homeownership Month, and it is the time when we celebrate and recognize the many benefits of owning a home.

For generations of Americans, owning a home has been an essential step in achieving the American Dream. But since the Great Recession, we have seen homeownership rates dip to historic lows.

Young families often find themselves unable to save for a down payment or gain access to adequate credit, and that is especially true for those living in rural areas.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture places emphasis on helping rural Americans buy homes. USDA provides mortgage loan guarantees through partnerships with private-sector lenders to help low- to moderate-income rural home buyers. USDA has helped more than 4.4 million rural residents buy homes since the National Housing Act was passed 70 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, homeownership has widespread benefits: It fortifies communities, creates jobs, and strengthens the local businesses that support our towns.

I thank USDA for its commitment to providing affordable housing for rural Americans. By helping hardworking Americans achieve this dream, it provides a strong foundation for more prosperous rural communities.

ICE SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

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

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, on May 31, the Department of Homeland Security unveiled an alarming report that confirms the terrible consequences of the Trump administration’s failure to truly address the humanitarian challenges we face at our southern border.

Instead of working with Congress and leaders in our hemisphere on addressing root causes and policy that represents America’s values of compassion, the administration, instead, chooses cruelty.

As a result, agents and officers are overworked, exhausted, and frustrated. Communities like mine are stretched beyond capacity, and migrants are in inhumane conditions.

The photos and description of the conditions at the Paso Del Norte Processing Center in my district are beyond disturbing:

- Migrants standing on toilets to make room and gain breathing space;
- A cell with a maximum capacity of 35 holding 155 migrants;
- Detainees wearing soiled clothing for days or weeks;
- The list goes on.

I visited the PDN Processing Center when I was home this weekend, and one thing is clear: Congress must establish, and DHS must abide by, humanitarian standards. Not doing so is immoral and un-American.

ICE IS BETTER THAN THIS

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I have seen with my own eyes the way migrants at the southern border, particularly children, are treated under ICE’s Office of Inspector General publication.

These reported cases reveal what we already feared: that this administration chooses cruelty.

Instead of working with Congress and DHS to address and prepare for the effects of climate change, which are already affecting our environment, our infrastructure, our economy, and, yes, even our health.

We need to understand and prepare for these changes. That is why I led a letter to the House Appropriations Committee urging support for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Climate and Health Program to help our city and State health departments address and prepare for the effects of climate change.

I am pleased that funding for their important work has increased to $15 million in this year’s bill. I urge my colleagues to support this provision to help vulnerable communities adapt to the health threats of climate change.
June 11, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H4401

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, June is Gun Violence Awareness Month, and I am so tired of watching innocent children being lowered into the ground.

A week ago, there was another mass shooting in Virginia Beach. The shooter had a sound suppressor and a large capacity magazine. And it struck me: these things which gave him an advantage were banned in my home State of New Jersey. We have one of the lowest rates of gun violence of any State in America.

Why is that? We have poverty, we have crime, we have mental illness just like other States, but we also have sensible gun laws.

It has been just over 100 days since the House passed a sensible gun bill that the vast majority of Americans support. Universal background checks will save lives. The Senate could pass this bill today, but the Senate majority leader refuses to hold a vote.

Mr. Speaker, this is what the voters who sent us here are most tired of: special interests blocking action on what most of us agree must be done.

It is time for the Senate to give the American people the safety and common sense that they voted for and, at long last, pass universal background checks.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, everyone knows that Americans pay too much for their prescription drugs, and something must be done.

That is why I am pleased House Democrats are addressing the rising costs of these medications. We have passed legislation like H.R. 987 and H.R. 1503, both of which can lower the cost of prescription drugs by helping to bring a greater number of generic drugs to market, but we can’t stop there.

We must act boldly and in a bipartisan manner. Mr. Speaker, to confront the obstacles that stand between hardworking Americans and affordable prescriptions necessary for their well-being. In the wealthiest nation in the world, Mr. Speaker, no one should have to face these barriers to affordable, quality healthcare.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY DETENTION FACILITIES

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, Jakelin Caal Maquin, 7-year-old girl.

Felipe Gomez Alonso, 8 years old. Juan de Leon Gutierrez, 16 years old. Carlos Hernandez Vasquez, 16 years old. All of these children died under our custody in the United States of America.

In the last 8 months, 6 children have died in the United States of America under the custody of the Department of Homeland Security. It pains me to say this because I am not talking about some war-torn country halfway around the world. This is happening right here in the United States of America.

Over the past 2 years, under this President, President Donald Trump, 24 men, women, and children who came looking for a better life in the United States of America died.

This administration’s treatment is inhumane. What President Trump and this administration are doing is shameful.

Mr. Speaker, let’s be very clear: the crisis at the border is a humanitarian crisis that is the result of the President’s deadly policies. We need accountability and this President will need to answer for his role in the loss of life, on our soil, at the United States border.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, this is Gun Violence Awareness Month. I rise to commemorate the life of Ms. Briuna Harps, a young woman with a bright future in Fort Worth, who lost her life in a senseless act of gun violence last month.

Nineteen-year-old Briuna had just finished her first year of pre-med classes when she was visiting her sister at an apartment in Fort Worth, and was struck by a bullet in the crossfire between two gangs, two idiotic gang wars. Sadly, Briuna’s death and deaths like it are too commonplace in America.

Each day, nearly 100 people in our Nation are killed by someone using a gun.

Recently, the city of Fort Worth launched a local initiative to protect our neighborhoods and curb gun violence. The Senate can help us in this area by taking action to pass common-sense gun safety legislation that the House passed over 100 days ago. Taking action is the best way that we can honor the life of Briuna and the other lives just like hers who were lost to gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the community and give special thanks to Pastor Milton Pace, Tiffany Face Whitaker, and Montreal Dukes for hosting a recent dialogue on curbing violence in our Fort Worth community.

But we need the Senate to do their part. We need them to act. Pass the legislation that we passed in the House now.

FUTURE OF AMERICA’S FARMERS

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

Mrs. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of family farmers throughout the Midwest and in my home State of Minnesota. We are facing a year of unseasonably wet conditions, leaving many producers weighing their options for the future of their farms.

I am proud to join my colleague, Representative Dusty Johnson, South Dakota Democrat, in introducing the FEED Act, a bipartisan bill to give farmers flexibility to graze and harvest cover crops on prevent plant acres.

Congress has a responsibility to do right by our Nation’s farmers who feed, clothe, and fuel our communities by providing them the flexibility they need to do their jobs successfully. This bill will help alleviate concerns of a forage shortage and improve soil health through the use of cover crops.

This is a common-sense solution, and we need a whole lot more of that in this House. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and support this bill and stand up for our farmers throughout the country.

HONORING THERESA BURROUGHS

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

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Theresa Burroughs, a champion for voting rights and a foot soldier of the civil rights movement.

Sadly, Mrs. Burroughs passed away on May 22, 2019, at the age of 89.

Mrs. Burroughs dedicated her life to advancing equality and justice and making sure that future generations would learn about the sacrifices and the bravery of foot soldiers who marched, bled, and died for the right to vote and for civil rights in this country.

She is best known for her stewardship in founding the Safe House Black History Museum in Greensboro, Alabama. The museum is located in the same house in Hale County where Dr. Martin Luther King hid out from the KKK on a visit to west Alabama in 1968. The museum houses materials to educate future generations of the local struggle that happened in the Black Belt of Alabama on behalf of all of us.

I am deeply honored to have known Mrs. Burroughs, and, in fact, I had the opportunity to present Mrs. Burroughs with a Congressional Gold Medal for her participation in the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery. I am deeply honored to be a part of the shoulders of Mrs. Burroughs. So many of us do. Her bright light will always glow through the many lives that
she impacted. May my colleagues join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Mrs. Burroughs today and honor her great contributions to this Nation, the State of Alabama, and to the civil rights and voting rights movements.

REMEMBERING JAKELIN CAAL MAQUIN

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Jakelin Caal Maquin, a 7-year-old Guatemalan girl, who died in December while in the custody of our Federal Government.

Seven months ago, Jakelin joined her father in fleeing the extreme danger and poverty of her village in Guatemala. They fled from violence. However, Jakelin’s life was cut short in December when she died of sepsis while under the responsibility of our Federal Government.

As a physician, I know that the inhumane conditions at our Border Patrol facilities risk the lives of children when under CBP custody. That is why, this week, I am introducing the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in CBP Custody Act, legislation requiring CBP to meet the humanitarian needs of children and families in their custody.

My bill will require health screenings and improved access to lifesaving equipment and medications, and it will set minimum standards to ensure access to food, water, and shelter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill to help prevent future deaths of children at the border and restore humanity to our treatment of asylum seekers and families.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2740, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 430, AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO INITIATE OR INTERVENE IN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS TO ENFORCE CERTAIN SUBPOENAS

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 431 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 431
Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House in order to consider the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, as amended, or amendments described in section 3 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of this resolution.

(b) Each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be modified by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments on bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or a designee to offer amendments on bloc consisting of amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments on bloc offered pursuant to this section may be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 4. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 15 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 5. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment pursuant to this resolution, the Committee of the Whole shall rise without recess. When the consideration of the bill shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House.

SEC. 6. (a) During consideration of H.R. 2740, it shall not be in order to consider any amendment proposing both a decrease in an appropriation designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and an increase in the appropriation not so designated, or vice versa.

(b) This section shall not apply to an amendment between the Houses.

SNC. 7. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order by the chair of the Committee on Rules (H. Res. 430) authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas and for other purposes. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Rules now printed in the resolution shall be considered as adopted. The resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution, as amended, to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, H.R. 431, providing for consideration of H.R. 2740, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, and H. Res. 430 authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas and, also, for other purposes.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2740 under a structured rule, self-executes Chairwoman LOWEY’s manager’s amendment, and makes in order 106 different amendments.

The rule provides 1 hour of general debate, equally and divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, and provides that they may offer up to 15 pro forma amendments each, for the purposes of debate. The chair of the Appropriations Committee may also offer amendments on bloc consisting of amendments made in order by the rule and not earlier disposed of.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 430 under a closed rule, with 1 hour of debate equally and divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Rules Committee.
Mr. Speaker, this rule pairs two bills which demonstrate the commitment of the House majority both to making strong progress for the American people in the areas of health, labor, and education, at the same time that we defend the Constitution of the United States and the rule of law against the obstructionism and the lawlessness of the executive branch of government.

Let's start with H.R. 2740, which is designed to make government work for our people. It provides $399.9 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

It increases investment in the National Institutes of Health, our country's preeminent medical research agency, a national treasure, which is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, in my district, to support research for Alzheimer's disease, HIV/AIDS, breast cancer, colon cancer, cystic fibrosis, multiple sclerosis, childhood cancers, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, mental health, suicide prevention, and the Cancer Moonshot initiative.

The people of NIH and their network of allied entities and agencies and supporter organizations and research labs across the country are making profound progress in the struggle to uplift the health of the people against all of the killer diseases of our time.

And for the first time in more than 20 years, the bill contains funding to support gun violence and firearm injury prevention research, and we are proud of that.

This legislation increases funding for Department of Education programs to help America's children succeed, providing critical resources for elementary and secondary schools, special education programs, and Federal student aid. Importantly, the bill increases the maximum Pell grant to help America's college and graduate students keep pace with inflation and the high cost of living.

H.R. 2740 also provides $56.4 billion in funding for the State Department, USAID, and the U.S. Institute of Peace. We are making major strategic investments in diplomacy, global health, and international basic education, the crucial ingredients for maintaining peace and security around the world.

This legislation provides essential humanitarian assistance and critical funding to improve maternal and child health, to fight diseases like malaria, and to support women's reproductive health and literacy across the globe. We know that the key to improving social and economic development around the world is the education of women and the investment in family planning programs and literacy about contraception.

This legislation renews our Nation's commitment to addressing the climate crisis by investing in directives on adaption and renewable energy. It also prohibits the use of any government funds to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement.

Now, on the other legislation, which deals with contempt, Mr. Speaker, we know from Special Counsel Mueller's report that there was a sweeping and systematic effort in America's elections in 2016. There was a conscious effort and plan by Vladimir Putin and the GRU to undermine and destabilize the American elections by interfering and hacking into the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Hillary Clinton's offices to inject poisonous ideological propaganda into the body politic of America through Facebook, through Twitter, through YouTube and other social media entities and then to directly hack into the State boards of election.

The Department of Justice launched a special counsel inquiry. It was a Republican General who named a Republican special counsel, Mr. Mueller, to do it.

The President of the United States, according to Special Counsel Mueller's report, engaged in at least 10 different episodes of obstruction of justice with that investigation, to obstruct justice. We received that report a couple of months ago from the special counsel.

In the aftermath of it, President Trump said, "We are fighting all subpoenas," and declared that there would be no cooperation from the executive branch with legislative branch subpoenas, with our demands for documents, with our demands for witnesses, with our demands for testimony from the executive branch. He said: "I don't want people testifying," and, "There is no reason to go any further." And since then, they have drawn a curtain down over the executive branch of government.

Now, understand, the Supreme Court has held that it is an essential and integral aspect of legislative power to engage in investigation and factfinding. That is how the people's Representatives are able to legislate: We are able to get information. But if you shut down our ability to get information, we cannot engage in lawmaking. For that reason, we have begun to win in all of these Federal District Court cases where we are going out to try to get this information.

Mr. Speaker, the executive branch of government has followed President Trump's orders to simply: We are not going to turn anything over to Congress.

Now, understand, the Supreme Court of the United States has held that it is an essential and integral aspect of legislative power to engage in investigation and factfinding. That is how the people's Representatives are able to legislate: We are able to get information. But if you shut down our ability to get information, we cannot engage in lawmaking. For that reason, we have begun to win in all of these Federal District Court cases where we are going out to try to get this information.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot tie up the floor of the House of Representatives every time the executive branch decides to stonewall the oversight of the President and simply deny us the information that we seek.

My friends across the aisle know from the Fast and Furious investigation, the Hillary Clinton email investigation, the Brennan investigation, that it is Congress' right to investigate and to obtain the documents that it wants. They obtained millions of documents
in those investigations. We had a right to get them then, and we have a right to get all of these documents now.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will give the power, first of all, to the Committee on the Judiciary to follow through on the subpoenas that it has issued. It will also empower and authorize each chair of the House of Representatives to enforce their lawful subpoenas that are being disdained and violated by the executive branch of government.

So we are proud to bring forward these two pieces of legislation, one which makes good on our commitment to the American people to continue to make progress in the fields of education, healthcare, labor, and scientific and medical research while, at the same time, we defend the Constitution, the rule of law, the prerogatives and powers of Congress against the lawlessness and the obstructionism of this administration.

We are the preeminent and primary branch of government. The very first sentence of the Constitution, Mr. Speaker: “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

The second sentence that follows is all legislative power is vested in the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I hadn’t had this in the opening, but I want to disagree with my friend right off the top. The President of the United States does not work for the Congress of the United States. He works for the American people, and he heads up a branch of government that is a coequal branch of government. So, on that, we will have a long discussion.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a very eventful week in the Rules Committee, and it is only Tuesday. Last night, the committee was faced with a rule that covers two drastically different measures. H.R. 2740 is an appropriations package that covered first 5 and then 4 of the 12 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2020. We also considered H. Res. 430, a resolution that gives authority to the Office of the General Counsel of the House of Representatives to seek to enforce certain subpoenas for documents through litigation.

Shortly after we finish here, the committee will again convene to consider the remainder of the appropriations package, which will be on the floor as part of a separate rule tomorrow.

Meanwhile, our Members will attempt the miracle of being in two places at once as we continue to debate H. Res. 430, which falls into our original jurisdiction here on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 430 comes from a dispute over documents relating to the possible Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential election. The dispute also stems from the inherent oversight authority of Congress and our ability to perform oversight functions over the executive branch. It falls into the fuzzy boundaries between the branches of governments as to when and how we may compel the executive branch to turn over documents to the legislative branch.

I lay out that framework because there is an important point here that is being lost. The Democratic majority clearly wants to make this dispute entirely about this President, this Attorney General, this White House counsel. In this investigation, this subpoena of documents. The Democrats want to focus attention there because they think it helps them politically to do so. But this dispute really shouldn’t be about just that. It should, rather, be about the President, the White House counsel, the questions that emerge in a system like ours with three branches of government with checks and balances.

We are going to get it, and we are going to get it by empowering Congress to go to court to enforce our subpoenas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I hadn’t had this in the opening, but I want to disagree with my friend right off the top. The President of the United States does not work for the Congress of the United States. He works for the American people, and he heads up a branch of government that is a coequal branch of government. So, on that, we will have a long discussion.

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In a sense, what the majority is seeking to do here today is completely unprecedented, both in its intent and in its execution. Consider the only other times the House has filed a lawsuit to seek to enforce a subpoena for documents. As before, Mr. Speaker, once in 2007, to seek documents from former White House Counsel Harriet Miers, and again in 2012, to seek documents from then-Attorney General Eric Holder as a result of the congressional investigation into the Fast and Furious scandal.

In both of these cases, the House had already voted to hold both Miers and Holder in contempt of Congress before filing suit, which has not yet happened in this case. In the Miers case, 138 days elapsed from the first document request to the Judiciary Committee voting to hold her in contempt. In the Holder case, it was significantly more eventful. Just 44 days elapsed from the date of the first document request to the Attorney General until the Judiciary Committee voted to hold him in contempt. James Holzhauer has been champion of “Jeopardy!” for longer than that.

I don’t understand the majority’s haste here. Without exhausting all other options—continuing negotiation, discussion, compromise, and turning to a vote on contempt—we are rushing forward at a much faster pace. Just 44 days elapsed from the date of the first document request to the Attorney General until the Judiciary Committee voted to hold him in contempt. Nothing like that has been done here. Using untested tactics like this could set a dangerous precedent that harms us all, Republicans and Democrats, in the long run.

When this matter goes before the courts, it will do so as a case of first impression and under an untested legal theory. In both the Miers and Holder cases, the House had to hold those two individuals in contempt of Congress. Nothing like that has been done here. Using untested tactics like this could set a dangerous precedent that harms us all, Republicans and Democrats, in the long run.

Finally, I would also note that it is not clear what this resolution will ultimately accomplish. Since the House has not yet exercised all the tools in its tool kit, and since it is not clear that the negotiations with the Justice Department and the White House over the documents at issue are at an end, this whole thing may be nothing more than sound and fury. Indeed, given how quickly the majority is rushing into the court, it seems unlikely that the only course of action left in the House is to file a lawsuit.

I strongly urge the majority to continue working with the Justice Department and the White House to find a resolution to these issues without resorting to knee-jerk lawsuits that may ultimately damage the House as an institution.
Today, we are also beginning consideration of H.R. 2740, an appropriations package covering 5 of 12 appropriations bills: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am familiar with the need for compromise on that particular piece of legislation. But let me emphasize that virtually guarantee no Republican opposition this package.

To be precise, Mr. Speaker, we were to do five bills. At the last moment, the majority pulled the Legislative Branch appropriations bill. I will let them explain why at their leisure.

As a longtime member of the Appropriations Committee, I am pleased that we are beginning to move the appropriations bills to the floor. Unfortunately, the bills before us have numerous flaws, most notably that they are marked to allocation levels that aren’t realistic.

As we move forward through the appropriations process, I think we need to be clear about the challenges we face this year.

At the end of September, fiscal year 2020 expired, and sequestration cuts contained in the Budget Control Act of 2011 will automatically take effect for fiscal year 2020. In order to prevent that, we need to come to a bipartisan, bicameral budget deal that the House, the Senate, the Administration, and the President can all agree on. If we don’t, then it doesn’t really matter what fake number the House marks to. Sequestration will hit, and our defense budget will automatically be slashed by 11 percent and our nondefense budget by 9 percent below the allocations of 2019.

The spending levels in these appropriations bills are not just ambitious; they are unrealistic. Not only are the funding levels for many of these bills too high, so high that the Senate and the President will never agree to them, but the allocations the Appropriations Committee used reflect the misguided notion that any increase in defense spending must be matched by an increase in defense spending that is more than twice as high.

That is simply not a realistic assessment of our national priorities or the fiscal limitations imposed on us by our rising national debt. The defense provision of this bill, for example, comes in at $8 billion less than the President told us was needed to adequately fund the military, maintain readiness, and be prepared to confront international threats.

After years of severe underfunding of our Armed Forces and at a time when threats are emerging everywhere around the globe, spending less than the administration asks for on defense in order to push more money into domestic programs is not a wise course of action.

I am disappointed that the majority chose to strip out pro-life provisions that have been carried in appropriations bills for years. Instead, they added controversial pro-abortion riders that virtually guarantee no Republican support whatsoever for this package.

As the former chair and current ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am familiar with the need for compromise on that particular piece of legislation. But by pushing this bill through, the majority riders like these, the majority is guaranteeing the outcome of these bills: dead on arrival in a Republican-led Senate and no chance of getting a Republican President’s signature.

In the coming months, I hope we work through these problems, as we did last year, frankly. If the majority intends to move forward with unrealistic spending levels and insists on maintaining partisan riders, then we are simply guaranteeing a failed appropriations process.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, our failure has consequences. A best-case scenario is a yearlong continuing resolution that funds the government at the exact same level as the current year. That is the best scenario if we fail. The worst-case scenario is another government shutdown or sequestration that automatically cuts all government spending at the same rate as the current year, and that is a good outcome for the House as an institution, for the Federal Government, or more importantly, for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, although I cannot support either bill before us today, I am hopeful that, eventually, we will reach a bipartisan, bicameral compromise on spending that the vast majority of Members in this House can support. That requires realistic funding levels and elimination of partisan riders from this package. The spending package before us today may be a worthy starting point, but it will take hard work and compromise to move the final bill that can become law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I do not often hear from my friend from Oklahoma about both of these bills. We were here together last night until around midnight, working on the rules for these bills.

On H.R. 2740, the appropriations package that we have together, we have authorized more than 100—I think the number is 112—bipartisan amendments. In fact, I think the first amendment conflict one that is from the gentleman from Oklahoma. We have made that first.

I won’t be voting for it. I won’t be supporting it, but he has the opportunity to make his case on the floor of the House to his representatives and to present it to colleagues.

We are proud of the fact that there are more than 100 amendments. In fact, I think we are meeting again this afternoon, and we might adopt dozens more amendments, for the consideration of the full House.

But on the question of H. Res. 430, which is to empower the Judiciary Committee and the other committees in Congress to enforce our right to obtain information that we seek, I think that this should be an overriding, bipartisan commitment within the Artic—branch, within the Congress of the United States.

We simply cannot tolerate a posture from the President of the United States—and it is hard for me to think of any other Congress that would tolerate it from any other President—of one operating and ‘absolute,’ comprehensive, and wholesale defiance of the will of Congress in trying to seek information.

My good friend from Oklahoma says that the President does not work to enforce the laws of Congress; he works for the people. Well, we all work for the people. That was my point. His job is to take care that the laws passed by Congress are faithfully executed. We will direct Congress to legislate.

At least until we get a national popular vote for President, the President is not elected by the people, as we know from the 2016 election itself where the popular vote winner, who gained several million more votes than Donald Trump did, lost the election because of the workings of the electoral college.

The Presidency was set up as an indirect mechanism, and that is something that I think that we should be replacing. But I think it is not appropriate to claim a popular mandate for the President when the President emerges from the electoral college.

In any event, the President’s job is to take care that the laws are faithfully executed and also to be the Commander in Chief in times of actual conflict, but we know from other lawfully appropriated purposes.

That is a violation of the spending power of the Congress of the United States. It is just like the President rejecting a bipartisan repudiation of his involvement with the Saudi Government in the Yemeni civil war. We have not declared war with Saudi Arabia against Iran or anybody else in the conflict, and we don’t want to be involved in it. We don’t want our money going to that bloody humanitarian catastrophe, and yet the President simply rejects the majority will of both Houses of Congress. That is a de—action of Congress’ power to declare war.

Now what we are getting is this complete defiance of our ability to get the information that we need. The President said it very clearly. He basically said, ‘No subpoenas, no witnesses—enough—and no do-overs.’

So he is not going to allow us to investigate the compromised security
Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN).

Mr. HERN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from Oklahoma, and I thank my friend from Maryland who reminds us that our President was constitutionally elected and that our President was selected the way our Constitution describes and outlines, and we thank our President for the work he is doing.

Mr. Speaker, I cosponsored an amendment with Congressman COLE to remove a dangerous poison pill in the appropriations bill that would block the free exercise of rights for the American people. Congress has long supported robust protections for rights of conscience. The right to follow your conscience to hold religious and moral beliefs is a foundational value of our country. In a free society like ours, adherence to one's convictions should not be just tolerated but encouraged. Our forefathers fought like hell to liberate our country from a monarchy that mandated what to believe and how to behave.

How soon we have forgotten. It happens in small increments, with small, minor changes here and there, but they grow larger and more invasive. Some day you will find yourself back under the yoke, with an oppressive government telling you what to believe and how to behave.

This conscience rule is absolutely necessary to preserve the freedom of expression that we hold dear in this country. The rider in the Labor HHS bill eliminating this rule is a poison pill and does not belong in an appropriations package.

The Trump administration has vigorously defended the right for our people to act on their religious and moral convictions. President Trump's leadership on this issue has encouraged millions of Americans who have seen these protections start to slip away in the past decade.

Who are we to force people to act against their convictions and religious beliefs?

It is a slippery slope to despotism, but I think some of our colleagues would have us go down that road in pursuit of some greater good. I can assure you that forcing the American people to work against their convictions and beliefs will lead us to nothing but destruction, and I guarantee that this bill will never be signed into law if this language remains.

This amendment must be made in order so that we can debate it and remove the poison pill from the final bill. Otherwise, the time my colleagues have spent on the Labor HHS bill is a giant waste of time because it will never make it to the President’s desk.

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

Mr. Speaker, all of us, of course, embrace and uphold the First Amendment and the rights of religious freedom, the right to not have government establish a religion and to participate in the free exercise of religion and to worship or to not worship exactly as they please and to belong to whatever religious faith or denomination they want.

I am not quite sure exactly what the gentleman was referring to. We know that the idea of a religious freedom to discriminate has been asserted ever since the 1960s with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 where the hotel and motel, lunch counter and department store owners said that they had a religious right to only serve the customers that they wanted and that it violated their religious freedoms. Religious preference to worship exactly as they please and to belong to whatever religious faith or denomination they want.

There have been similar efforts to say we have a constitutional right not to serve gay and lesbian customers. That has been rejected, and I hope that this Congress will also reject it.

We passed the Equality Act very proudly to add protection for LGBT people to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and I hope that the Senate will go along with it.

In any event, there is nothing in any of the legislation before us and none has been cited which violates any of the free exercise rights of the people. So with that, unless I hear anything further, I am not moved by how anybody is affected by this appropriation negatively.

My other good friend from Oklahoma referenced the phrase checks and balances, and that does appear in the Federalist Papers. I think it is in Federalist 51. It actually refers to the relationship between the House and the Senate. That was the design of the Framers of the Constitution that the House and the Senate would check and balance each other. But the Framers were very clear that we were overthrowing monarchy. We didn’t want any monarch. That is why we have a people’s House here along with our friends in the Senate.

But the President’s core job is to take care that our laws are faithfully executed. We have no kings here; we have no monarchs here. That is why we have the Emoluments Clause in the Constitution which says that none of us who serves in Washington can accept any present—any emoluments, course of his tenure, whether his office or title from a prince, a king, or a foreign government without the consent of Congress.

That is a cardinal principle in the Constitution. It is our original anti-corruption principle. President Trump, President did not want the President or Members of Congress selling out the country. They wanted complete, undivided loyalty by those of us who come to Washington, who aspire and obtain the public office to have complete, undivided loyalty to the American people and not to lobbyists for foreign governments, agents, and saboteurs.

So that is another real problem that this President seems to be trying to address. That provision obligates him whenever he receives any money from a foreign government through his hotel or his office towers or any of his going businesses that he has kept going in the course of his tenure, whenever he receives any of that money, he has got to come to Congress to ask for our permission and for our consent.

Mr. Speaker, we can show you records from lots of prior Presidents who have come to Congress for consent because they received a Persian rug, or a shawl, or cufflinks. Yet—at least according to court reports and media reports—this President has been receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars or millions of dollars from foreign governments. In fact, the President I think made a voluntary deposit he said of the profits from foreign government receipts of $350,000 to the U.S. Treasury without any accounting to us, without an receipt, and without asking for our consent.

So even if the Constitution says that you can’t accept the profits from foreign payments, which it doesn’t, it also says you can’t negotiate those payments. That would be insufficient because Congress has got to offer its consent.

Look, we need to lay down the law about all of these matters. When we ask for a document, we want the document. When we issue a subpoena from the United States Congress, you comply with the subpoena. When we ask for...
a witness, the witness arrives. That is what H.R. 430 is all about. We have got to empower Congress to enforce its will.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH). My good friend is the most eloquent advocate for life in this Chamber.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule.

Earlier this year, Mr. Speaker, President Trump made it clear in a letter that he will veto any piece of legislation that undermines or nullifies any pro-life policy, regulation, or rule.

The bill facilitated by this rule reverses several life-affirming pro-life policies, including conscience protection, Title X reform, the protecting life in global health assistance, and more.

No one, Mr. Speaker—including doctors, nurses, and LPNs—and no entity like a hospital or a health insurance plan should ever be compelled against their will into performing, facilitating, or subsidizing abortion.

First, the approps bill overturns the conscience protection final rule, leaving many at risk of pressure, harassment, and coercion.

Second, in late February, HHS promulgated the Protect Life Rule to reassert portions of President Ronald Reagan’s Title X rule, including ending co-location of abortion clinics with family planning clinics subsidized by Title X.

Third, H.R. 2740, the underlying bill, repeals and bans future promulgation by any President of protecting life in global health assistance, a significant reiteration and expansion of President Reagan’s Mexico City policy, a policy designed that U.S. taxpayers are not funding foreign NGOs that perform or promote abortion as a method of family planning.

Mr. Speaker, why is this so important? I think it is important because both home and abroad, deserve better than the violence of abortion.

The humanity of the unborn child is beyond doubt, yet the pro-abortion movement, like some kind of modern-day Flat Earth society, continues to cling to outdated, indefensible arguments cloaked in euphemism. Even the seemingly benign word “choice” withers under scrutiny.

Choice to do what?

Dismember a baby?

Take pills to starve a child to death and then forcibly expel her or him from the womb?

Inject chemical poisons that kill the baby, yet allow the woman and children, both home and abroad, deserve better than the violence of abortion.

Mr. Speaker, why is this so important? I think it is important because both home and abroad, deserve better than the violence of abortion.

At the end of this process, Mr. Speaker, important policies embedded in the approps bill will be signed into law, but reversal of pro-life policies will be vetoed. This legislation will be vetoed and the veto will be sustained by this Congress.

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

I still have not heard a single instance offered from anybody whose religious freedoms under the Constitution of the United States are threatened by any of the legislation here.

I do know that the ultimate logic of the argument that we just heard here is to support legislation like what was just passed in the State of Alabama. In Alabama today—please read an article in the Washington Post this morning, Mr. Speaker—in Alabama today if this legislation is passed into law, a 15-year-old girl who is raped by her step-uncle not only would not be able to obtain an abortion, because there is no exception for rape or incest in the ban that the legislature just passed, but she would be compelled to have him involved in the raising of the child because Alabama protects the paternity rights of the rapist. So it is one of only two States in the country where a rapist continues to have parenthood rights in the child.

So get this straight. If what we are hearing is actually enacted into law—and I understand my colleagues to be encouraging legislation like this around the country, like the law in Alabama—where is a situation where girls who are 15 or 14 or 13 or 16 years old who are raped by their step-fathers or step-uncles must carry a child to term, have the baby, and in some States be forced to raise the baby with the rapist.

So I don’t think that is where we are today in America under Planned Parenthood v. Casey and Roe v. Wade, and certainly the majority is going to stand very strong for healthcare for women and reproductive freedom for women and men to make their own decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for his courtesy.

Mr. Speaker, there is a document that I hold in my hand that covers the epidemic apparently that is taking over America. It contains the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

The Declaration of Independence paragrap...
We face a similar and, frankly, an even more dire situation today. President Obama was right to request supplemental funds to deal with the crisis then. We would be right to appropriate supplemental funds to address that similar crisis now.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have an amendment to the rule (H. R. 3056) be printed in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) to strike out the last paragraph of the previous question?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS). The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) to strike out the last paragraph of the previous question?

There was no objection.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to defeat the previous question on this rule. If we do that, we can finally bring this critically needed supplemental funding to the House for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous consent to have an amendment to strike out the last paragraph of the previous question. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) to strike out the last paragraph of the previous question?

There was no objection.
It is a pleasure to work with the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) on H.R. 2740 and H.R. 4340, and I do urge all of our colleagues to support this rule for this legislation.

I do hope my friend from Oklahoma will tutor some of his colleagues like the speaker, who is referred to as the “Democrat majority.” Democrat is the noun. Democratic is the adjective for our party, and I think that would be a basic gesture of interparty civility if they would follow that fairly easy grammatical device.

Mr. Speaker, one of the other Members from the other side, I think from Oklahoma, talked about some education matters, so I want to go to some statistics that actually mean something to the American people. I think we can refute all of the statistics that were advanced by my friend from Oklahoma, as I said.

There are more than 100 amendments that we are going to be bringing up today. As Mr. RASKIN, as we move forward in the appropriations process, and I urge the majority to compromise with the Senate and the White House in order to achieve a final spending deal that avoids drastic sequestration cuts or, worse yet, another government shutdown.

I think that is actually the great lesson of the appropriations process, Mr. Speaker. We know we can do this. We did it last year, and we did it pretty well together.

But my friends have to get past the idea that they can impose their will on a Republican Senate and a Republican President. They are simply not going to be able to do that. They are going to have to bargain to a middle ground and compromise.

In the Appropriations Committee, as a rule, we do that, and we do it pretty well. I am hopeful that we can continue going forward on that front.

I am concerned, however, that the vitriol, if you will, that we see in the investigative and oversight efforts of our friends will spill into that process and lead us into a very difficult situation in September.

So, as we move forward on the appropriations front, again, I hope all of us reaffirm the virtues of compromise, understand that we were all sent here by the American people, that we have to work with one another to accomplish something, and that none of us can impose their will on the other.

With that, I look forward to working with my friend and with his colleagues and, certainly, through the appropriations process to making sure that the government is appropriately funded and well governed.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.
MESSRS. JOSEPH ROSE OF TENNESSEE, BILIRIKIS, AND FORTENBERRY CHANGED THEIR VOTE FROM "YEA" TO "NAK." MR. LANGEVIN CHANGED HIS VOTE FROM "NAK" TO "YEA."

SO THE PREVIOUS QUESTION WAS ORDERED.

THE METHOD IS AS ABOVE RECORDED.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken and the yeas appeared to have it.

BILIRAKIS, AND FORTENBERRY changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

MR. COLE. MR. SPEAKER, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

THE VOTE WAS TAKEN BY ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND THERE WERE--YEAS 227, NAYS 190, VOTING 15, AS FOLLOWS:

[ROLL NO. 246]
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a dark time. This Congress is being tested—in this case, not by a foreign adversary but by our own President, a President who is undertaking a relentless campaign of obstruction and stonewalling.

We have never seen anything like this. Never before, Mr. Speaker, has a President from either party so flagrantly ignored Congress' constitutional oversight authority and our Nation's separation of powers.

You don't have to take my word for it. President Trump has declared, "We are fighting all the subpoenas," and, "I don't want people testifying." These are words that Richard Nixon look like an Eagle Scout.

His Attorney General, William Barr, is apparently more than willing to follow the President's command. He has refused to release the full, unredacted Mueller report and apparently evidence until a compromise was finally reached yesterday. That is after the Judiciary Committee had already voted to hold him in contempt of Congress. Apparently, the Attorney General went from being America’s lawyer to being the defense counsel for the President of the United States.

I hope the Justice Department acts in good faith on this new agreement. There are documents that Congress needs to see in response to Special Counsel Mueller's findings. But if they do not, and if the Attorney General holds back key information, then all options need to be on the table, including enforcing these subpoenas. That is in addition to the fact that some documents and testimony we deserve to obtain could very well fall outside the bounds of this agreement.

The Mueller report is just the tip of the iceberg. The President is using every trick in the book, including false claims of executive privilege, absolute immunity, and lack of legitimate legislative purpose, all to obstruct legitimate inquiries into matters that impact Americans’ daily lives. This includes the President’s attack on affordable healthcare coverage for millions of Americans, including those with pre-existing conditions; his family separation policy that has torn apart vulnerable immigrant families; his misappropriation of military funds for his offensive border wall; and his decision to roll back landmark civil rights protections.

This is exactly the sort of concentrated power in the hands of the few that the Founders intentionally prevented through the creation of the three separate but coequal branches of government, each branch with unique powers and responsibilities and each branch expected to act as a check on the power of the others.

But the President is trying to take this balance of power and centralize it...
in one place. 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. He is acting as though the law applies to every American but himself.

The President’s strategy here is clear. Tweet by tweet, quote by quote, he has laid it bare for all of us to see. Whether this Congress will have the courage to take a stand against it and whether we will confront it for what it is, an attack on the very notion of Congress as a co-equal branch of government. I can’t speak for colleagues on the other side of the aisle, but this Democratic majority will not allow this President to turn a blind eye to the rule of law.

That is why I introduced this measure, H. Res. 430. It is a civil enforcement resolution that will strengthen our hand in court as Congress tries to get the documents this administration is currently trying to hide, so we can uncover the truth and follow the facts, wherever they may lead.

The first part of this resolution follows precedent used by Democratic and Republican majorities, this time to allow the Judiciary Committee to go to court to enforce subpoenas issued to the Attorney General and former White House General Counsel Don McGahn.

The second part reaffirms key language in House rules, making clear that every committee chair retains the ability to go to Federal court to seek civil enforcement of their subpoenas when authorized by the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group. That includes those already issued, as well as any future subpoenas.

I know some of my colleagues on the other side will be quick to claim this resolution is unprecedented. To them, I would ask this: What is the precedent for an administration refusing to comply with any congressional oversight—no documents, no information, nothing? There isn’t one.

We have never seen anything like this before, so we need an appropriate response like this because of this administration’s constant obstruction.

I am proud that my fellow committee chairs quickly joined in cosponsoring this resolution, including Oversight and Reform Committee Chairman CUMMINGS, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ENGEL, Judiciary Committee Chairman NADLER, Ways and Means Committee Chairman NEAL, Intelligence Committee Chairman Schiff, and Financial Services Committee Chairwoman WATERS.

I urge all of my colleagues to join us. This deserves support from both sides of the aisle.

I know the silence from some of my Republican friends to what this President is doing has been deafening, but this moment demands you finally speak up and say enough is enough. This resolution is not about politics or partisanship. It is about defending the rule of law and the very notion of separation of powers.

The challenge here is so great that if we don’t stand up to President Trump today, then we risk losing the power to stand up to any President in the future.

I strongly urge my colleagues: Let’s make clear that the law still matters, even in Donald Trump’s America. We can and must move on this resolution and making clear that no one is above the law, not even the President of the United States.

Let’s do right by the American people. Let’s reject the philosophy toward this institution. Let’s pass this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition of H. Res. 430.

It is disappointing that we are here again debating a measure that will have absolutely no impact on the lives of our constituents. We are fixating on issues like the security and humanitarian crisis at our southern border, the Democrats continue their focus on influencing the 2020 election at taxpayer expense. Americans are tired of this never-ending witch hunt.

For nearly 2 years, Democrats claimed that the President colluded with the Russians to interfere in the 2016 Presidential election. After 22 months, 2,800 subpoenas, 500 warrants, 40 FBI agents, and spending $35 million. Special Counsel Mueller concluded there was no collusion between President Trump and Russia and did not charge him with obstruction.

Yet, my Democratic colleagues continue to attempt to undermine the President of the United States because, all I can think of is, they haven’t accepted the fact that he won the election. It is clear to me that the Democrats are trying to influence the 2020 Presidential election at taxpayer expense.

Americans have real problems that we can and should be focusing on instead. In May, the U.S. Border Patrol apprehended a jaw-dropping 133,000 people at our southern border. That is only the people they caught. Yet, we are here debating subpoenas targeting the President probably because it will provide Democrats free airtime.

This unprecedented resolution should not even be on the House floor today. It has never been done before in the entire history of the United States.

The House has only sued for documents twice before. In both cases, the individuals in question were first found in contempt of Congress at both the committee level and by the full House. This has never been done before.

On top of that, the relevant subpoenas seek material that includes grand jury materials that, by law, cannot be made public. The Democrats are asking Attorney General Barr to violate the law.

When my colleagues and I tried to improve this resolution, the Democrats blocked us at every turn.

I offered an amendment that would let the American people know how much money this resolution would cost taxpayers. Democrats blocked it. Republicans offered amendments to prevent taxpayer money from going to lobbyists, to disclose where this taxpayer money was coming from to fund this witch hunt. Democrats blocked each and every one.

One amendment in particular highlights the partisan political, media-grabbing motives of this resolution. Republicans offered an amendment requiring the Judiciary Committee chairman to certify that he made a good faith effort to negotiate with the Attorney General, but the Democrats blocked that amendment, too.

The Attorney General has been transparent, and the Department of Justice has attempted numerous accommodations, including just yesterday when the Department of Justice agreed to let members of the committee view an unredacted report excluding grand jury material, which, by law, cannot be released.

But even as the Attorney General has attempted to work with the Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman NADLER has moved at unprecedented speed, moving from a demand for an unredacted report to subpoena to this resolution in a matter of mere weeks. From the Democrats’ actions and prior statements, it is difficult not to view the purpose of this resolution and this debate as anything but political.

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS), the distinguished chairwoman of the Financial Services Committee.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGovern) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 430, which authorizes litigation to compel Attorney General Barr to provide key evidence underlying the Mueller report and the unredacted report itself, authorizes a civil suit to compel Don McGahn to provide the Committee on the Judiciary with documents and testimony, and, prospectively, allows committee chairs to bring civil actions on behalf of their committees to enjoin resolution subpoenas without a subsequent full House vote when authorized by the bipartisan legal advisory group.

H. Res. 430 is key to ensuring that Congress is able to efficiently exercise its constitutional responsibilities in light of the unprecedented stonewalling by the Trump administration and a President who has openly said such things as: “We’re fighting all the subpoenas,” and, “I don’t want people testifying.”

Who does he think he is? A dictator? The committees have requested information that we are constitutionally
entitled to, as a coequal branch of government, and that we need to fulfill our legislative and oversight responsibilities. In the Financial Services Committee, for example, we have subpoenaed documents from financial institutions including Deutsche Bank and Capital One as part of our investigation into the integrity of the United States financial system, bank safety and loan practices, and anti-money laundering policies, including as they relate to the accounts of President Trump and family members. So, ladies and gentlemen, in another display of stonewalling, President Trump sued to prevent the banks from complying with the committee's valid subpoenas.

I will continue to support efforts to ensure that our critical oversight is not impeded.

Who does he think he is?
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are again reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H. Res. 436, a resolution authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas, and for other purposes.

This resolution is an assault on this body's constitutional oversight authority. This, in this unprecedented manner, the House is putting the judicial branch in an unfortunate position.

Never before has the House authorized the general counsel to sue without first exhausting all our constitutional remedies to gain compliance with our oversight demands. Proceeding in this manner risks weakening our ability to carry out our oversight responsibilities.

On May 8, the Committee on the Judiciary voted 24-16 to hold Attorney General Barr in criminal contempt of Congress. The committee did not pursue contempt against Donald McGahn. Mr. McGahn's case is unique, and I will address it in more detail later.

Contrary to press reports, Mr. Speaker, we are not acting today on the contempt citation reported by the Committee on the Judiciary. We are authorizing the Speaker to sue the Attorney General, Mr. McGahn, and any other official or private citizen any committee chair deems contemptuous in the future.

This is a novel, untested, and risky proposition. I will give it to you this way, Mr. Speaker: The majority is definitely audacious in their request.

The media and the Democrats routinely rail against the President being quick to sue. Well, Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what the majority is doing. Having rushed to contempt, we are now bypassing that remedy altogether and going straight to court.

Constitutional scholar Jonathan Turley recently wrote, Democrats' litigation strategy "is clearly driven more by political than legal calculations."

This is the problem I have, Mr. Speaker: These tactics weaken the House, aggrandize the executive branch, and make decisionmaking to the judicial branch.

This is a problem. The majority can mess up oversight however they want to. The majority can rush to judgment whenever they want to.

My chairman has subpoenaed most everything that moves, and it seems other committees are wanting to as well. But here is the problem: When you are rushing to this and you are taking it on grounds that are not legally sound—and which, by the way, at this same hearing where Mr. Turley was, all three of the Democrat witnesses also agreed that the subpoena of the Attorney General was not legal in the sense that it was asking him to do something.

The other issue here is, when you practice proper oversight, we are getting documents on election results, we are also getting documents on immigration and others from this administration where there is a real overload of subpoenas from these committees.

Now, they may want to screw it up now for their purposes, but I don't want it in the future, going forward, where the House's oversight ability has been tampered with by a rush to judgment. Let's think about this institution more than our next headline.

This is a problem because it is uncertain here, Mr. Speaker, the House will even be granted standing in court since we have declined to exercise all of our constitutional remedies, namely, contempt, in its many forms.

This is not the only impediment facing Democrats. At every turn, as we have discussed in our minority views to the majority's request, we have formalized the President's assertion by Mr. McGahn.

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Second, he stated the subpoena was the beginning of a dialogue. I am not sure what first-year law student will believe that a subpoena is the beginning of a dialogue.

Third, he admitted the subpoena was intentionally broad to give the committee clout in court.

Again, I am not sure which Black's Law Dictionary we are looking up under "subpoena," but that is not part of it.

All along, the goal has been to get to court, not to get information and conduct legitimate oversight of Russian interference or secure our elections. If Democrats were interested in these good government issues, they would have accepted DOJ's offer to review the nearly unredacted Mueller report.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the chairman, even more so than he did today, is trying to clearly haul the administration into court in an attempt to pacify a base rabid for impeachment.

When Congress exercises its oversight powers, it must take advantage of every offer of information from the other branch. It is disingenuous to decline the free information Democrats so strongly claim to want. It shows the majority does not want the information: they want a fight.

In addition to the subpoena being overly broad and requiring the Attorney General to violate the law to comply, the chairman failed to establish a valid legislative purpose for his demands. There are other avenues the chairman could seek to get the information he wants. Congress could pass a law granting itself an exemption to grand jury secrecy rules, but the majority has not brought that up.

The most alarming aspect of this action, however, is the unprecedented—according to this judge—a mere 40 days passed between the chairman's first request to the Attorney General and the date the committee held him in contempt. In stark contrast, 464 days passed from the date Chairman Issa requested information from Attorney General Holder on Fast and Furious and the date the Committee on Oversight and Reform held him in contempt, 138 days for Harriet Miers and the date the committee held her in contempt.

The action the majority is authorizing today against Don McGahn, however, Mr. Speaker, is far more egregious for many reasons. Mr. McGahn is not the custodian of the documents the committee and the chairman demand. The White House is. Yet we are removing a private citizen's reputation and dragging him into court—at taxpayer expense—in an effort to redo the Mueller investigation because the majority and the media didn't like the outcome.

Democrats again have failed to lay a foundation for any action against Mr. McGahn. Chairman NADLER has never formally objected to the President's protective assertion of executive privilege or other common law privileges asserted by Mr. McGahn. Under Supreme Court precedent, the chairman must take this important procedural step to pursue further actions against a witness. The witness should be given a clear-cut choice between compliance and noncompliance, between answering the question and risking prosecution for contempt. Here, the witness is being hauled into court without proper notice.

Evidence of this glaring error is in the RECORD. On May 31, Chairman NADLER wrote Mr. McGahn's counsel and stated he did not agree with the White House or Mr. McGahn and offered to
continue negotiating, but the chairman also gave Mr. McGahn a deadline of June 7—this past Friday—to respond. Meanwhile, the Rules Committee noticed a markup of this resolution on June 6, one day before the deadline.

I think we are seeing the pattern here. This approach is untested and can do significant harm to Congress’ Article I authority. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I must make mention, the authorization of the general counsel to seek pro bono legal services circumvents the House ethics rules.

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. Mr. Speaker, the Trump administration is engaged in one of the most unprecedented coverups since Watergate, and it is not just about Russia. It is so much broader than that. This coverup involves investigations, and it extends from the White House to multiple Federal agencies of government to completely separate outside parties.

The administration officials now question the fundamental basis of Congress to conduct oversight. They object to committee rules and precedence that have been in place for decades under both Republican and Democratic leaders, and they make baseless legal arguments to avoid producing documents and testimony. The Trump administration is challenging the very constitutionality of congressional oversight, and it is happening in broad daylight.

Several weeks ago, President Trump vowed, “We’re fighting all the subpoenas.” Since then, he has refused to work on legislative priorities such as infrastructure until Congress halts oversight and investigations of his administration. He wants us to forgo our responsibility under the Constitution to investigate waste, fraud, abuse, and wrongdoing so that we can pass laws that are effective and efficient on behalf of all of our constituents.

The President’s arguments are baseless. He suggests that all subpoenas that Congress puts out are partisan and somehow related to the Russia probe, but that is simply not correct. In the Oversight and Reform Committee, we have issued eight subpoenas: six of them are bipartisan and none of them are about Russia. They involve issues like the census, immigrant children being locked in cages and separated from their families, and the President’s finances.

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Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, nobody is above the law. Today’s resolution reiterates that Congress has the independent authority under the Constitution to investigate waste, fraud, abuse, and wrongdoing so that we can pass laws that are effective and efficient on behalf of all of our constituents.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Before proceeding, Members are again reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), my friend.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I oppose this resolution.

The subpoena for Attorney General Barr is unenforceable on its face. It demands the full and unredacted Mueller report, including grand jury material that the Attorney General cannot lawfully disclose, and the Democrats know this. In a hearing last month, Chairman NADLER admitted that Attorney General Barr could not lawfully release that material. He therefore admitted that the Attorney General could not lawfully comply with the subpoena.

Instead, the chairman suggested that the subpoena is a starting point in negotiations. Rarely have I heard that term used with regard to a subpoena. In fact, I never heard it before that time.

This entire year, the White House has not produced one document to the Oversight and Reform Committee. Let me say that again: In all of our investigations, the White House has not produced one single shred of paper in response to our requests. The hurricanes in Puerto Rico, the White House has produced nothing. Security clearance abuses, the White House has produced nothing. Efforts to transfer nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia, the White House has produced nothing. Hush-money payments, the White House has produced not a thing. Even on issues like spending taxpayer dollars, we see the White House has produced absolutely nothing.

Over and over again, it does not matter what the topic is, the tactics are the same. This begs the question: What are we covering up?

Tomorrow, our committee will vote on whether to hold the Attorney General and the Secretary of Commerce in contempt of Congress for refusing to produce documents. General counsel McGahn’s case is precedent for this. Again, these subpoenas are bipartisan, and this issue has nothing to do with Russia. Yet, the Trump administration has delayed, stonewalled, obstructed, and challenged the authority of the Congress on even these questions.

I support today’s resolution because it makes clear that in addition to seeking criminal contempt on the House floor, committees may seek authority to enforce their subpoenas directly in civil court actions. Nobody is above the law.

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, nobody is above the law, not even the President of the United States. Today’s resolution reiterates that Congress has the independent authority under the Constitution to investigate waste, fraud, abuse, and wrongdoing so that we can pass laws that are effective and efficient on behalf of all of our constituents.

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Instead, the chairman suggested that the subpoena is a starting point in negotiations. Rarely have I heard that term used with regard to a subpoena. In fact, I never heard it before that time.
In the Judiciary Committee’s hearing on executive privilege last month, one of the majority’s own witnesses testified that “one of the categories of information presently sought by the committee appears so broad as to put the executive branch officials to a nearly impossible task. The committee cannot in good faith expect compliance; accordingly, the burden is on the committee to substantially narrow this aspect of its request.”

My friends talk about the rule of law, but the Democrats have admitted in a hearing in the Judiciary Committee that the subpoena was overly broad and that objects of the subpoena that are prohibited from disclosure, such as 8(e) material, were not subject to the subpoena. But they didn’t fix their subpoena. They didn’t issue a new subpoena. They just attempted to amend their contempt citation.

The defendant’s confusion over what is subject to a subpoena is adequate evidence that the subpoena itself is legally deficient as being confusing and overly broad. A court will not be able to read the collective minds of our Democratic colleagues and will not expect them to prove from the Attorney General nor from the former White House Counsel.

The administration is currently negotiating in good faith. We see that an agreement was reached just yesterday. The same words discussed the assertion of executive privilege by the administration, stated, “These developments do not, however, relieve the committee of its obligation to continue to negotiate.”

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, just as the subpoena was broad and, quite frankly, unprecedented, as well as legally deficient, this resolution is also overly broad and unique in the annals of American history.

When the chairwoman from California referred to the President of the United States as a dictator, her language was rancorous and unparliamentary, but it seems to have been filled with projection, as this resolution provides unique authorities.

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the distinguished Speaker of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for giving us this opportunity to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, which is our oath of office.

Let me salute the chairs of the committees of jurisdiction who have led us down this path of due respect for law, precedent, and the oath we take: Congresswoman MAXINE WATER, Congressman CUMMINGS, Congressman NADLER, Congressman RICHARD NEAL, and Congressman ELIOT ENGEL, all of whom have been fighting the fight and gathering the facts to protect and defend our Constitution.

The oath of office that we take is why we hold the floor today for the Attorney General of the United States Barr and former White House Counsel McGahn in civil contempt for their refusal to comply with Congress’ subpoenas. We must follow the facts and uncover the truth for the American people.

At the birth of our democracy, amid war and revolution, Thomas Paine said the times have found us. We are here today because the times have found us. While we do not place ourselves in the same category of greatness as our Founders, we do recognize the urgency of the threat to our Nation that we face today.

This body has a solemn duty. Mr. Speaker, to protect and defend our democracy, to protect and defend the Constitution and the Constitution that is the foundation of our freedom. That Constitution begins with our beautiful preamble, “We the People.”

Immediately following those words of the preamble, we take an oath to establish a Congress in which “all legislative Powers herein granted are vested.”

The Founders conferred upon the first branch responsibilities that are sweeping in scope. We set an agenda. We write the laws. We decide how the laws are written. We write the laws that all of us are bound by, including the President of the United States and those who surround him.

Fundamental to these responsibilities is oversight of the executive branch and all the areas essential to the well-being of the American people. Oversight is our institutional duty, to ensure against the abuse of power, protect the rule of law, and expose the truth about the people who are “the only legitimate fountain of power,” in the words of James Madison.

To conduct that oversight, the Congress is both constitutionally obligated and legally entitled to access and review materials from the executive branch, which it can subpoena.

Yet, the President and the administration have shown an unprecedented and unjustifiable refusal to furnish Congress with that information. President Trump said, “We’re fighting all the subpoenas,” and, “I don’t want people testifying,” and, “No do-overs.”

His administration has employed every tool it can find to obstruct legitimate committee oversight, everything from witness intimidation to blanket stonewalling to spurious claims of executive privilege, absolute immunity, and lack of legislative purpose.

This obstruction violates decades of established legal precedent. Throughout our history, the courts have made absolutely clear that the House has the authority to follow the facts to uncover the truth for the American people and that “the power of the Congress to conduct investigations is inherent in the legislative process.”

Our oversight responsibility continues to be resoundingly affirmed in the courts again and again. Last month, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled in the Mazars court decision that “there can be little doubt that Congress’ interest in the accuracy of the President’s financial disclosures falls within the legislative sphere.”

A few weeks ago, the judge ruled in the Deutsche Bank case that Congress’ “subpoenas are all in service of facially legitimate investigative purposes.”

The administration’s obstruction not only violates long-established precedent, but it also endangers our very democracy. We need answers on the many questions left unanswered by the Mueller report, which made clear that the Russians waged an all-out attack on our democracy, and the Mueller report makes explicit: “The administration’s campaign of stonewalling extends far beyond the Mueller report. The administration is obscuring the truth behind its disastrous policy decisions, from attacking Affordable Care Act coverage for millions of Americans, including those with preexisting conditions, taking it to court to overturn it while saying to the American people that it supports preexisting conditions coverage; to tearing apart vulnerable immigrant families at the border; to stealing military funds for an ineffective, wasteful border wall; to rolling back key civil rights protections for women, LGBTQ Americans, and people of color. The list goes on and on.”

In court, they also tried to defend their abuse of power when it comes to the Census, which the Constitution is very clear about, that every 10 years the people of the country will be enumerated. They want to put a citizenship phrase in there to put a chilling effect on our getting an accurate count.

The well-being of the American people and the integrity of our democracy are imperiled by this brazen behavior. Senator MCCONNELL declares “case closed, enabling this campaign of blanket, unprecedented obstruction. We see the obstruction in this House to trying to uphold our proceedings, but we have the votes to proceed. The United States Senate has a responsibility to protect and defend the Constitution, but they are ignoring that. As Members of Congress, we have a responsibility to honor our oath of office. In Congress with that information. President Trump said, “We’re fighting all the subpoenas,” and, “I don’t want people testifying,” and, “No do-overs.” His administration has employed every tool it can find to obstruct legitimate committee oversight, everything from witness intimidation to blanket stonewalling to spurious claims of executive privilege, absolute immunity, and lack of legislative purpose. This obstruction violates decades of established legal precedent. Throughout our history, the courts have made absolutely clear that the House has the authority to follow the facts to uncover the truth for the American people and that “the power of the Congress to conduct investigations is inherent in the legislative process.” Our oversight responsibility continues to be resoundingly affirmed in the courts again and again. Last month, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled in the Mazars court decision that “there can be little doubt that Congress’ interest in the accuracy of the President’s financial disclosures falls within the legislative sphere.” In a few weeks ago, the judge ruled in the Deutsche Bank case that Congress’ “subpoenas are all in service of facially legitimate investigative purposes.” The administration’s obstruction not only violates long-established precedent, but it also endangers our very democracy. We need answers on the many questions left unanswered by the Mueller report, which made clear that the Russians waged an all-out attack on our democracy, and the Mueller report makes explicit: “The administration’s campaign of stonewalling extends far beyond the Mueller report. The administration is obscuring the truth behind its disastrous policy decisions, from attacking Affordable Care Act coverage for millions of Americans, including those with preexisting conditions, taking it to court to overturn it while saying to the American people that it supports preexisting conditions coverage; to tearing apart vulnerable immigrant families at the border; to stealing military funds for an ineffective, wasteful border wall; to rolling back key civil rights protections for women, LGBTQ Americans, and people of color. The list goes on and on.” In court, they also tried to defend their abuse of power when it comes to the Census, which the Constitution is very clear about, that every 10 years the people of the country will be enumerated. They want to put a citizenship phrase in there to put a chilling effect on our getting an accurate count. The well-being of the American people and the integrity of our democracy are imperiled by this brazen behavior. Senator MCCONNELL declares “case closed, enabling this campaign of blanket, unprecedented obstruction. We see the obstruction in this House to trying to uphold our proceedings, but we have the votes to proceed. The United States Senate has a responsibility to protect and defend the Constitution, but they are ignoring that. As Members of Congress, we have a responsibility to honor our oath of office.
The reckoning is coming. As Longfellow said:

The wheels of the gods grind slow, but they grind exceedingly fine.

Mr. McGovern. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Cohen).

Mr. Cohen. Mr. Speaker, this is an opportunity for Congress to reassert itself as an equal branch of government. The fact that it is supposed to be three equal branches of government is not totally accurate when we compare it with the Constitution, we decided that we didn’t want to have an autocratic king rule us. That is why we had a revolution. When the men met to write our Constitution, they made Congress Article I. There was a reason they made Congress Article I, because the Congress represents the people. It is not a king, it is not an autocrat, and it is not a despot. It is the Representatives of the people who make the laws. We are supposed to really be the embodiment—and we are the embodiment—of the American people.

This President has thumbed his nose at the Representatives of the people by not complying with lawful requests for documentation and lawful demands for testimony for Congress to do its constitutionally delegated purpose of oversight of the executive branch and laws that are necessary for the betterment of this Nation.

This is a new time Congress did act. I am proud of Congress for bringing these bills, and I am shocked at the opacity, executive branch oversight, and laws that are necessary for the betterment of this Nation.

I support the contempt citations. I am pleased to follow the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Woodall).

Mr. Woodall. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend on the Rules Committee for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to the debate intently. I don’t disagree with much of what my friend from Tennessee had to say. It is a bad habit that both parties have gotten into over the decades of my lifetime, putting party above Article in terms of judicial oversight, executive branch oversight, and even our responsibilities here, such as declaring war.

But when you have not heard here today, Mr. Speaker, and what you will not hear is why the passage of this resolution advantages us in any way. There is not one piece of information that the Speaker of our House—our Speaker—just came and asked for that we are not empowered to request today.

The difference, Mr. Speaker, is if we pass this resolution, rather than the House requesting this information—as has historically been the case—we would begin to request information one committee chairman at a time.

Does that advantage us in Article I, going to court one committee chairman at a time, or are we advantaged when the Speaker speaks on behalf of us all?

I don’t know the answer, Mr. Speaker. I am not a legal scholar, and in the Rules Committee where we had original jurisdiction on this, we did not call any legal scholars to help us answer that question. In the Judiciary Committee they did not call any legal scholars to help to answer this question.

Mr. Speaker, I tell you there is not a Member of this institution on either side of the aisle who cares more about Article I and our exercising the responsibilities the Constitution gives to us and our constituents expect us to do than I do. Perhaps there is someone in the House who cares as much, but there is no one who cares more.

Are we disadvantaging the institution for life by taking what has traditionally been the responsibility of our Speaker to do on behalf of all of us and putting it in the hands of committee chairmen?

We don’t know, and anyone who tells you that they don’t tell you the truth. We are going to continue to argue about the White House and what they have turned over and what they didn’t turn over and what they ought to turn over, Mr. Speaker. That is not what this bill does today. There is not one piece of information that is requested that we do not have the authority to request today. Let’s not move in ways that disadvantage us for generations to come.

Mr. McGovern. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Hoyer), who is the majority leader.

Mr. Hoyer. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to follow the gentleman from Georgia.

I have a card in my hand. This is a Member’s identification. There is no protection of party. This card designates 435 of us when we are at full complement as Members of the Congress, the people’s Representatives. I urge all my colleagues to use this card in a few minutes on behalf of the people and on behalf of this institution.

Mr. Speaker, when Democrats won the majority in this House, we did so on a promise to the American people to hold the executive department accountable. That is our responsibility. The Constitution gives us that responsibility, and we swear an oath to uphold the Constitution. That is what the committees have been doing, and it is what the whole House is doing today.
Now, the previous speaker said we have the right to ask for any information. That is accurate. What he did not then say is we have asked, and we have been refused. Not only have we been refused in the particular, we have been refused in general because the President of the United States has directed his people not to give us any information and not to respond to any subpoenas, whatever the rationale may be.

Why? Because he believes the House of Representatives is not acting properly.

Mr. Speaker, you imagine anybody who doesn't want to give us information would say, I am not going to give it to you because you are not asking properly?

Of course, that is what they do; and the House, on behalf of the American people, would be unable to perform its constitutional duty. This is not political. It is constitutional. It is about separation of powers. It is about responsibility. It is about accountability.

The House is exercising its responsibility and the facts and discover the truth on behalf of the American people. We represent, each us, about 750,000 people. We are not asking on our own behalf. We are asking for the people, so that the people have the information they need in a democracy to make the decisions that they are called upon to make in a very solemn exercise we call voting.

Attorney General Barr and former White House Counsel McGahn have both refused to respond to subpoenas to testify before the House, and the Attorney General refuses to allow Congress to see the full and unredacted report by the special counsel, Mr. Mueller. You can see entire pages blacked out, Mr. Speaker.

The Attorney General's efforts to prejudge the conclusions of that report before it is released, as he did, and his public mischaracterization of its conclusions and the facts and discover the contempt with which he refuses to answer questions and respond to subpoenas. It seems contemptuous as well of the basic principles of the rule of law and checks and balances.

The American people deserve to know the full extent of Russia's efforts to interfere in our elections and subvert our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, you didn't have to listen too closely to Bob Mueller to understand the opinion, evidence of the contempt with which he refuses to answer questions and respond to subpoenas. It seems contemptuous as well of the basic principles of the rule of law and checks and balances.

The American people deserve to know what the President or anyone in his administration or inner circle of confidants were involved and tried to cover it up.

Now we have been accused of doing awful things, but I remember watching the conversations where they said, "lock her up, lock her up." Flynn—General Flynn—who was the National Security Advisor said: "Lock her up."

Well, the fact is they locked him up, and many others who were associated who lied about their involvement with the Russian Government and, yes, with other foreign countries. So there is reason for the Congress to want to get to the bottom of this serious invasion of our electoral democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand up for our Constitution and vote for this resolution. I thank the chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. McGovern. I thank Chairman Schiff, Chairman Cummings, Chairman Neal, Chairman Engel, and Chairwoman Waters, all who have jurisdiction over various facets of the information that is needed, and I thank the members of their committees for their hard work to conduct necessary oversight on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, that is what this vote is about. I presented that card. It has no party designation on it. It just has a designation of us Representatives of the people. Let us make sure that today we vote for the people and stand up for our Constitution, for this House, and for the rule of law.

Mrs. Lesko, Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Chabot), who is my fellow Judiciary Committee member.

Mr. CHABOT. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, Mr. Speaker, and I rise in opposition to this resolution.

It seems to allow Democrats on the Judiciary Committee to go to essentially whatever court they want to get a court order to get whatever documents they want—even grand jury documents and those that relate to our national security—all because they don't want, or are afraid to, really, hold Attorney General Barr or former White House Counsel Don McGahn in contempt of Congress, just as they are afraid to institute impeachment proceedings against President Trump or taint Chairman Schiff. I remember last week in the investigation found that there was no collusion and Attorney General Barr found no obstruction.

They just can't get it through their heads that that is the case, and they don't want to focus on the real issue threatening our democracy which is that Russia actually attempted to interfere in our national elections back in 2016 while Barack Obama—not Donald Trump—was President, and the Obama administration did absolutely nothing about that.

They really don't seem too concerned that the Russians or another foreign entity might attempt to do so again in 2020. That is what they ought to be using their oversight powers for. They powerfully things that the majority has—they ought to be using it about that, not this charade.

☐ 1515

How many documents have the Democrats requested that relate to Russian interference in our elections? None. How many hearings? Zip. How many Obama-administration officials and others connected to Russia's efforts have they subpoenaed to testify before the Judiciary Committee? Zero.

By continuing with this fake impeachment, the Democrats are doing the American public a disservice. My Democratic colleagues ought to be embarrassed.

Mr. McGovern. Mr. Speaker, let me correct the record in response to the gentleman of Ohio. The Russians didn't attempt to interfere in our election; they did interfere in our election.

And, if my friends read the Mueller report, they would realize they interfered in the election to help Donald Trump get elected.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Nadler), the distinguished chair of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, when a congressional committee issues a subpoena, compliance is not optional. We expect witnesses to testify when summoned. We expect the administration to comply with subpoenas and to provide us with the materials we require to do our jobs. Of course, there are circumstances between the Congress and the executive branch as to what information can be produced on a timely basis. When those differences arise, we are required to seek a reasonable accommodation.

We first requested access to the full Mueller report and the underlying evidence on February 22. After refusing for almost 4 months, the Department of Justice, in the last few days, has finally agreed to permit us to view the special counsel's most important files.

We are hopeful this will provide us with key evidence regarding allegations of obstruction of justice and other misconduct.

Given this potential breakthrough, we will hold the criminal contempt process for Attorney General Barr in abeyance for now.

But President Trump has blocked other key witnesses from testifying before the Judiciary Committee, including his former White House counsel Don McGahn, whose account of the President's actions was featured in the Mueller report.

The President has claimed absolute immunity for critical witnesses to prevent them from ever testifying. He has invoked executive privilege to prevent us from seeing documents that stopped being privileged long ago, if they were ever privileged to begin with.

He has done the same in response to Congress' important work unrelated to the Mueller report, and he has ordered the agencies not to cooperate with even our most basic oversight requests.

This unprecedented stonewalling by the administration is completely unacceptable. The committees have a constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight, to make recommendations to the House as necessary, and to craft
legislation that will curb the abuse of power on full display in the Trump administration.

This is why it is important that the Judiciary Committee be able to act in such matters using all of our Article I powers, as contemplated in this resolution and described in both the Rules Committee report and the House Judiciary Committee's contempt report.

Now, I heard what the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Woodall) said a few minutes ago, and he is exactly right. This resolution gives committee chairs the power, with the approval of the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, to go to court on behalf of the House to enforce our subpoenas.

This has not been done before, but neither have we ever seen blanket stonewalling by the administration of all information requests by the House. We have never faced such blanket stonewalling.

The President himself said—and they have been as good as their word—they will oppose all of our subpoenas.

We must go to court to enforce the subpoenas without a separate floor vote for the first time if we are going to enforce our subpoenas and reject the arrogant assumption of power by the administration and denigration of the power of the House and of the Congress.

We cannot afford to waste all the floor time every single time the administration rejects one of our subpoenas, which is every time we issue a subpoena.

That is why we must pass this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution so that we can get into court and break the stonewall without delay.

Mrs. Lesko. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. McCarthy), our Republican leader.

Mr. McCarthy. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Special Counsel Mueller officially ended his investigation several weeks ago. His office is closed. Because of Attorney General Barr, his report is public.

And his findings are very clear: No collusion and no obstruction. This is the bottom line of the Mueller report.

But, Mr. Speaker, Democrats refuse to accept it. Mr. Speaker, even the chairman of the committee refuses to go read the portion that he is allowed to read, only six lines. He refuses to read it, but he wants to come here today.

They continue to believe their worst conspiracy theories about the President despite all the evidence to the contrary.

Mr. Speaker, it is even reported in newspapers that, in the campaign to become chairman of the Judiciary Committee, one said he campaigned for the position because he would be the best with impeachment.

Mr. Speaker, even on the floor of this House, there were more than 60 members on the other side of the aisle who voted for impeachment before the Mueller report was ever presented to the public.

At its core, H. Res. 430 is just a desperate attempt to relitigate the Mueller investigation. That is why I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

It does not strengthen Congress' oversight powers, contrary to what you may hear from the other side, Mr. Speaker. Fundamentally, it is an impeachment effort in everything but name.

Mr. Speaker, just look at the unnecessary contempt citation against Attorney General Barr. Less than a month after Barr received the Mueller report, Mr. Speaker, Chairman Nadler issued a subpoena that would have required the Attorney General of the United States of America to break the law.

That is not my opinion. Let's be very clear whose words those are: Jonathan Turley's. Mr. Speaker, probably everybody in this body not only knows who Jonathan Turley is; he has, probably, the utmost respect. He is one of the most respected legal scholars in this country.

Now, he told the committee, Mr. Speaker:

You have to tie your request carefully to your authority to demand information... if Bill Barr had actually complied with the subpoena as written, he would have violated Federal law.

If he would have complied, he would have violated Federal law.

Mr. Speaker, that is why we are here.

Not only, Mr. Speaker, does the chairman of that committee ask the attorney general to break the law or he will try to hold him in contempt; he won't even go read the report.

On May 8, only a few weeks after the first subpoena was issued, House Judiciary Democrats voted to hold A. G. Barr, the Attorney General of the United States, in contempt.

Why would they vote to hold him in contempt? Because they were so angry that the Attorney General wouldn't break the law. They wanted him to break the law; then he won't be held in contempt.

In a May 24 letter to the Attorney General, Chairman Nadler offered, for the first time, to negotiate and narrow the scope of his subpoena request. Then, you know what? He changed his mind.

Yesterday, the Department of Justice reached an agreement with the Judiciary Committee to turn over documents related to the Mueller report.

Now, if the public is watching, this just looks so disorganized. You wonder, from that committee, Mr. Speaker, wouldn't they know better than to ask the Attorney General to break the law?

Mr. Speaker, wouldn't you know that, when you get to this point in a career, you wouldn't be so upset that someone just doesn't do exactly what you want—and you ask them to break the law—that you would vote to hold them in contempt and force your side of the aisle just to vote that way.

That is not how it has happened in this body before. If the public wants to see a good example of congressional oversight, then let's look at something that is comparable: the House's contempt vote against Attorney General Holder in 2012.

The House Committee on Oversight and Reform took two important actions before suing in Federal court. First, it negotiated with Attorney General Holder in good faith for 15 months—not a few days. It never asked him to break the law either.

After narrowing the scope of its original subpoena, and only after extensive back-and-forth negotiations failed, did it vote to hold him in contempt.

Second, it got the full House to vote on it and approve—you know what—a bipartisan contempt.

Now, I am not sure why the Committee on the Judiciary, Mr. Speaker, wants to do a little research because I was here during that time. You know why they didn't realize it was the best way to do it and it was bipartisan? Because, Mr. Speaker, a lot of them stormed outside of the Chamber.

Yep. You heard me right. Even though 17 Democrats voted in favor of the criminal contempt resolution against Holder and 21 voted to enforce it, a number of them stormed outside and protested, took their ball and ran home. Mr. Speaker, I guess, to the public, it looked like they had just thrown another fit.

Now, that is pretty significant. As many of you remember, it was contentious. I remember, Mr. Speaker, watching then-Minority Leader Pelosi, Minority Whip Hoyer, and Congressman Nadler lead 100 Democrats off the House floor to protest the vote.

Mr. Speaker, you won't see that on our side. We believe in the rule of law. Mr. Speaker, we would have done the exact same thing the Attorney General didn't do; Jonathan Turley said that you would have had to break the law to try to appease somebody's own personal vendetta.

The idea, Mr. Speaker, that someone would run for a position to say that they would be best to impeach somebody and even vote to impeach without even having a report and then, when you get a report and you could go down and read just those six lines that you want to complain about, but you won't—the same person, Mr. Speaker, that would run outside and say: I got elected to Congress, but I am going to pout and I am going to go outside.

Mr. Speaker, that may be the same person that would want to bring this to the floor today.

But what is so different about today than all the others? Well, we are doing something we have never done before. We are doing something that is going to take the power away of every Member in this body and give it to a select few.
Mr. Speaker, if this vote passes today, Members of this body are going to say: Don’t bring it here and let me represent my own people and vote about going to court. Let’s just give it, really, to three people. Let’s give it to Speaker NANCY PELOSI, Majority Leader HARRIETT WALTERS of Texas, and Majority Whip James Clyburn. Because that is what BLAG is.

I know the courts are going to sit there and say that is not what Congress is supposed to do. Congress has never done that before. But, you know what? The majority thinks that they want to do is make an attorney general break the law, I guess they could break every rule, every history, every point of representation there is inside this body.

Did we wonder if this would happen? We wonder why you wouldn’t take the months, as they have shown in the time before, and actually come to a bipartisan conclusion?

I think the plan was already written. I don’t think the people can talk about the word “patient” because Mr. Speaker, I remember Congressman HANK JOHNSON of the Rules Committee—which is the Speaker’s committee, so everybody understands correctly, that is just appointed by the Speaker on the majority side—said, Mr. Speaker: “Donald Trump will stand for reelection again in a very short period of time, and we don’t have 400 days to wait.”

So, don’t care about the rule of law. Don’t care about asking him to break the law. Just break every historical trend and try to take the power away from millions of Americans and from the Members of Congress who represent them here.

I didn’t know today would come. Mr. Speaker, I didn’t know if someone would go this far.

I didn’t know, just because someone, Mr. Speaker, despises somebody else, that an election didn’t turn out the way the desire. Mr. Speaker, I have been on losing sides before, but I would never think I would break the law just because of losing an election.

I would never think of asking somebody in as high an office as the Attorney General of the United States of America to not give due process, to come to the floor and strip the power of 430 Members and put it in a select few.

Mr. Speaker, I have to be honest. I don’t put anything past what this new desire is about.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats say we are in a constitutional crisis, and they are right, but not because of Attorney General Barr. The constitutional crisis is this: When Democrats can’t win, they change the rules.

I just heard it on the floor. Mr. Speaker, that, yes, from the other side of the aisle, this has never been done before, and, yes, this is nothing this House has ever desired to do. But it is also no way to govern.

The American people deserve a majority that is serious about coming up with solutions, not subpoenas. There are plenty of important challenges that we can be working on to solve.

Just yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I opened The New York Times. It is not just a newspaper. I think I always agree with, but it had an editorial not for the first time, but for the second time, and it was talking about the crisis on the border.

As I read this editorial, I found myself agreeing with it greatly. When I read it, it talked about the border, talked about Washington needing to stop dithering and do something about it.

I looked and wondered what committee would be most responsible for this challenge? Lo and behold, it was the Judiciary. So I turned it on in hopes that I would see a hearing, maybe I would even see a markup.

No. Mr. Speaker, who did I see? I saw John Dean pleading guilty in Watergate. The same individual who has put more than 900 tweets out against the President, many before any Mueller report came forth. He was the expert witness—the same individual who is paid by CNN, the same individual who said the Presidency of George Bush was worse than Watergate.

I guess this new majority will go to no end. It doesn’t matter if the facts don’t go where they want; just change the rules.

I wonder, all these new freshman Democrats, Mr. Speaker, when they swore in to uphold the Constitution, does that mean trying to make the Attorney General break the law? Does that mean giving their power away to a select few?

There is a crisis on the border. The New York Times knows it. The country of Mexico knows it. I think almost everybody in America knows it except, Mr. Speaker, I guess, this majority.

The committee of responsibility is more concerned about bringing somebody in who pleaded guilty in Watergate, who makes their money off, Mr. Speaker, writing books claiming every Republican President there is is worse than Watergate and then asking the Attorney General to break the law?

That is not a legacy I would be proud of. It is not a legacy I would want to be a part of.

But, Mr. Speaker, I will say on this floor: I will vote against taking the power away, even the power away from people on the other side of the aisle. I won’t lead a protest, and I won’t go outside, and I won’t take my ball, and I won’t run home. I believe in the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I had the responsibility and the opportunity to go read the redacted portions of the Mueller report, just as so many other Members of Congress on the other side of the aisle could. It is just six lines. Not that I think it was just my responsibility, but as an elected official I thought it was a responsibility, so I went. But, Mr. Speaker, the people leading this today, they have not. They think they know better.

I don’t know if they know better, but one thing I do know: They are changing the rules of the House simply because they cannot win. That is not the American way.

Those are the reasons why we stand up. Those are the things that America unites behind, the rule of law. This will not be a day that is proud. This will not be a day that, when they look back in history, the individuals who vote for this will talk about.

It is one when they get asked the question later in life, Mr. Speaker, is there something they regret, they will regret that emotion overtook them. They will regret their own personal dislike drove them.

I am not sure if they are proud of the day when they storm out of the building, even though there is a bipartisan vote here. But I guess that same emotion, Mr. Speaker, lack of ability to actually look at the rule of law and work toward something instead of just changing the rules because you can’t have your way, that is what today is about.

Mr. Speaker, if this vote passes today it is all removing the power of individual Members and putting in a select three. But then again, Mr. Speaker, when you study history and forms of government, that is what socialism is all about.

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

The distinguished minority leader began by saying that the Mueller report makes it clear that there was no collusion and no obstruction. Maybe that is what you would conclude if you just read Barr’s summary which tried to cover up what the Mueller report said, but I would urge the distinguished minority leader to read the report. I am happy to lend him my bifocals if he has trouble reading it.

But the report doesn’t say that. It doesn’t say no collusion. And on the issue of obstruction of justice, it says: If we were convinced that he, the President, did not commit a crime, we would have said so.

That is what the report says. And I would remind my colleagues that obstruction of justice is a crime.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TED LIEU).

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, the issue today is very simple. It is simply about the right of the American people and Congress to get information. That is it.

All this resolution does is allow us to enforce congressional subpoenas. These are documents and witnesses we want, and it allows us to go to Federal court to enforce it. That is all this resolution does.

Why are Republicans so scared of this resolution? Because they know we are going to win in court. We have won three times against the Trump administration.
But why do we even have to go to court to do this? Because the Trump administration is engaging in unprecen
ded obstruction. And it is not just about the Mueller report; it is about all areas.
So, for example, right now, the Trump administration is suing to eliminate healthcare coverage for peo
tle with preexisting conditions. We want to know more about that. We can’t get it. We want to know about a
lot of areas that we cannot get, so we want to go to Federal court to get this enforced.
What are Republicans doing? They are making stuff up. They are saying somehow we are asking the Attorney
General to do things that will make him violate the law. That is wrong, wrong, wrong.
I am just going to end with this sim
ple example.
The Attorney General of the United States gave the Republican ranking member of the Judiciary Committee
the right to see their unredacted Mueller report. Was that illegal? No. But I can’t see it.
That is wrong. There is no basis for
that. We are simply going to go to Fed
eral court. We are going to litigate it, and we are going to win.
All this resolution does is allow us to enforce congressional subpoenas in Federal court. It is about not allow
ing the Trump administration to cover things up.
Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2
minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).
Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, this is about inaugura
ting the President, and it is about delaying the inevitable.
I would have hoped that my friends across the aisle, especially in the Judi
ciciary Committee that had concerns in 2005 and 2006 about the overreach that was possible through the FISA proce
dures, would have seen that there was no collusion, that the Russians did try, but nobody with the Trump campaign bought.
So we are left with the fact that the real collusion here was between the Clinton campaign, with Fusion GPS
hiring a foreign agent, Christopher Steele, who talked to people he now ad
mits could well have been agents of Vladimir Putin, who gave false infor
mation about Trump, the candidate, that was used in a dossier that was used to manipulate the FISA court into giving a warrant to start spying
on the Trump campaign. That is what this was about.
And what people are calling obstruc
tion of justice is exactly what you have when you have somebody falsely ac
cused of colluding, conspiring with the Russians, and he knows he didn’t do that, and he sees his family being har
essed, and everybody that worked with the campaign that can be pushed and shown and blackmailed, as happened, and bankrupted, you want to bring it to an end. You want to see justice done.
But instead of my friends in Judiciary coming together with us who have been concerned about the abuses of the FISA system so that it doesn’t happen to other Americans, instead, they come with this resolution to push the matter down the road a little further to the 2020 election.
It has got to stop. Let’s start now.
Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentle
woman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).
Ms. JACKSON LEE. The American people would not want a Congress that turned its back on, frankly, the rule of
law.
For those of us who had the special privilege of going to Normandy this past July, we got a great sense of pride, of the courage of Americans, the bravery of those young men, and all I could think of is how important it is to all of us to adhere to those wonderful principles.
So, again, there is no targeting here. This is not a way to do policy or legis
lation. We can fight that battle on the
floor of the House.
But if you read those volumes and end it in the last pages of Volume 2, you know that Director Mueller asked us to finish the task of looking into elements that he did not or could not and the underlying issues.
Let me also say, let us do that, we do it forthrightly because, in 2020, we want to make sure that every Amer
ican has the right to vote and every American is not undermined by a for
eign operative interfering and taking the election away from you.
I support the resolution. We must stand for the rule of law.
Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 430, authorizing the Committee on the
Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial pro
ceedings to enforce certain subpoenas and for other purposes.
It is an honor to serve in this body.
We are the successors and heirs to an au
gust freedom earned centuries ago, expanded for successive groups and defended through the blood, sweat and tears of the nation’s fighting forces.
It is this debt that took me to the beaches of Normandy to pay my respects on the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion.
We are heirs to this legacy, and we are heirs to this ingenious system of separation of
deployment. The system they laid down presumes equal
de晰or among the branches.
As a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee, I have to say that it is regrettable that we are here.
This is because a hallmark of our constituti
ional republic is that no person is above the law.
Congressional oversight has been the tradi
tion going back to the first years of our repub
lic.
And the congressional prerogative of over
sight has been a tool in the Article I arsenal as a way of asserting our power and pro
ecting against the worst excesses of an exec
utive.
This dispute between the political branches should work itself out, but because of this presiden
tial obstinacy, we are in this predicamento which is why we must pass this H. Res. 430, Authorizing Subpoena Enforce
ment Litigation.
This Resolution, H. Res. 430, builds on the House Judiciary Committee’s contempt finding against Attorney General Barr.
The resolution authorizes the Committee to seek civil enforcement of its subpoenas against: (i) Attorney General Barr requiring him to provide Congress with the key evidence underlying the Mueller Report as well as the unredacted report itself; and (ii) former White House Counsel Donald F. McGahn, II requiring him to provide documents and appear for testimony.

The resolution further affirms that all committee chairs, when authorized by the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, retain the ability to seek civil enforcement of their own subpoenas.

The resolution adds that when committees proceed to court, they have any and all necessary authority under Article I of the Constitution, ensuring that they have the maximum range of legal authority available to them.

For example, on other key issues—such as the Department of Justice defying a subpoena to produce counter-intelligence documents relating to Russia’s interference with the 2016 election—Administrations have routinely provided a subpoena to produce documents relating to the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census—the committees can enforce these subpoenas without a floor vote.

Thus, the House can conduct meaningful oversight on issues critical to America’s lives while continuing to deliver on pocketbook issues.

The President’s disregard for congressional oversight allows the Administration to cover-up his most disastrous policy decisions such as: attacking affordable healthcare coverage for millions of Americans including those with pre-existing conditions, tearing apart vulnerable immigrant families, misappropriating military funds for his ill-conceived border wall, and rolling back landmark civil rights protections for minorities.

The information subpoenaed by various congressional committees, including documents and testimony, is information to which Congress is constitutionally entitled and that past Administrations have routinely provided.

President Trump has prevented fact witnesses referenced in the Mueller Report from testifying or providing documents to Congress. This is despite the fact that the Report detailed the Administration’s sustained attacks on our elections; over 170 contacts between President Trump’s campaign and associates and agents of the Russian government; as well as numerous efforts by President Trump to impede or thwart House investigations scrutinizing his own conduct and that of his Administration.

In keeping with the President’s sweeping public refusal to comply with congressional subpoenas, the White House and the Administration are fighting to keep the truth from the American people.

This resolution ensures we can conduct oversight on issues that are critical to America’s lives while continuing to deliver on pocketbook issues.

The information subpoenaed by various congressional committees, including documents and testimony, is information Congress is constitutionally entitled to and which past Administrations have routinely provided.

Congress not only is constitutionally entitled to the underlying evidence in the Special Counsel’s Report and key fact witness testimony, it requires this information so that it can fulfill its legislative, oversight, and other constitutional responsibilities.

This resolution follows past precedent used by Democratic and Republican Majorities while reinforcing an important principle in the House Rules.

This Administration’s disregard for the legislative and judicial branches has reached a tipping point.

Despite representing a coequal branch of government, this Administration is flagrantly disregarding the role Congress and the Judiciary must play in our democratic system.

Mr. Speaker, the foregoing has been the basis for this Resolution.

It was my hope that this was not needed. But the President has proven me wrong, which is why this Resolution is needed.

I urge passage of the Resolution.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE), a fellow Judiciary Committee member.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time, and I want to recognize the gentlewoman from Texas for her remarks because, as a fellow member of the Judiciary Committee, we all stand for the rule of law. I, too, carry a Constitution with me.

The Constitution explicitly creates a system that is representative of the people, where the people are elected by their constituents and come up here and represent their views in Congress and vote for them. It is not to come up here and to hand off control, to hand their vote to the majority leader, to the Speaker, and to the majority whip and let them vote for them and for the people of their district whether or not to go to court.

The votes to enforce subpoenas, the votes to hold in contempt should be votes of the Representatives of the people. That is why this resolution today is such a travesty.

Mr. Speaker, I have only been a member of this body for a few months, and I was proud to be named a member of the Judiciary Committee, but unfortunately, the circus that I have witnessed over the last few months is shocking, as the Democratic majority tries to find some reason, any reason, to impeach this President now that the Mueller investigation has wrapped up with no crimes found.

If they want to go back and repeat the last 2 years of the investigation, the millions of dollars, the hundreds of subpoenas, they are certainly entitled to do that, but I would argue it would be a waste of time for the American taxpayer and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, we had a hearing earlier today on the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund, and the chairman did a masterful job of arguing in favor of that legislation, of which I am a cosponsor. It is bipartisan legislation. It is going to be marked up tomorrow. That is the way that this Judiciary Committee should operate.

Instead, we have hearings with empty chairs for the Attorney General, we have a hearing with an empty chair for the White House counsel.

Finally, yesterday we had a hearing with people in the seats, but they were all MSNBC and CNN commentators.

Mr. Speaker, this is a travesty of justice. I would urge my colleagues to defeat this resolution.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on the Judiciary is one of the most venerable in the House of Representatives, and I am honored to have been selected to join its ranks.

It has jurisdiction over intellectual property, during a time of exponential scientific breakthroughs. It has jurisdiction over election interference, during a time when we are concerned about Russians interfering with our election. It has jurisdiction over immigration issues, during a time of an unprecedented security and humanitarian crisis on our southern border.

I am disappointed to see how the Democratic majority has chosen to waste this authority. I am disappointed to see that it has chosen to ignore its responsibilities to the American people in favor of sound bites and photo ops.

Instead of legislating, the Democratic majority prefers posing with buckets of fried chicken for the national media in crude attempts to undermine our President and his administration.

Really? It is time to move on and tackle the real issues that Americans care about. Americans elected me, to Congress to get things done. Let us secure the border. Let us improve healthcare. Let us improve education.

Let us stop this political theater that happens meeting after meeting and hearing after hearing in multiple committees in what I believe is a blatant attempt to influence the 2020 presidential election using taxpayer resources.

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have left and how much time the other side has left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 1 minute remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am going to use my 1 minute to actually refute these blatant allegations and fantasies, I believe, by my fellow Democrats, and that is how somehow the President and the Department of Justice has been stonewalling them.

Let me go over the timelines really quick.

On March 22, the Attorney General individually notified the Chairman and the ranking members of the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary that they had received the confidential report from the special counsel.
The next day, the Attorney General informed Congress of the special counsel's principal conclusions. March 29, he updated the Congress on what could be done and what redactions had to be made. Though less than a month after receiving it, the Attorney General made the redacted confidential report available to Congress and the public.

The same day, the Attorney General released the confidential report and made the minimally-redacted version of the confidential report available for review.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, my friends on the other side have responded to this legislation with the same old lies. They are circling the wagons around this President and his team. They are deliberately turning a blind eye to the corruption, to the deception, to the illegality that has surrounded this White House. But let me remind them all of why we are here today. We are here because the American people elected each of us to write laws and to ensure those who execute them are accountable.

We all took an oath when we were sworn in to uphold and defend the Constitution. That is our job.

None of us were sent here to play defense for the President of the United States.

There are some things that are more important than politics, and I hope that even in this day and age, there are still some things that are more sacred than partisanship, like the rule of law and the separation of powers.

I mean, each of us took the same oath. We now have a choice whether or not to uphold it.

The choice should be a simple one: to stand up to President Trump and to defend the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I remember when many of my Republican friends ran for office claiming to be constitutional conservatives. Well, this is their chance to claim that truth.

Nobody is above the law in the United States of America, not even the President of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are again reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the previous question is ordered on the resolution, as amended.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 229, nays 191, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 247]

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that history will judge how we react to this moment. So I urge all of my colleagues, do not let this moment pass us by. Vote "yes" on this resolution, and let's hold the President accountable.

The choice should be a simple one: to stand up to President Trump and to defend the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H4423

Mr. ZELDIN and Mr. ADERHOLT have changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2609) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker?

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

Mr. ZELDIN. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Mr. Speaker?

Mr. BURCHETT. Pursuant to the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker?

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Pursuant to the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that Congress is out of order when we fail to protect the least amongst us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not been recognized for debate.

LGBT PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate LGBT Pride Month, which occurs every June.

Pride Month is the time when the LGBT community comes together to celebrate their ability to live freely. For many people across the country, Pride events held in this month of June are the occasion where they can express themselves freely in their community.

This year’s LGBT Pride Month marks an important turning point in LGBT history, the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising. While LGBT Pride events today center on celebration of good times, they are rooted in the LGBT community’s fight for survival.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago this month, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City. Raids weren’t uncommon at the time, but this time, the gay community rose up in protest. They set off a national movement of LGBT rights, which still is going on today.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to celebrate these great strides in LGBT rights in this country. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating LGBT Month and commit to protecting the rights and safety of LGBT people.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GIRL SCOUTS OF COLLIN COUNTY

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate 24 young women from high schools across Plano, Texas, who were presented with the Gold Award by the Girls Scouts of Northeast Texas for their dedication to our community.

The most prestigious accolade to earn, the Gold Award requires each young woman to work tirelessly on a community project of their choice for up to 80 hours. I want to thank each of these Girl Scouts for their exemplary service within Collin County and for demonstrating that age should never deter one from leading within their community.

It is with pleasure I ask my colleagues to congratulate these young ladies on their success.

LET’S USE OUR POWER TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I stand before you 2 days before the third anniversary of the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida, to tell this body, the people’s House, that we have work to do.

The Pulse shooting shook us all to our core, and for so many in the LGBTQ community, these wounds may never fully heal.

We honor the memory of those whose lives were taken, but for those 49 people, their families, and, importantly, their chosen families, thoughts and prayers will never be enough.

“Orlando Strong” and “Never Again” are only words until we take action.

We are united by the power our constituents have given us to make laws. We must use that power to stop gun violence.

What does it say to the victims at Pulse, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Sandy Hook, Las Vegas, Aurora, Virginia Beach, and too many others to list? Do we not care? Making life safer for our constituents is not right versus left; it is right versus wrong.

Madam Speaker, I urge action on this national epidemic.

MEXICO’S COMMITMENT TO HELPING SECURE OUR COMMON BORDER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend President Trump on the early success in getting Mexico to increase its commitment to helping secure our common border.

There has been no shortage of doubters, perhaps even some who wished the President would fail because he has taken an approach that hasn’t been tried before. But I thank the President for his vision and his commitment to securing our southern border, which has long been at crisis levels.

We are not done, by any means—we must now ensure that Mexico honors their commitments—but this is significant progress that we haven’t seen yet to this point.

If Mexico is true to their word, that means House Democrats are now the only ones preventing the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement from becoming a reality. This agreement would be extraordinarily beneficial for the American economy, and it is time to ratify it here in this House.

I thank President Trump for applying pressure on Mexico and forcing them to step up their efforts to secure our border and trade.

HONORING HARRY YOA

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, Harry Yoa is a 101-year-old World War II veteran. He is living in Ocean City, New Jersey.

Harry was only 23 years old when he enlisted in the Army in 1942, working as a truck driver and newly married to his wife, Valerie.

In the 321st Bombardment Group in the 12th Air Force, Harry was stationed in the south of France, where he completed 83 missions as an aerial engineer and as a tail gunner.

He now, unfortunately, suffers from dementia and doesn’t remember much from the war, but he says he hasn’t forgotten the intensity of his missions, where he was tasked with repairing the aircraft and defending the craft through the weapons in the rear of the plane.

After the war, Harry was awarded multiple medals and three Bronze Stars for his service.

In the wake of the 75th anniversary of D-day, we remember the sacrifices of many Americans and the many Americans who made them in World War II.

Harry is truly one of the great ones, and God will bless him.

LIBERTY SHIPS

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

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the Liberty ships and those who built them during World War II in Savannah, Georgia.

Just after the U.S. entered the war, the Maritime Commission awarded a contract to the Southeastern Shipbuilding Corporation to start building cargo ships for military service.

The first completed ship was called the USS Oglethorpe, named after the city’s founder. By the end of the war, 46,000 employees had produced 88 Liberty ships at the Savannah location.

These were America’s lifeline to the war in Europe and the workhorses that transferred necessary supplies back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean filled with dangerous obstacles.

Unfortunately, the USS Oglethorpe was lost, torpedoed by a German U-boat in 1943. Today, a model of that ship stands at the Savannah trade center to thank and remember all those who served in the Savannah shipyards, constantly working to help win the war, as well as those ship captains who risked their lives crossing the ocean.

This generation truly deserves the name the Greatest Generation, and with them rested the fate of the entirety of Western civilization.

I am proud of our contribution in the First Congressional District of Georgia and their contribution to the effort during World War II.
We are supporting Rohingya refugees through funding programs in refugee camps, but we must do more and help them resettle here in the United States.

INVESTIGATE FALSE ACCUSATION

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

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, after the Mueller report, we now know that President Trump was falsely accused of engaging in a criminal conspiracy with Russia for 22 months. So the question is, what to do now that we are aware of that false accusation?

Democrats believe that the right approach is to de-tweeze through all the President’s reactions to being falsely accused. Republicans believe that we should figure out what the root was of the false accusations in the first place.

As we endeavor upon that work, we see across the rotunda in the Senate that harassment of the First Family continues. Donald Trump, Jr., will be hauled before a Senate committee tomorrow because his prior testimony purportedly conflicts with the testimony of Mr. Gates and Mr. Cohen, people who are either in prison for lying or going to prison for lying.

It is past time to stop the harassment of the President and the First Family, acknowledge those who engaged in false accusations for an extended period of time, and figure out how in the world such an accusation was able to be funded by the DNC, cooked up in the Obama White House, and then polluted by Russians.

We can do a lot better, and we are going to figure out what happened.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF “APOLLO 11”

(Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important achievement that changed the world as we know it.

In just over a month, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission. On July 20th, 1969, for the first time ever, human beings walked on the moon.

Apollo 11 was indeed a giant leap. It inspired and continues to inspire generations to explore. The discoveries and technology that come out of America’s investment in space not only help us better understand the universe but fundamentally change our modern life.

Apollo 11 is one of America’s greatest achievements, and I am proud to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, as well as in both the House and the Senate, on resolutions that come tomorrow to commemorate and celebrate this achievement.

Celebrating the Apollo 11 mission ensures that future generations will not just remember, but also take us further into space exploration.

As a lifelong Oklahoman, I also want to acknowledge the unique contributions of Oklahoma astronauts. In each week leading up to the Apollo 11 mission celebration, I will highlight Oklahomans who shaped our knowledge and discovery within space.

THANKING AMERICANS FOR SPEAKING AGAINST CONGRESSIONAL PAY RAISES

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank the American people for sending a message to this Congress that they do not want the pay raises for Members of Congress to go through. However, their work is not done, and they need to keep it up.

They have successfully delayed the Legislative Branch appropriations bill from being considered as part of this omnibus bill that is going to be considered tomorrow, but it has only been delayed. It hasn’t been removed just yet, so stay on the phones, stay on the emails, and stay on Facebook. Get in our town halls. Members of Congress to let them know that their constituents don’t think that they deserve a pay raise. They have more work to do. There is much to be done, in terms of addressing the crisis at the border and continuing in the economic success that we have. Instead, we have many committees that are holding officials in contempt of Congress.

We have more to do, so I ask the American people to keep up the great work.

DEBATE OUT-OF-CONTROL SPENDING

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, at the start of this Congress, the new Democratic majority promised that legislation would be considered under regular order. Six months into Congress, it is evident that that promise has been abandoned altogether.

Instead, the majority has used a procedural tactic to set spending levels and circumvent the normal budget process. There is now no sign of a 2020 budget resolution coming before the House to set spending levels, so the full House has no opportunity to debate these levels as a standalone bill.

Meanwhile, the package includes nearly $1 trillion in spending. Members will take this vote to spend with no plan or agreement between the House and Senate on an overall budget.

I call on the majority to follow through on its promise of regular order and bring a budget before the House so that we can debate the out-of-control spending and how it can be reined in and reined in now.

CHAOS ON THE SOUTHERN BORDER AND CROWDSOURCING ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, just so staff knows, this will probably be a bit abbreviated because of all the chaos we have going on around us.

There is something I wanted to start with. Typically, we come to the floor to spend time talking about what is happening in the budgetarily and demographically and what we must do to keep our promises. I sit on the Ways and Means Committee, and I do trade and tax policy.

Before we put that up, I need to touch on something that is incredibly frustrating. Being from Arizona, obviously, we have a border issue. We talk about it; we do nothing.
How many have seen the news in the last couple of days that we have gun battles going on just south of Douglas, Arizona? We may have 9 or 10 people who have lost their lives. We had a teenager get hit by a stray bullet. We have had a couple of folks—apparently, one of those people had gone to an Arizona hospital. A couple are in Arizona hospitals.

Where is the press? Where is the discussion of what is going on? Apparently, we have a war going on in Agua Prieta just south of Douglas, between these cartels that not only move drugs, but they also exploit human beings.

These are the very cartels that are taking humans, smuggling them and trafficking them up to the border. They are using assault weapons and killing each other. Of course, we would care about that, wouldn't we? Except it doesn't get any news here because it doesn't fit the narrative.

If you love and care for people, could we at least have an honest discussion of what the President has asked for, with some money for humanitarian aid to take care of those who have presented themselves at the border for refugee status? Understand the violence that we are seeing in our communities?

I guess I come to this microphone just frustrated that this story broke yesterday in Arizona. Where is the national outcry? Where is the national press?

I want to propose the concept of crowdsourcing environmental information, particularly for air quality. It turns out, we are living in a time where environmental information is within our grasp. We can attach to our phones that are highly accurate that will do PM10, hydrocarbons, and volatile organics. What would happen in our communities if we were willing to take this tradeoff?

This thought is very simple. We have a YouTube cartoon that is about 1.5 minutes that walks through this concept of crowdsourcing environmental data, where environmental regulators of communities, States, and counties are now a quick reaction force that goes to where the bad acts are happening instead of basically being paperwork domiciles. That is an example of smart regulation. It makes communities healthier. It makes air quality better. It still has businesses growing because they are not buried under consultants and mounds of paper. That is an example of smart regulation.

How do we drag the conversations around this place to understand there are really great, exciting opportunities for all of us out there, whether it be in smart regulation, whether it be the end of killing using technology, whether it be the fact we are about to get dramatically healthier, and that the cures are about to come on the market for diseases that have been with us for so long, we are in a time of amazing disruption?

How do we future-proof our policies, and how do we get this body to stop thinking everything is either Democrat or Republican, but understand there are actual solutions, you just have to be forward-thinking with technology?

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

HONORING JOHN RUFFIER DURING PRIDE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor John Ruffier.

John Daniel Ruffier is an attorney and leader of the LGBTQ community in central Florida. John was born in Orlando, Florida, and attended Edgewater High School where he was part of the State champion men’s crew team.

He went on to attend Vanderbilt University and then the University of Florida College of Law. Upon graduation from law school, John joined the law firm of Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando where he practices to this day, sitting on the firm’s executive committee and leading the firm’s senior housing practice group.

John has been involved in numerous community activities having served on the board of directors for both the Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless and the Hope and Health Center of Central Florida.

Along with Jennifer Foster, John founded the central Florida chapter of the Human Rights Campaign and later joined HRC’s national board of governors. Following his term on HRC’s board of governors, he was asked to join the board of directors for the HRC Foundation. John also served on the Florida Rights Campaign’s political board where he rose to the role of board chair in the years 2018 to 2019.

For that, John Ruffier, we honor you.

HONORING DR. GEORGE WALLACE DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Dr. George Wallace.
Dr. George Wallace was born in New Hampshire and moved to central Florida in 1992. He returned to New England in 1995, and after finishing his undergraduate degree, he returned to Florida in 2002.

George spent the first half of his career advocating and working with persons with disabilities as a case manager and later turned his passion for arts into a career as a senior leader of the Orlando Fringe.

During the Pulse tragedy, George was serving on the board of the LGBT+ Center of Orlando. Knowing that he wanted to continue serving his community, he accepted the role as executive director of The Center in Orlando in 2017. Dr. Wallace has since grown the organization to include a programming center at its satellite office in Kissimmee in our district.

George is a very visible leader within central Florida and enjoys travel, photography, and cheering on the Boston Red Sox in his free time.

For that, Dr. George Wallace, we honor you.

HONORING ERIC ROLLINGS DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Eric Rollings.

After 30 years of change, of loss, and victories, Eric Rollings continues to be one of the most active and visible LGBT leaders in Orange County.

Eric started volunteering at the Hope and Help Center in the early 1990s because he witnessed the injustices and stigma that his friends suffered from HIV/AIDS as they were dealing with it every day. In 1993, he was awarded the Volunteer of the Year for his dedication.

In the present day, Eric is serving his sixth term on the Community Development Block Grant Board and helps secure funding for the LGBT+ Center of central Florida and helps make recommendations for housing and services for people living with HIV/AIDS and low- to moderate-income households in the Orlando area.

In Eric’s early small business career he was discriminated against for being gay. He saw an opportunity to help educate other business entrepreneurs and worked to provide a safe business environment. With that, he helped grow the Metropolitan Business Association, the LGBT Chamber of Commerce, serving on the board of directors for 20 years.

Eric, with many of his friends and activist allies, was instrumental in passing ordinances and protections for the LGBT people of the city of Orlando and Orange County. In the early days, nothing was certain, but because they did not give up on Orlando and Orange County, today our home is one of the most inclusive, welcoming, and economically vibrant areas in the Nation.

After the Pulse tragedy, all of Orlando came together and became Orlando United. Eric was honored with an Orlando United Medal from Mayor Teresa Jacobs. Eric was elected as one of the first openly LGBT people to serve in an Orange County-wide position. He worked as chairman of our Soil and Water Conservation Board. He continues to work now politically to improve our environment and to stand up for equality for all, including a ban on conversion therapy.

For that, Mr. Eric Rollings, we honor you.

HONORING RICARDO NEGRON-ALMODOVAR DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Ricardo Negron-Almodovar.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Ricardo obtained a master’s degree in education, a juris doctorate, and is a licensed attorney in Puerto Rico.

In 2015 Ricardo moved from Yauco, Puerto Rico, to Orlando, Florida. During his first year in Florida, he taught English to adults and became involved in civic engagement efforts to register new voters.

After the Pulse tragedy on June 12, 2016, of which he is a survivor, Ricardo worked to empower the LGBTQ Latinx community and has advocated against discrimination and violence. Ricardo currently serves as a legal service coordinator for LatinoJustice where he has had the opportunity to assist those transitioning from Puerto Rico to Florida after Hurricane Maria devastated my family’s native island.

Ricardo obtained a master’s degree in nonprofit management and launched the community organization Del Ambiente, which is an effort led by the LGBTQ Puerto Rican community to build up the LGBTQ Puerto Rican community in Florida’s activism in environmental work.

For that, Ricardo Negron-Almodovar, we honor you.

HONORING KAREN CASTELLONES DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Karen Castelloes.

In 1971, Karen graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a BA in Spanish. After moving to Orlando in 1975, she attained her master’s degree in education from Nova University and was employed by Orange County Public Schools as an English to Speakers of Other Languages teacher, an ESOL teacher, for 31 years.

She retired in 2007 and became involved in volunteer work. She is the cofounder of the Jefferson R. Voss Scholarship for Zebra Coalition youth. She served as a member of the Equality Florida Steering Committee for 3 years and presently holds the position of vice chair.

She continues to volunteer at Dignity of Orlando and at the food pantry at Joy MCC. In addition, she proudly supports and helps fund at the Zebra Coalition organization which serves LGBTQ youth.

For that, Karen Castelloes, we honor you.

HONORING DAVID ARTHUR JONES DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor David Arthur Jones.

David is the son of Mary Lou Jones and the late Arthur Henderson Jones, Jr. was born and raised in a union household in upstate New York. The environment of David’s upbringing provided a foundation of values associated with human rights to which he has been largely committed to over the course of his lifetime.

After surviving a raucous adolescence, David served with the United States Jaycees and the New York Young Democrats and was awarded the prestigious Governorship Award which confers an honorary lifetime membership. Among his proudest works was the establishment of a spacious town park in Whitestown, New York.

David went on to enroll at the Mohawk Valley Community College and Utica College of Syracuse University where he earned his degree in occupational therapy.

Together, John and David moved to Lake Wales, Florida, in 2004, in Florida’s Ninth Congressional District. As a committeeman, David incorporated LGBT issues as part of meetings of the Polk County Democratic Committee.

In 2001, David and his life partner, John, officially certified their love for each other by virtue of marriage in Utica, New York. David and John spearheaded the effort to establish the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allies Democratic Caucus of Polk County. In that same year, David became a Florida LGBT Democratic Caucus regional director serving six counties, including Polk, Lake, Osceola, Orange, Seminole, and Volusia County, of which I am proud to represent much of that area.

David is now in his fifth term serving as the area’s regional director. Currently David Jones is focusing on securing all-inclusive human rights ordinances in municipalities within Polk County. Thus far, David has spoken before the commissions of three Polk County cities and has recruited a number of supporters to do the same in the quest to secure fundamental rights for all, and our office has helped in that effort.

David is extremely grateful for the public support that has been given by Florida House Representative Sam Kildee and our office, towards securing all-inclusive human rights ordinances, securing the effort as being one of bipartisanship.

For that, David Arthur Jones, we honor you.

HONORING ANTHONY H. SANDONATO DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Anthony H. Sandonato.

Anthony is a proud Orlando resident, having resources executive, LGBTQ community advocate, and a member of the Human Rights Campaign’s national board of governors.
In addition to her work with the onePULSE Foundation, Nikole coleads the work of the Orlando Trans Awareness Collective, a collaborative group of transgender and gender nonconforming leaders of color who have focused on community building and advocacy efforts for the central Florida transgender community.

In 2018, Nikole was honored with the Humanitarian of the Year Award by the Miss Glamorous Pageant for her ongoing advocacy and empowerment of the transgender community and work with the onePULSE Foundation. She hopes to educate individuals from the community on healthy and safe ways to undergo transition, providing resources so black-market hormones and unsafe lifestyles can be avoided.

For that, Nikole Parker, we honor you.

HONORING NIKOLE PARKER DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Nikole Parker.

Nikole Parker is a transgender woman of Puerto Rican, Italian, and African American descent. She was born and raised in Orlando, Florida, and at the age of 19 left her job and her home to begin her transition. After 3 years of black-market hormones and unsafe lifestyle practices she came back to Orlando to restart her life.

Nikole’s passion in advocating for the rights and dignity of transgender and gender-nonconforming community is legendary in central Florida. She currently works for onePULSE Foundation as the event and community outreach coordinator. Nikole also sits on various nonprofit boards within the community, including the LGBT+ Center and the Orlando United Assistance Center.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Dieuseul Berto.

HONORING DIEUSEUL BERTO DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor Dieuseul Berto.

Dieuseul Berto is a Haitian American immigrant who was a former kickboxer and founder of Tiger’s World Martial Arts and Boxing Fitness, founded in Winter Haven, Florida, in Florida’s Ninth Congressional District. He competed in the UFC.

Berto was known as the man who helped so many people. He was recognized for his conception of a cardio-vascular weight loss training program. Although Berto was injured in a horrendous car accident that left him in a wheelchair for over a year, he did not let the accident define or confine him. Therefore, Dieuseul Berto began creating ways to self-train in his wheelchair by including pushups and the use of a punching bag, which served as a catalyst for his cardio program. He then incorporated those techniques used in the weight training.

Berto’s fitness program is credited with helping more than 1,200 people gain access to better health by shedding unwanted and unhealthy pounds, resulting in lowering blood pressure and cholesterol concerns over the past 20 years. He is considered a pioneer in helping people with their health and, consequently, their self-confidence.

He was also a family man who helped many kids and tried to keep them out of trouble with a community program. Berto also mentored children and encouraged them to never sell themselves short by reiterating that any dream is possible and attainable with hard work and dedication. He is credited with teaching children to set larger-than-life expectations for themselves.

He interacted, impacted, and inspired people from all aspects of life.

Berto and his wife are the parents of seven children, including Andre Berto, a former light weight world champion; Edson and Revelina, who are also professional mixed martial artists; and his son Cleveland, who is an actor.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Dieuseul Berto.

HONORING CASMORE SHAW DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor Casmore Shaw.

Casmore Shaw moved to Osceola County in the mid-eighties from New York, where he worked as associate dean for the International Students and High School Program and as the director of admissions and student enrollment at Technical Career Institutes. Before that, he taught at Mona Preparatory School in Kingston, Jamaica.

Casmore currently serves on the Osceola County Housing and Finance Authority Advisory Board and the regional board of MetroPlan Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee as well.

He is also the State committee man for the Osceola Democrats and the vice chair of the Osceola Democratic Executive Committee. Casmore is the State secretary for the Florida Democratic Party. He is also a member of the Osceola Education Foundation and the Caribbean and Floridian Association.

Casmore is a founding member of the Kissimmee and Kissimmee South Poinciana Rotary Clubs. He served as past chairman of the Osceola Charter Review Commission, past chair of the Osceola Land Conservation Advisory Board, past chairman of the board of directors of the Osceola County Library System, past president and vice president of the Caribbean and Floridian Association, past chair of the Osceola County School District’s Affirmative Action Advisory Board, and the conflict resolution officer and mediator of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Osceola County.

Casmore holds a graduate degree in curriculum instruction, with a minor in reading, from Concordia University, as well as degrees in elementary education and business administration, with a concentration in supervision and management, and an advanced certificate in healthcare administration.

He worked at Polk State College in the Student Service department and was director for My Brother’s Keeper, a program for homeless and vulnerable students. He was also the co-adviser to the Pearl of a Nation Haitian Service Club.

Casmore is married to Jennifer Mitchell, and they have four daughters: Toni-Ann, Deirdre, Dionne, and Jennise.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Mr. Casmore Shaw.

HONORING WAYNE GOLDFING DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor Wayne Golding, Sr., Esq., who was born in Kingston, Jamaica.

After his graduation from high school, he immigrated to New York...
with his mother and younger brother in 1981. He went on to graduate from Queens College, CUNY, with a B.A in economics and worked on Wall Street.

In 1988, he moved his young family to Orlando, Florida. Wayne earned his juris doctorate law from Barry University School of Law.

Even as an accomplished attorney practicing in the Florida State courts, the United States courts, and immigration court, he has continued his work as a community leader and activist.

In 2004, he established the litigation law firm, The Golding Law Group, PLLC, based in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Golding has served as president of the Caribbean Bar Association’s Central Florida chapter.

As an immigrant, he made history when he was selected to serve as chairman of the Orange County School Board Biracial Committee.

Since August 2015, Mr. Golding has been selected to serve as the Jamaica Diaspora Advisory Board member of the southern USA. In this role, he confidently advises the minister of foreign affairs for the Government of Jamaica on Jamaica diaspora issues.

He has been laser focused on methodically gathering the skills and talent of the members of the Caribbean community and strengthening the voice of the Caribbean communities in the spaces they reside.

Notably, he continues to be involved with organizations and speaks and performs the annual celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month.

Wayne credits his drive and commitment to his community to the lessons learned from his grandparents; the support of his wife of 30 years, Lois A. Golding; from their two children, Tassanee Golding and Wayne Golding, Jr.; his mother, Minett Gayle-Brown; as well as a host of mentors and leaders on whose shoulders he stands.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Mr. Wayne Golding.

HONORING JOHN PERRY DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor John Perry.

Mr. John Everton Perry was born in Kingston, Jamaica, in August 1955. He migrated to New York in 1967 and attended junior high school at Mount Vernon’s Washington Junior High, where he graduated and received the certificate for outstanding writing presented by the actor/community activist Mr. Ossie Davis.

Mr. Perry went on to attend Mount Vernon High School, where he lettered in football as a quarterback and also in track. He was a voice on the student council as head school marshal.

After high school, Mr. Perry enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served honorably for 5 years. During this time, Mr. Perry found time to attend The Ohio State University, Park College, and Rollins College.

Mr. Perry’s first passion is as a fishmonger. He has worked in the seafood industry since the age of 13, but, along the way, he has worked in corporate America: in sales for Brach’s Candy, as a tile and gap filler specialist for the U.S. Space Shuttle program at KSC, and financial labor auditor with the Lockheed Corporation.

John now works as an independent insurance counselor in the employees’ benefit arena, a relocation specialist, and a LegalShield director.

For the last 4 years, Mr. Perry has been on WOTU 1220AM in Kissimmee, Caribbean Rhythms Radio Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the “A Little Bit of Everything” commentary show on the subject of the day.

Mr. Perry has been a devoted husband to Mrs. Cecilia LaVerne Perry for the last 43 years. They were blessed with two wonderful children, John, Jr., and Jonnell Evette Perry, and also their two grandchildren, Makayla Perry and Johntae Perry.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Mr. John Perry.

HONORING LOUIS WITTER DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor Louis Witter.

Louis Witter has been a longstanding businessman in the hospitality industry in the central Florida area since 1992.

He attended Florida Technical College, where he gained his knowledge in business administration and management as a member of the Caribbean and Floridian Association, Inc.; Restore the Path for Christ Church; and the Jamaica Diaspora group, Southeastern Division.

Louis Witter is an entrepreneur, a Caribbean restaurant owner, and a producer and host of Caribbean Rhythms Radio Network AM1220 WOTS, a local Caribbean radio station in the Kissimmee, Florida, area.

This radio station provides vital sources of business, social networking, events, and community information, interviews, and has been a voice to the central Florida Caribbean communities for the past 30 years.

He has used the radio platform to provide internships to over 50 individuals who have successfully completed programs at the radio station and have moved on to pursue careers in the radio broadcasting industry.

Louis Witter is from the Caribbean island of Jamaica. He has lived in the United States for over 30 years.

When he is not involved with business, he enjoys listening to cultural reggae music. He believes that reggae music speaks to all nations, with a strong message in each song.

Louis Witter lives in Davenport, Florida, and can be heard online every Saturday at www.caribbeanradio.org, on his broadcasts.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Mr. Louis Witter.

HONORING SHELLEY BRIGGS DURING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I would like to honor Shelley Briggs.

Shelley Ann Briggs was born in London, England, on July 5 to the late Joan Ann Grant. Joan had migrated to London from Georgetown, Guyana, to complete her studies, and, due to hardships, Shelley was sent to Georgetown, Guyana, to live with her grandmother when she was a baby.

Seeking better opportunities and a better life for her family, her grandmother migrated to the United States of America when Shelley was 4 years old, soon settling in Brooklyn, New York.

As a child growing up, Shelley was raised under Guyanese traditions and customs, and, even though she lived in Brooklyn, the neighborhood reflected the West Indian culture Shelley grew to admire.

Shelley attended several private schools and graduated from Catherine McAuley High School. During this time, she also became a U.S. citizen through the help of her mother, who had joined the family in the U.S. when Shelley was 10 years old.

After high school, Shelley made the decision to join the United States Army after attending college for one semester. Shelley then relocated to Florida to help take care of her mother, who had been diagnosed with cancer.

While in Florida, her mother introduced her to the Caribbean and Floridian Association, and soon Shelley became a member. She has served CAPA in a variety of capacities over the last 20 years, and currently she is chairperson for the Service and Education Committee.

She is currently employed as a dean at Gateway High School, located in Osceola County School District in Florida’s Ninth Congressional District.

Shelley’s life passion has always been children, and there has been a special place in her heart for children whose parents left their home country and came to the United States in search of a better life for their family.

Shelley is happily married to Dennis Briggs and is the proud mother to Jada; Jourard; Dennis, Jr.; and Deyonce.

Madam Speaker, for that, we honor Mrs. Shelley Briggs.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2105

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McGovern) at 9 o’clock and 5 minutes p.m.
REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2740, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

Mrs. TORRES of California, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-11) on the resolution (H. Res. 436) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to: accordingly (at 9 o’clock and 6 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

1249. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Mark A. Brilakis, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1244. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter from the Navy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — The Judge Advocate General, Department of the Navy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Medical and Dental Care for Eligible Persons at Navy Department Facilities: DOD Final Rule [DOCKET ID: USN-2019-HQ-0002] (RIN: 0703-AB90) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 866); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1243. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Navy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Contract Administration [Docket ID: USN-2018-DARS-0022] (RIN: 0703-AB14) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 866); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1242. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Navy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Rules Governing Public Access [DOCKET ID: USN-2018-HQ-0006] (RIN: 0703-AB09) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 866); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1241. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Navy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Garnishment of Amounts Due Mentally Incompetent Persons Pursuant to the Uniform Transfer of Intermittent, Periodic, or Nonroutine Payments Act, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform [Docket ID: USN-2019-HQ-0001] (RIN: 0703-AB15) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 866); to the Committee on Armed Services.
transmitting the Corporation’s Seminannual Report to the Congress for the period ending March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

1263. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Testing and Training Activities Conducted in the Egin Gulf Test and Training Range in the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 17083186-1815-02] (RIN: 0648-HH21) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 215 (108 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1264. A letter from the Regulations Development Coordinator, Office of Regulations Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department’s Major final rule — Urgent Care (RIN: 2900-AQ47) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

1265. A letter from the Regulations Development Coordinator, Office of Regulations Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department’s Major final rule — Veterans Community Care Program (RIN: 2900-AQ46) received June 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DeFazio: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 367. A bill making appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations Act expires before the enactment of a new appropriations Act; with an amendment (Rept. 116-110, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mrs. Stefanik: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 436. Resolution providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-111). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. Engel (for himself and Mr. Chaffetz): H.R. 3190. A bill to authorize humanitarian assistance and impose sanctions with respect to human rights abuses in Burma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, the Judiciary, Financial Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in the Committee’s consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. Kim (for himself, Ms. Stefanik, and Mr. Mucarsel-Powell): H.R. 3191. A bill to expand eligibility for the My Career Advancement Account program of the Department of Defense to certain military spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services. By Mr. Correa (for himself and Mr. Garamendi): H.R. 3192. A bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. Garamendi (for himself, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Thompson of California, Mr. DeSaulnier, Ms. Lee of California, Ms. Speier, Mr. Swalwell of California, Mr. Khanna, Ms. Eshoo, Ms. Lofgren, Mr. Panetta, Mr. Carbaajal, Ms. Bill of California, Mr. Delaney of California, Mrs. Napolitano, Mrs. Torres of California, Mr. Ruiz, Mr. Cisneros, Ms. Lowenthal, Mr. Ros-Lehtinen, Mr. Peters, Mr. Bera, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Costa, and Mr. Vargas): H.R. 3193. A bill to modify the treatment of deadlines for emergency relief funds awarded by the Secretary of Transportation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. Engel (for himself and Mr. McCaul): H.R. 3194. A bill to provide financial lending mechanisms to assist North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries in modernizing their military forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. Van Drew (for himself, Mr. Gliedstein, Mr. Paulsen, Mr. Sablan, Mr. Huffman, Ms. Hauland, Mr. Cox of California, Mr. Lowenthal, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Katko, and Mr. Zeldin): H.R. 3195. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the National Outer Continental Shelf Conservation Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. Johnson of Texas (for herself and Miss González-Colón of Puerto Rico): H.R. 3196. A bill to designate the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope as the “Vera Rubin Survey Telescope”; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. Takano (for himself, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Ms. Adams, Ms. Wilson of Colorado, Mr. Kaptur, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Ms. Schakowsky, Mr. Espaillat, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Waters, Mr. Pallone, Mr. Pascrell of New Jersey, Mr. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Ms. DeLauro, Ms. Serrano, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. Bonamici, Ms. Cummings, Ms. DeSaulnier, Ms. Omar, Mr. Fokin, Ms. Norton, Ms. Lie of California, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Ms. Haaland, Ms. Jayapal, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Barragan, Mr. Davis of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. Sires, Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Khanna, Mr. Smith of New Jersey, Mr. Trone, Mr. Beatty, Ms. Wild, Ms. Mucarsel-Powell, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Nadler, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Payne, Ms. Gabbard of Hawaii, Mr. Norcross, and Ms. Pressley): H.R. 3197. 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 Education and Labor.

By Mr. Loudermilk (for himself and Mr. Buchanan): H.R. 3198. A bill to amend the Economic Growth and Regulatory Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996 to ensure that Federal financial regulators perform a comprehensive review of regulations to identify outdated or otherwise unnecessary regulatory requirements, and impose standards for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. Jeffries (for himself, Mr. Collins of Georgia, Mr. Mucarsel-Powell, and Mr. Cline): H.R. 3199. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to prevent double patenting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. Massie (for himself, Mr. Amash, Mr. Hice of Georgia, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Goss, Mr. Gom mar, Mr. Comer, and Mr. Bacon): H.R. 3200. A bill to repeal the Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990 and amendments to that Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. Beatty (for herself, Mrs. Demings, Ms. Norton, Ms. Kaptur, and Mr. Russ): H.R. 3201. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit a State from removing the name of any registrant from the official list of voters eligible to vote in elections for Federal office in the State unless the State verifies, on the basis of objective and reliable evidence, that the registrant is ineligible to vote in such elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. Brown of Maryland (for himself and Ms. Spanberger): H.R. 3202. A bill to require a report on the value of investments in dual use infrastructure projects by the member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in order to improve military mobility and interoperability across Europe; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. Deutch (for himself and Ms. Bonamici): H.R. 3203. A bill to provide research, development, and deployment of marine energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. Grijalva (for himself and Mrs. Khيدr-Patrick): H.R. 3204. A bill to establish responsibility for the International OutfallInterceptor; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. Kap tur (for herself, Mr. Young, Ms. Barragan, Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Lowenthal, Mr. Pappas, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Tajiri, and Mr. Cisneros): H.R. 3205. A bill to amend title 14, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, in coordination with the Secretary of Education, to establish programs for the purpose of improving the mathematics and scientific knowledge and skills of elementary and secondary school students and faculty members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. Kinzinger (for himself, Mr. Pence, and Mr. Heck): H.R. 3206. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the provision of certain vessels for the construction of Russian energy export pipelines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Mr. LAMB (for himself, Ms. WILD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RISCHTENHALER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MICHAEL P. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3207. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Mill Street in New Kensington, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. SHALALA):

H.R. 3208. A bill to ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities are prepared for disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 3209. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to codify requirements for changes in airport sponsorship or operations with respect to airport operating certificates, for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL (for herself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 3210. A bill to require the Commandant of the Coast Guard to take certain steps to ensure that Guard shore infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. HERRE-BRAULT, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 3211. A bill to establish the Task Force on the Affordable Housing Crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Ms. SWEET, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. OMAH, Ms. MENN, and Ms. FRANKEL): H.R. 3212. 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 Magnets 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 Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 3214. A bill to require the Garnishment of Veterans' Disability Benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. SHALALA (for herself, Mr. LANGKEVIN, Ms. NORTON, and Miss GONZALEZ-COLON of Puerto Rico):

H.R. 3215. A bill to provide Medicaid assistance to individuals and families affected by a disaster or emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TRAVERS (for herself, Mr. TURK, and Mr. CURRIE):

H.R. 3216. A bill to enhance efforts to prevent sexual assault in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WALDMAN:

H.R. 3217. A bill to require Congress to budget in advance for disasters and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DESAULNIER (for himself and Ms. LEE of California): H. Con. Res. 49. Concurrent resolution recognizing the victims of the Port Chicago explosion of July 17, 1944, the 75th anniversary of the greatest homeland loss of life of World War II, and exonerating the 50 African-American sailors unfairly court-martialed by the Navy; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. MEADOWS):

H. Res. 435. A resolution recognizing the contributions of the Montagnard indigenous tribespeople of the Central Highlands of Vietnam to the resistance of United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War, and condemning the ongoing violation of human rights by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself and Mrs. MCBATH): H. Res. 437. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 20 through December 20 as "National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ENGEL:

H.R. 3190. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. KIM:

H.R. 3191. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

By Mr. CORREA:

H.R. 3192. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

(1) The U.S. Constitution including Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 3193. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

(1) The U.S. Constitution including Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 3195. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8, cl. 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 3196. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8, cl. 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 3197. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.R. 3198. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 3199. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 8.

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 3200. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This Act is justified by the lack of a mandate or delegation of authority in the United States Constitution for the federal government to establish the laws affected by this Act; by Article One of the United States Constitution, Section 8, Clause 8; and by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution which recognizes the right to bear arms.
to bear arms, and by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, which recognize that rights and powers are retained and reserved by the people and to the States.

By Mrs. BEATTY:  
H.R. 3201. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I of the Constitution of the United States  
Mr. BROWN of Maryland:  
H.R. 3202. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)  
By Mr. DEUTCH:  
H.R. 3203. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8, the necessary and proper clause  
By Mr. KINZINGER:  
H.R. 3206. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution  
By Mr. LAMB:  
H.R. 3207. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution  
By Mr. LANGEVIN:  
H.R. 3208. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8  
By Mr. LEWIS:  
H.R. 3209. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.  
By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL:  
H.R. 3210. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution  
By Mr. PETERS:  
H.R. 3211. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8  
By Ms. PINGREE:  
H.R. 3212. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3  
By Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee:  
H.R. 3213. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Section 1 of Article I: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States, but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; Amendment XVI: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration:  
By Mr. SCHIFF:  
H.R. 3214. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence is constitutionally authorized under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Additionally, the Preamble to the Constitution provides support of the authority to enact legislation to promote the General Welfare.  
By Ms. SHALALA:  
H.R. 3215. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8, clause 3  
By Mrs. TRAHAN:  
H.R. 3216. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.  
By Mr. WALKER:  
H.R. 3217. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: “No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law”  
In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: “The Congress shall have the Power...to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States...”  

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:  
H.R. 23: Mr. STEUHE  
H.R. 35: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. HUFFMAN  
H.R. 36: Mr. MOUTLON and Mr. LEVIN of California  
H.R. 38: Mr. MCKINSEY  
H.R. 144: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana  
H.R. 1658: Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. TRONE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HURD of Texas, and Mr. MCCARTHY  
H.R. 1745: Mr. ESTRHEZ  
H.R. 1400: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan  
H.R. 1418: Mr. MCCAUL  
H.R. 1154: Mr. GOMES  
H.R. 1175: Mr. GIANFREDDO  
H.R. 1199: Mr. MAST and Mr. PAPPAS  
H.R. 1208: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SHALLALI, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. ROYCE  
H.R. 1225: Mr. DEJARLAI, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. SPANO, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut  
H.R. 1237: Mr. SCHRECK, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia  
H.R. 1327: Mr. SCHAD, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia  
H.R. 1365: Mr. LAMJIN  
H.R. 1373: Mrs. LOWRY, Mr. HINES, and Ms. LOFGREN  
H.R. 1380: Mrs. UNDERWOOD and Mr. LAHOOOD  
H.R. 1385: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas  
H.R. 1396: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DRIFAZIO, Mr. BRADY, Mr. CONWAY, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. HUDO of Texas, and Mr. MCCAUL  
H.R. 1400: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan  
H.R. 1407: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. PHILLIPS  
H.R. 1418: Mr. MCCAUL  
H.R. 1446: Mr. VAN DREW  
H.R. 1452: Mr. ESTES  
H.R. 1497: Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois  
H.R. 1530: Mr. CADEIBAS  
H.R. 1534: Ms. VELAZQUEZ  
H.R. 1568: Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. TRONE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. NEAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. KENNEDY  
H.R. 1602: Mrs. LIEBA  
H.R. 1603: Mr. CLINE and Mr. JORDAN  
H.R. 1607: Mr. VAN DREW  
H.R. 1610: Mr. FITZPATRICK  
H.R. 1612: Ms. CLARKE of New York  
H.R. 1679: Mr. ESTES  
H.R. 1692: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. COX of California  
H.R. 1695: Mr. UPTON and Mr. COX of California  
H.R. 1696: Mr. KILNER, Mr. O’HALLORAN, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER  
H.R. 1739: Mr. WATKINS  
H.R. 1740: Mr. RODGELMAN  
H.R. 1748: Mr. PAPPAS  
H.R. 1753: Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. RICK of South Carolina, and Mr. HUEZUNGA.
H.R. 154: Mr. Estes, Mr. Perry, Mr. Case, and Mrs. Dingell.
H.R. 151: Mr. Baca, Ms. Schakowsky, and Mr. Rodriguez.
H.R. 148: Ms. Pressley and Mr. Kim.
H.R. 146: Mrs. Watson Coleman.
H.R. 145: Mr. Kissel.
H.R. 144: Mr. Schrier.
H.R. 143: Ms. Pressley and Mr. Pappas.
H.R. 142: Mr. Case.
H.R. 140: Mr. Espaillat.
H.R. 139: Mr. Lee of Nevada.
H.R. 138: Mrs. Deloney.
H.R. 137: Ms. Pressley.
H.R. 136: Mr. Locschardt, Jr., and Mr. Troy.
H.R. 135: Ms. Pressley and Mr. Pappas.
H.R. 134: Mr. Espaillat.
H.R. 133: Mr. Pappas.
H.R. 132: Mr. Espaillat.
H.R. 131: Mr. Espaillat.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk’s desk and referred as follows:

27. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the County Council of Prince George’s County, MD, relative to Resolution No., CR-35-2019, urging additional oversight for the purpose of urging the Board of Public Works to ensure that contracts with a total value that exceeds $500 million, meet certain standards and benchmarks; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

28. Also, a petition of the County Council of Prince George’s County, MD, relative to Resolution No., CR-34-2019, declaring 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 Natural Resources.

29. Also, a petition of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, CA, relative to Resolution No. 2019-104, commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad; honoring the contributions of Chinese railroad workers for their significant contributions; and declaring May 10, 2019, and every May 10 thereafter, as Transcontinental Chinese Railroad Workers Day in the City and County of San Francisco; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

30. Also, a petition of the Senate of Puerto Rico, relative to Senate Resolution No. 1084, requesting 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 for the United States of America; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Science, Space, and Technology.
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 Herltting 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.
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 enshrined by our National Security and looking after these individuals is simply overwhelming. 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 them.

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 Patrol. 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 secure 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—and 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 page and 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 theat-

TARIFFS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on one final matter, last week’s announcement of progress in negotiations with Mexico was a welcome development. It stayed 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 solve 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 4,000 family units and more than 11,000 unaccompanied children. There 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 is simply overwhelming. 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 them.


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.

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.
June 11, 2019

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 nominations, which the clerk will report.
The bill clerk read the nominations 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 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 energy active in 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—grown in the U.S. 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 especially big following the hard winter my State faces. The ag-culture 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, parts of which are presently considered waste. Ethanol is key to there being a lower carbon energy future, and the next generation of advanced biofuels will further lower emissions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will 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 $5,000 per game while a man’s player earns $5,000. Over the course of a season, if both 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 re- gress to the past. 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 languishes in the Senate. 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 voting 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 from 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 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 warfare. 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 the 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 rigorous application of baring 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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The quorum call be rescinded.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today in defense of net neutrality. In April the House of Representatives successfully passed the same proposal last year. 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, just passed here 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; passed in the Paris climate agreement—no, no, no.

But the Senate majority leader and his Republican colleagues can keep populating the legislative graveyard at their own peril. This month in April 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 American registered voters support 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 McConnel’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 those companies and keep our promise and 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, and you can 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, Marsha 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.

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, it is a policy that is 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 for the first time, know this: 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 L O T of these companies 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.

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 at all and 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 it 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 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. 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 hiring them to some much that 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 today to say to the industries that are there cannot be nipped, 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. It is time for us to 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 looking at healthcare services when 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 lifesaving 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, and those who are in remote parts of our State.

We know the internet is a great equalizer. It is helping people from different 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 creating new opportunities for economis 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 services 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 this 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 is 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 and the economy, and a free and open internet.

Tomorrow there is an FCC hearing before the Senate Commerce Commission, 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 have 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, order for capital 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. And in the essence of 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 the Senate, that this unanimous consent be unanimous consent 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 to the presentation of the report?

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 and went into effect. It reversed 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 as convinced that 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: “We want to get rid of the Federal Communication 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 legislating the Federal Government to set internet rates in the old 1934 Bell System title II regulations. For that reason, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Object 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.

OPIOD 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 fentanyl, 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, 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 to fight against drug trafficking and take the first step toward developing a comprehensive strategy.

Our first witness will be the Secretary of State, Senator 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 legislation in the International Narcotics Control Caucus 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 roll back 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 after is making money. They don’t care about -- 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 making it harder to get away with terrorism 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 doesn’t 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 is 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 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 contract. 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 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, partially in response to criticism that the act was not being enforced. That bill passed in 1938 is called the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The bill was meant to unmask Nazi propaganda 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 law 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 investigations, though that is due in part to our 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 Agents 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 unverified 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 back 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 inquisitor 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.
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 ascertain that the exemption has 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 with comepetition 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 in 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 up to the staff to defend our laws 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.

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 down in the water. Now, all of this talk about this law is one of those people registering of that flood. We have brought the legal charges that scofflaws face for violating the law.

Now, Mr. President,I was happy to announce that Senators Cornyn, Ruben, and Young are cosponsors at the time of this introduction, and I hope that other Members will join us as well.

Now, Let’s step back for a minute and take a 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 our weather. When it snows, it stays as snow. When it rains, it doesn’t soak into the ground. It keeps on going and going and going. When we have heavy rainfall, when we get60 inches of rainfall, we get more than we have ever had in a century. When we have heavy snowfall, we get more than we had in a century.

In the 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 soaked 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. We have no longer—why are we 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.

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.

These 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 every­one 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 physical damage that a few, 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 fill the sandbags to help their neighbors. We are heartwarming. It is not just the Federal agencies, just the Federal agencies, like the Illinois Emergency Manage­ment Agency; it is the local units of government.

I want to do everything I can 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.

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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 the 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 office 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.

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 kindness and beautiful singing voice. He became known just in the hours after the shooting as somebody who ran into danger looking for his workers who 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 hamburgers 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 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 someone with each of the names of the 12 on them. What 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 that day, 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.

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 the mental health needs of the families of others.

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.

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. 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 the emergency personnel for treating the wounded and also those who have responded to the mental health needs of the families of the victims and family members of others.

But we have said that about schools; we have said that about night clubs; we have said that about concerts; we have the mental health needs of the families of others.

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 someone with each of the names of the 12 on them. What 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 that day, 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 immune to the epidemic of gun violence.

We can’t forget that sometimes in 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 there was 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, responsible for 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 solace and services, 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 then you can be so wound up 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 think is this—it is that those of us who have to 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 law. People have a better background check system. I was able to do legislatively I couldn't get my legislation passed. We had the General Assembly of Virginia and a Congress dominated by gun enthusiasts and not being willing to take actions we need to take.

One teacher in our meeting told a very vivid story about how she had to rearrange her bathroom. She keeps the 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 front 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, not 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 to do something.

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. 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 to do something.

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 6 or 7 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, suburbs, and on college campuses. This is 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 strong majorities, 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 that world, the 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, we would not have been able to get that weapon had that loophole not been there 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 through the back door, the background check is run on you and the check isn’t done in 3 weeks, they have to put the weapon on 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. The 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 in hunting, but not on those that are used in mass murder?

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 have already been 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 safe? 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.

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 post cloture 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:
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 "aye."

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:

[Roll Call Vote No. 150 Ex.]

YEAS—89

Baldwin  Harris  Reed

Barraso  Grassley  Risch

Bennet  Hawley  Roberts

Blackburn  Heitkamp  Romney

Blumenthal  Hirono  Rosen

Boozman  Hoeven  Rounds

Brown  Hyde-Smith  Rubio

Brown  Inhofe  Sasse

Burr  Isakson  Schatz

Capito  Johnson  Schumer

Cardin  Jones  Scott (FL)

Carper  Kennedy  Scott (SC)

Casey  King  Shelby

Cassidy  Lankford  Sullivan

Collins  Leahy  Smith

Coons  Manchin  Stabenow

Cortez Masto  McSally  Tester

Cotton  McSally  Thune

Crandall  Menendez  Tillis

Crapo  Merkley  Toomey

Crusoe  Moraski  Udall

Duckworth  Murphy  Van Hollen

Durbin  Murray  Warner

Enzi  Paul  Whitehouse

Feinstein  Peters  Wyden

Gardner  Portman  Young

NAYS—7

Blumenthal  Klobuchar  Warren

Gillibrand  Markley  Sanders

Harris  NOT VOTING—4

Alexander  Ernst  Fischer

Booker  Ernst  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

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

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

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, 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.
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.


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 21, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 153 Ex.]

YEAS—77


Blumenthal  Casey  Gillibrand  Grassley  Hirono  Klobuchar  Alexander  Booker  NOT VOTING—4

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 leaves 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. MCALLY). 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. 155 Ex.]

YEAS—75


Blumenthal  Casey  Gillibrand  Grassley  Hirono  Klobuchar  Alexander  Booker  NOT VOTING—4

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 leaves 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 (Ms. McALLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 74, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 156 Ex.]

YEAS—84


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 Stillwell 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 Piketon. Today, 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 of change 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 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 1912, and Montana representative Claude 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. Five centuries after our colonists granted women the right to vote in local school elections, 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 CHRISSY BUSTOS, ROBIN KELLY, JAN SCHAKOWSKY, 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 has been 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
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 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 important 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; 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. 2593. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prioritize the ascertainment 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.

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.
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, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Commission Interpretation Regarding Standard of Conduct for Investment Advisers” ((RIN3235-AM36) (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-1593. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulation Best Interest; Brokers-Dealers: Mandates 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-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 major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of flocked 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 nine (9) 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 flocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.


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: Military Department of West Virginia, Case 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, and the Depository Branches of Foreign Banking Organizations” ((23 CFR Part 200) (Docket No. FR–768–2019)) received 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” ((RIN3316-AM01) (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-1600. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Education’s Semi-annual 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-1601. 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-1602. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency’s Semiannual Report of the Office of Administration for the period from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1603. A communication from the Administrator, 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-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–B001) 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 Secretary 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 2019–0043); 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 export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to the Republic of Korea and Singapore to support the manufacture, maintenance, training, testing, maintenance, and repair of the F–15 Wide Field of View (WFOV) Heads-Up Display (HUD) in the amount of $30,000,000 (Transmittal No. EC–18–120); 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 an essential part of an arms management system in the amount of $100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTCC 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 Home- land Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

EC-1610. A communication from the Administrator, District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the OMB Guidance Memo (M 18–01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1611. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a 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-1612. A communication from the Acting 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 Acting Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency’s Semiannual Report of the Office of Policy Development and Innovation 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 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 export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to the Republic of Korea and Singapore to support the manufacture, maintenance, repair, and testing of armament to be transported to the Republic of Korea and Singapore to support the manufacture, maintenance, repair, and testing of armament to be transported, in the amount of $30,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. EC–18–119); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1616. A communication from the Acting 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 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 an essential part of an arms management system in the amount of $100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTCC 19–007); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1617. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Veterans Community Care Program” (RIN2090–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, a 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 Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
POM-41. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to recognize that the Virgin Islands, including the Virgin Islands of the United States, is the primary authority over its natural resources, and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands 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, the Virgin Islands 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 developing and managing surface 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 lands, including national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges; and

WHEREAS, federal reserved water rights differ from state-allocated 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 better efficiency. Wherefore, in pursuance of this memorial, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, pray:

1. That the United States Congress take steps to require that any new federal area 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-42. 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 and hydroelectric projects 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 Grant Program for 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. Appropriations 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 using 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 energy future. Under this Act, supra, the directive is to establish the electric power power system design to generate up to forty percent (40%) energy generation from renewable sources by 2025; sixty percent (60%) by 2030; and one hundred percent (100%) by 2035. In addition, it encourages the use of energy storage technology for all consumer levels, promotes the integration of renewable energy 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 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 grid that is resilient to the 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 President 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-81. 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 by one-half; and urge the United States Congress to consider the potential to modify existing Electric Power System design so that the 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 benefits 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 WEP causes a harsh effect on hundreds of thousands of citizens and undermines the original purpose of the Social Security dependency/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, in 2018, the WEP reduces the earned Social Security benefit using an 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 those working in lower-wage government jobs, like policemen, firefighters, teachers, and state employees;

Whereas, Louisiana is making every effort to provide the quality of life and service our citizens; and

Whereas, the number of people affected by the WEP and GPO is growing every day as more individuals are affected by the GPO and WEP is growing every day as more people are affected; and

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

Whereas, according to recent Social Security Administration figures, more than one and a half 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, in 2018, the WEP reduces the earned Social Security benefit using an 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 those working in lower-wage government jobs, like policemen, firefighters, teachers, and state employees;
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 proposals that include the following protections for low-income and moderate-income government retirees:

1. protections permitting retention of a combination of 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

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-94. 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, individual 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 benefit.

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 adverse to women; and

Whereas, in some cases, additional support in the form of income, housing, heating and prescription drug and other safety net assistance from local government 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, these benefits in dispute were paid into Social Security prior to that time; now, therefore, be it

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-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 (PTSD) 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, pray:

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:

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. 116-46).

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.

S. 1775. A bill to amend titles XVII 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. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKET):

S. 1774. A bill to amend titles XV 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, 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 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKET (for himself, Mrs. SHABEEN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1777. A bill to provide 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 or senior official of an organization that commits sexual or gender-based violence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWN:

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

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. NEGRESS, Foreign Relations):

S. 1780. 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. 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 eligibility for the International Outfall Interceptor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. 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. CASSEY, 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 for orphan drugs, for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. LEAHY):

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, pursuant to law, to provide a national employer notification service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 1788. A bill to amend section 401 of title 18, United States Code, to enhance penalties for theft of a firearm from a Federal fire-\n
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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. KAIN, Mr. JONES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHSEN, 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. MARKET):

S. 1773. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the National Housing Act to require that Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies, pursuant to investigations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. BENNIS, 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 Indian 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):
justice for all Guatemalans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. MC SALLY, 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. B RAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 159, a bill to implement equal protection for victims of attacks on Amendment 2 of 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. B ROUN) 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 (Ms. 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. 238

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 238, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to: (1) work with states, tribes, and the federal government to remove abandoned mines, (2) make sure that states and tribes have the tools they need to address dangerous and toxic problems, and (3) work with states, tribes, and the federal government to remove abandoned mines.

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: (1) authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Chiara McAliffe, (2) provide that the Secretary of the Treasury shall mint not more than 20,000 coins, and (3) require the Secretary of the Treasury to sell the coins at the market price.

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 services.

S. 287

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) 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. 293

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. 293, a bill to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, 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 HOLLLEN) 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. SHELBY) 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. VAN HOLLLEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) 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. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) 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. BURRE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, 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. 504

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALKIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 504, a bill to authorize an additional 153 special compensable disabilities for veterans.

S. 512

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALKIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. CASSIDY) 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. 869

At the request of Mr. Young, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. 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. R. Whitehouse) 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. 541

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. 541, 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. 866

At the request of Mr. Cornyn, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal) was added as a cosponsor of S. 856, 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. 1039

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. 1151

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. 1151

At the request of Ms. Collins, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (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 (Ms. 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 creation 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. 1247

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1247, 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 fluoracetate (known as “Compound 1080”) and sodium cyanide for predator control.

S. 1301

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 financial institutions to allow 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. 1545

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1545, a bill to provide for an automatic acquisition of United States citizenship for certain internationally adopted individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1554

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1554, 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 men's and women's participation in programs of study abroad, and for other purposes.

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 Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1578

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1578, a bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1579

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1579, a bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1580

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. 1581

At the request of Mr. CARNES, 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. 1582

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”.

STATISTICAL 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 I. 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) by removing “and” after the semicolon;

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end 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 grants, loans, or other Federal assistance that is disbursed or delivered to an institution or on behalf of a student or to a student to be used at 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.

“(B) FEDERAL FUND.—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 at the institution, except for loans to students awarded pursuant to section 428 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (20 U.S.C. 1087(e)) that were not made available for use at the institution, except that such loans shall not qualify as Federal funds if the following:

(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; and
"(bb) performed under the supervision of a member of the institution's faculty; and
"(cc) performed by all students in a specific educational program at the institution; and
"(III) a contractual arrangement with a Federal, State, or local government for the purpose of providing job training to low-income individuals who are in need of such training; and
"(III) presume that any Federal funds that are determined by the institution to be contributed to an institution on behalf of a student or directly to a student will be used to pay the student's tuition, except for payments made by students on such loans; and
"(v) include a scholarship provided by an outside source that—
"(I) has no affiliation with the institution; and
"(II) has no affiliation with the institution; and
"(II) institutional scholarships described in clause (v); and
"(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; and
"(v) include a scholarship provided by an institution on—
"(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
"(bb) shares no employees with the institution; and
"(vii) 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; and
"(II) the amount of funds the institution received under part A of title IV; and
"(III) the amount of funds provided by the institution as matching funds for any Federal program; and
"(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 Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, for each proprietary institution of higher education that receives assistance under part A of title IV, a report that contains—
"(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 redesigning paragraphs (25) through (29) as paragraphs (24) through (28), respectively; and
"(C) in paragraph (29) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—
"(i) by striking "subsection (e)" and inserting "subsection (d)"; and
"(ii) by striking subsection (d); and
"(iii) by redesigning 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)"; and
"(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)(20)".

(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 "subsection (a)(27)" and (h) of section 487 and inserting "subsection (a)(26)" and (g) of section 487; and
"(B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(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 146(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. 1781. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Stamp Out Elder Abuse Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
S. 1781. 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 Services’ 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 implementing the Elder Justice Act, providing legal, law enforcement, and financial assistance, and initiatives that prevent elder abuse. Notably, this bill would help to provide needed additional revenue to tackle elder abuse without compromising the Federal government’s single penny.

Abuse of older Americans is sadly prevalent—no matter the person’s gender, race, religion, or ethnic or cultural background. Each year, 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 common in other 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 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. Some 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 was 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 as such, he was her 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 the woman’s accounts and property. Fortunately, in this case, the conservator, who was legally responsible for protecting the

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

Combating 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 a victim of elder abuse and elder 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 nonprofit organizations, 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

Hon. Susan Collins, Chairman, Special Committee on Aging, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Chairman Collins: On behalf of the nonprofit Elder Justice Coalition which represents more than 3,000 members, I write to commend your leadership 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, 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

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,

JONATHAN F. THOMPSON, Executive Director and CEO.

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 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 offers a clear vision and a simple mission—to keep seniors safe.

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

Sincerely,

MAI FERNANDEZ, Executive Director.

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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.

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 and laundering 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

HEROES 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 and laundering 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

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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 and laundering 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 ruled criminally culpable that Thelma Aldana—Guatemala’s former Attorney General who led efforts to tackle corruption in Guatemala—was ineligible to run in presidential elections;

Whereas, according to Guatemalan media, approximately 150 candidates running for a seat in Guatemala’s legislature have been cited for criminal irregularities, including having received suspicious government contracts, not meeting electoral requirements, and possible ties to illegal activities;

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, is making “good progress” to root out clandestine networks of corrupt actors, including the uncovering of a massive corruption scheme in 2015 led by former President Pérez Molina and former Vice President Bartlett;

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 raise 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 180,000 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, 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 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

(4) 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 United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG);

(5) commits the efforts of President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales to expel and undermine CICIG;

(6) 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

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

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 cognition, perception, mobility, and action; and

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 $350,000 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.

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 1990s, 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) recognizes 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 these 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 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 “any period”;

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

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June 11, 2019
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 this chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 21704 the following new item:

"21704A. Nondiscrimination."
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 who was killed 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 Cuban 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 and the United States were in a standoff of proxy wars, which resulted in the Cold War.

(11) Although no direct large-scale military fighting occurred between the military branches 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 26,000 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and fewer than 12 additional casualties.

(12) The fourth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel is known as the Vietnam War.

(13) The Vietnam War started when the United States of America, and the United Kingdom, and the Democratic Army of Greece, the military branch of the Communist Party of China, engaged in a series of proxy wars, which resulted in the Vietnam War.

(14) During the military operations of the Vietnam War, not fewer than 51 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 deaths 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, and United Kingdom, group sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency that resulted in the deaths of one member of the Armed Forces who sacrificed his life in service to the United States.

(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 the Cold War's conflict, which was the deployment of a Soviet ballistic missile in Cuba.

(20) During the Cuban Missile Crisis, one member of the Armed Forces who was killed 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 29 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 24 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, 1953, more than 79,000 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 797 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 the 12th unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel who were wounded and killed serving their country were administered under a number of separate legislative acts and with the consent of Congress, proving that the United States has been conducting a deadly wartime service to protect the country's interests since December 7, 1941.

(35) Eligibility for membership in The American Legion is determined by Congress through the establishment of specific dates of death and the classification of such deaths 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 assists, caring, 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, comforted, and provided 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) 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 to provide 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—’’;

(ii) 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 “a period”;

and

(3) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or time” after “a 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.”

GLOIOBLASTOMA 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.
Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Mr. Howell Begle—a veteran Army captain, lawyer, advocate for R&B singers’ rights and my dear friend.

Howell’s life was spent in service to his country and helping others. After receiving his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1968, Howell was commissioned a captain in the JAG Corps, defending soldiers who were being tried for minor transgressions like growing their hair too long or neglecting to salute an officer, and explaining the Geneva Convention to soldiers who were being shipped out to fight in Vietnam.

Howell left the Army in 1973 and began working in Washington, D.C. as a successful corporate lawyer specializing in media mergers. His many prestigious clients included the Kennedy Center, the American Film Institute, and the Academy Awards. A lifelong fan of R&B music, Howell began advocating for R&B artists after learning that one of his favorite singers, Ruth Brown, hadn’t received royalties from her former record company, Atlantic Records, in decades.

Using his years of experience working in the legal profession, Howell helped Brown pressure Atlantic records to eventually dispense her royalties in 1988—28 years after they were due. Howell’s pro bono work led to industrywide royalty reform and Atlantic Records recalculating royalties for its numerous R&B artists, many of whom were African American and living in poverty due to unfair payment practices. That same year, Atlantic Records helped create the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, which gives grants to artists in need. Howell served as the foundation’s first executive director.

Howell’s work touched many lives, but his most significant accomplishment was the family he loved and cherished. He was deeply committed to his wife Julie, his children Mark, Matthew, Charles and Kristin and his three grandchildren.

In an interview, Howell once told The Washington Post: “Too often in one’s professional career, you don’t get a chance to be on the right side of the right issue.” Today, I thank Howell for being on the right side of the right issue and for his years of committed service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Howell Begle’s distinguished life and legacy.
World War I, who upon returning home noticed a lack of government assistance in as-similating back to their pre-service lives. Though they had experienced extreme suf-
ferring during the war, veterans received no disability compensation, comprehensive med-
care, pensions for widows and orphans, or vocational rehabilitation. As a result, The American Legion sought to create a self-help organiza-
tion that would provide veterans with devoted care nationwide with Posts in local commun-

The American Legion’s mission was founded on four principles: Veterans Affairs and Re-
habilitation, Americanism, National Security, and Children and Youth, and these principles reflect the founders’ vision for America, one in which military veterans are honored, re-
spected, and prosperous. For 100 years, they have done just that as The American Legion has made great strides in strengthening veter-
ans care. In 1923, results from a nationwide survey conducted by The American Legion shocked the nation, as they showed that many veterans from the Great War had given up hope and were homeless, suffering from PTSD, and were merely attempting to survive. As a result, the Veterans Bureau was created, and federal and state laws were enacted that provided greater care for veterans.

One of the laws that The American Legion is credited for creating is the Servicemen’s Re-
covery Act of 1944, or the GI Bill, which provided benefits for servicemen returning from World War II. A lifeline to the veteran community, today The American Legion boasts over 2 million members and 13,000 posts nationwide. Some of the nationwide programs include The American Legion Baseball program, which is dedicated to mentoring the youth of America and Operation Comfort Warriors, which provides recovering wounded warriors with comfort items during their time in hospitals.

I am proud to recognize The American Le-

gen for a century of outstanding service to veterans nationwide. I ask all Mem-
bers to join me in congratulating The American Legion for its remarkable achievements.

CITRUS COLLEGE, GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I con-
gratulate Citrus College, the first California community college to receive top honors for student success by a national organization. At an awards ceremony held on April 15, 2019, AACC Board Chair, Dr. Sandra Kurnititis, presented Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, Superintendent/Presi-
dent of Citrus College, with the 2019 AACC Award of Excellence in the Student Success category. This well-deserved national recogni-
tion affirms the outstanding campus-wide effort to boost completion and transfer rates. Citrus College is the only community college in Cali-
ifornia to have been honored by the AACC in 2019.

Every year, the AACC recognizes the ex-
ceptional work accomplished by the nation’s community colleges by presenting Awards of Excellence in six categories: Student Success, Advancing Diversity, CEO/Board Relationship, Innovations in Teaching & Learning, Faculty Innovation, and Outstanding College/Cor-
porate Partnership. The AACC Award of Ex-
cellence in the Student Success category rec-
ognizes a community college that has dem-
onstrated a sustained commitment to student achievement. The criteria used to determine this year’s finalists included the development of a comprehensive strategic completion plan, the achievement of measurable and significant increases in degree completion, certificate completion, and transfer from two-year to four-
year institutions.

Citrus College was highlighted for estab-
lishing and promoting an associate degree for transfer (ADT) pathway to four-year colleges and universities, and for introducing the Citrus College Promise, a program designed to cover enrollment fees and other college costs for first-time students for up to two years. As a re-

sult of the college’s efforts, transfers have risen by 38 percent from 2014 to 2017.

We send our sincere congratulations to Dr. Perri and all students, faculty, staff, and Mem-
bers of the Board of Trustees at Citrus Col-
lege, and we wish them continued success.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL TRANS-
PORTATION SECURITY CAPABIL-
ITIES ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2539, “Strengthening Local Transportation Security Capabilities Act of 2019.”

H.R. 2539 requires DHS to prioritize the as-
ignment of officers and intelligence analysts from TSA and DHS to locations with par-
icipating State, local, and regional fusion cen-
ters in jurisdictions with a high-risk surface transportation asset.

The tragic events of 9/11 thrust the issue of physical security into public domain as never before and set in motion responses that have resulted in transportation in unforeseen ways.

H.R. 2539 authorizes DHS to develop, through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, a training program to enhance the protection, preparedness, and response capac-
ities of law enforcement agencies with respect to terrorism and other serious incidents at surface transportation assets.

In addition, threats to health, such as the spread of pandemics, present significant chal-

lenges to transport planning and operations.

Railway stations and airports are some of the most densely populated sites anywhere.

From 2009, all the fights originating, bound to or flying over the United States had their list of passengers cross-referenced by a central no-fly list managed by the TSA.

Security involves many steps, from restrict-
ing access to airport facilities, fortifying cock-
pits, the setting of no-fly lists, to the more ex-
tensive security screening of passengers.

Screening now involves more rigorous in-
spections of passengers and their baggage at airports, including restrictions on what can be personally carried in airplanes such as gels and liquids.

Considering the emergence of global supply chains, the emphasis in freight transport secu-

rity is gradually shifting into a more com-
prehensive but complex approach.

The large number of large ports and vast fleet of global shipping and the range of products car-
rried in vessels, and the difficulty of detection has made the issue of security in shipping an extremely difficult one to address.

The less regulated and greater international fragments of the shipping industry have made it vulnerable to security breaches.

We need appropriate security measures to protect the susceptibility of American lives against possible acts of violence and ter-

rorism.

The growth in the use of information tech-

nologies and their associated networks have opened new forms of vulnerability as control and management systems can be remotely accessed.
This has resulted in complex interconnected corporate information networks that can be hacked and disrupted.

Trained officials and security experts work arduously to assess and mitigate the safety of passenger flow at transportation hubs.

Taken together, the bill’s provisions enhance the capabilities of local transportation security stakeholders to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks and other serious incidents.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2539 to strengthen our nation’s ports of transportation to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable to vote in the House on June 10, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 242; YEA on Roll Call No. 243; and YEA on Roll Call No. 244.

UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE, LA VERNE, CALIFORNIA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the University of La Verne on being ranked 5th in the nation for social mobility of graduates, according to U.S. News & World Report in its 2019 Best Colleges rankings. These high marks affirm the university’s record of success in helping students from low-income families achieve equity with graduates from families with stronger financial backgrounds.

I recently had the honor of addressing the University of La Verne’s 2019 graduating class during the commencement ceremony on May 31, 2019, where I noted this distinguished ranking, and I was grateful to meet several students from all backgrounds and their families. These future leaders are poised to enter the workforce, continue their studies, and make a difference in our communities and the world around them.

For its social mobility rankings, U.S. News & World Report focused on how effective universities are at serving and graduating students who receive federal Pell Grants. Pell Grants are awarded to students from families with a household income that is typically less than $50,000 annually.

We congratulate University of La Verne President Deborah Lieberman and all students, alumni, faculty, and staff on this well-deserved national recognition, and we wish them continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS 2019 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Citizen of the Year Awards. The Federation is a coalition of civic and homeowners associations who work together to promote and support initiatives that will benefit all. Each year, the Federation honors individuals for their extraordinary contributions to our community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following individuals: 2019 Citizen of the Year: Catherine Ledecc.

Cathy Ledecc has lived a lifetime of volunteerism that began when she was 14. She volunteers with several Fairfax County Park Authority programs and is active in the Commission on numerous citizen science activities with both the Fairfax County Park Authority and the National Audubon Society. In January 2019, Cathy was elected as Chair of the Fairfax County Tree Commission. She is also the liaison for the Commission to the Commonwealth’s Task Force on Human Trafficking. Most recently, Tania has served as President of the Fairfax County Park Authority. In that role, she established leadership development for future officers to ensure the continuity of the organization. Tania has also led extensive membership outreach and increased online visibility to accordance District residents which has led the PDC being one of the most active and engaged District Councils in Fairfax County.

Special Gratitude Award: John F. Ribble III: John F. Ribble III has been a member of the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals since 1982, serving as Vice-Chairman for several years and as Chairman since 2012. John has also been active in Riverside Gardens Civic Association in Alexandria, serving as President four times. He remains active in the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, currently serving as one of the organization’s co-chairs. He has also served in leadership on numerous other groups. He served as Co-Chair of the Mount Vernon Council Task Force and as a member of the Fairfax County Council of the Arts, now known as Arts Fairfax. He has also been active in Riverside Gardens Civic Association in Alexandria, serving as President for four times. He remains active in the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, currently serving as one of the organization’s co-chairs.

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. TIPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sdg. First Class Will D. Lindsay from
Cortez, Colorado, an American soldier who was recently killed defending our country in the Kunduz Province of Afghanistan. He and Spc. Joseph Collette, both Fort Carson based soldiers, were killed in an attack fighting against the Taliban.

Sgt. Lindsay was born in Cortez in 1985. The grandson of World War II veteran Richard Lindsay and World War II veteran Warren Waldorf, he was no stranger to service. He followed his grandfather’s footsteps when he enlisted into the Army in 2004, ultimately getting selected into the elite 10th Special Forces Group. This prestigious fighting group deploys to some of the world’s most heated combat zones and Sgt. Lindsay bravely deployed with them seven times including five tours in Iraq, one in Tajikistan and this final deployment to Afghanistan.

As a highly decorated combat veteran, Sgt. Lindsay had an expansive list of military awards and decorations to include a Silver Star, Purple Heart, four Bronze Stars, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Meritorious Unit Awards, the Valorous Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, four Army Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral four, the Army Service Ribbon, two Overseas Service Ribbons, the NATO Medal, the Special Forces Tab, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Chilean Airborne Wings, and the Senior Instructor Badge. Sgt. Lindsay’s record is a testament to his commitment of putting country before self, as he did in the Army for nearly 15 years.

I stand before the House of Representatives with a heavy heart thinking about his family and their great loss, especially his wife Sarah, his four daughters and his parents Grant and Tammy. I join the town of Cortez, his brothers and sisters in arms, and the entire nation in mourning his untimely death. I have gotten to know Sgt. Lindsay’s family over the years and his loss will be felt by many in our small community.

Madam Speaker, Sgt. Lindsay’s death is a painful reminder of the sacrifices our men and women in the military endure. Sgt. Lindsay was a true American hero from one of the most rural areas in Colorado who died protecting his men and the country he loved. He dedicated his life to selflessly protect our great nation and we are all proud of him. His loss is tragic, but his legacy will be remembered for generations to come, and the world is a better place because of him.

RECOGNIZING THE VIENNA ARTS SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERARD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Vienna Arts Society on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Since 1969, the Vienna Arts Society has worked to cultivate and maintain an interest in the fine arts in the Town of Vienna. The impact that the arts can have on a community and its residents cannot be overstated. As an amateur thespian myself, I can attest to the transformative power the arts can have on an individual’s life and I commend the Vienna Arts Society for its work to ensure that this transformative power is found in Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society does this in many different ways, whether it be its annual print making workshop for children, providing illustrated programs for the Town calendar, creating Christmas decorations for display during the holidays, providing high school scholarships or their work with numerous Scout troops.

This year is also significant because the Vienna Arts Society is hosting the first ever national art competition in the town, through its Treasure of Art reception at the newly renovated Vienna Community Center. I look forward to seeing the contributions of our local residents. A number of those artists are also receiving awards as a result of the excellence of their work. I am pleased to include in the Record the names of the following individuals:

1ST PLACE
Lola Santos, “Plo”, acrylic & collage
2ND PLACE
Carolyn Marshall Wright, “Cherries Jubilee” acrylic on canvas
3RD PLACE
Ray Goodrow, “Rodeo” watercolor
HONORABLE MENTIONS
Karen Hutchison, “Indigo Blues” acrylic & mixed medium
Carla Steckley, “Aspens” photograph
Susan Scanlon, “Girl with a Red Bag” photograph
Helen Power, “Layers & Levels” mixed media
Grace Rooney, “Field of Flowers” acrylic on yupo
Alice Nodine, “Safezone” acrylic & ink on paper

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the winners of the Treasure of Art show and in congratulating the Vienna Arts Society on this momentous anniversary. I wish them great success in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes Monday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 5. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 232 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2157, the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 233 (Passing H.R. 2940): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 234 (Approving the Journal): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 235 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 236 (Passing H. Res. 415): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 237 (Passing H. Res. 390): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 238 (Passing H. Res. 391): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 239 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 6): NO;
Roll Call Vote Number 240 (Passing H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act): YES;
Roll Call Vote Number 241 (Passing H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019): YES.

UNITED STATES-MEXICO TOURISM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF
HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 951, the “United States-Mexico Tourism Improvement Act of 2019.”

H.R. 951 addresses the decline in tourist activity between the United States and Mexico.

The bill aims to strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexican tourism industries by advocating for increased cooperation through both government and non-governmental channels. Specifically, the legislation seeks to—improve third-party tourism to both countries through joint international promotional efforts; prioritize exchange programs in various economic sectors; and promote cross-border medical partnerships.

Mexico is the biggest source of international visitors to the United States after Canada. In 2016, Mexican tourism to the United States peaked at 18,990,585 visitors, constituting 1 in 4 (24.9 percent) of all tourists that year.

Additionally, in 2016, spending by Mexican tourists in the United States totaled $20.3 billion, which represented a 3 percent growth from 2015.

In 2017, international tourist arrivals totaled 76,900,000, up 0.7 percent from 76,400,000 in 2016.

The same year, 77,000,000 international visitors spent a record $251.4 billion on hotels, travel, food, and souvenirs, a 2-percent increase over 2016.

However, also in 2017, there was a 6.1-percent decline in visitors to the United States from Mexico, comprising a loss of 1,166,585 Mexican tourists from 2016.

The Department of Commerce has not yet released 2017 spending totals by Mexican tourists in the United States, but a corresponding monetary decline would be approximately $1.24 billion in lost revenue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 951 to promote bilateral tourism through the United States and Mexico.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIENNA-OAKTON CHAPTER 1116 OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. GERARD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE).
Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, CRS CrisisLink has determined that an estimated 72,000 residents of Northern Virginia have a serious mental illness with the majority of whom not receiving treatment. Given the high numbers of persons with mental illness, PRS seeks ways to serve those in need through a variety of programs.

PRS CrisisLink hotlines are staffed by highly trained volunteers and crisis line workers who provide helpful information about community services, referrals to mental health services and tips on how to help those struggling with mental health issues.

With many community members in Northern Virginia and the Washington, D.C. region still in dire need of mental health services and support, PRS CrisisLink aims to further expand service delivery to reach as many individuals as possible.

Each year, PRS serves more than 1,100 clients. Last year alone the volunteers and staff at CrisisLink responded to 45,000 phone calls. I commend the staff and volunteers for their selfless service to our community. The tools they provide to those with mental illness live with dignity and become fully integrated members of our community.

Madam Speaker, programs like PRS CrisisLink are a testament to good community leadership and further evidence that we live in a community that cares. I commend the staff and volunteers of PRS CrisisLink for the lifesaving work they do every day on behalf of others. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating PRS CrisisLink on its 50th anniversary and in thanking them for their continued service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Madam Speaker, was unable to cast my vote on June 10, 2019 for Roll Call Vote 242, Roll Call Vote 243, and Roll Call Vote 244. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 242, Yea on Roll Call Vote 243, and Yea on Roll Call 244.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRS CRISISLINK

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the “Transportation Emergency Relief Funds Availability Act” to safeguard federal funding for disaster-recovery projects.

I want to thank my colleagues from California’s Congressional delegation for their support: Representatives JARED HUFFMAN (D-CN), MIKE THOMPSON (D-CA), NICK CONNOLLY of California, and the California State Association of Counties and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) for their support of this critical legislation for our state.

Madam Speaker, I hope that any surface transportation reauthorization bill this Congress will include the “Transportation Emergency Relief Funds Availability Act.” This is a major priority for California: the nation’s most populous state and the fifth largest economy in the world. As a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I am working with my fellow California colleagues to see this done.

TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the past and current members and leaders of NARFE Chapter 1116. They have contributed to a thriving civic society in Northern Virginia and are part of the backbone that makes both our community and this country great. I would like to specifically recognize President Kathy Arpa and the other officers and board members for their dedication and efforts on behalf of our current and retired federal employees.

The federal government cannot function effectively and efficiently without the hard work and commitment of our exceptional civil servants. NARFE Chapter 1116 has advocated and supported our public servants for the past 50 years and I am honored to recognize the Chapter on this occasion.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating NARFE Chapter 1116 for 50 years of service to our federal workers and to wish them continued success protecting the rights of current and future federal workers and retirees.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 FAIRFAX COUNTY VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, was unable to cast my vote on June 10, 2019 for Roll Call Vote 242, Roll Call Vote 243, and Roll Call Vote 244. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 242, Yea on Roll Call Vote 243, and Yea on Roll Call 244.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRS CRISISLINK

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize PRS CrisisLink on its 50th anniversary. This occasion carries great significance recognizing PRS CrisisLink on its 50th anniversary and in thanking them for their continued service to our community.

Transportation Emergency Relief Funds Availability Act

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Volunteer Fairfax and express my sincere appreciation to recipients of the 27th Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. Established more than 40 years ago, Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of thousands of volunteers with the needs of local non-profit organizations. The success of this model and its impact on delivery of needed services is beyond question; Volunteer Fairfax has been rated as one of the most effective community service organizations in the nation.

Last year alone, over 6,000 individuals contributed more than 328,000 volunteer hours totaling almost $8,000,000. These staggering numbers are a testament to the strong ethos of public service and of volunteerism that exists in Fairfax County and is one of the many reasons why this community is such a wonderful place to live.

Each year, Volunteer Fairfax selects a few exceptional individuals, groups, or organizations to receive special recognition. It is my great pleasure to include in the Record the following names of the 2019 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards honorees.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Bredthred District: Allan Boswell Robertson
Dranesville District: Homer W. Johns
Hunter Mill District: St John Neumann
Catholic Church
Lee District: Liz Murphy
Mason District: Binod Gupta
Mount Vernon District: Jonathan Kiell
Providence District: Oakton Women’s Club
Springfield District: Jenni Cantwell
Sully District: Carol Robinson
At-Large: John D. Pellegrin

COMPETITIVE AWARD WINNERS
Adult Volunteer 250 Hours and Over: Julie Hill
Adult Volunteer 250 Hours and Under: Danae Delman
Adult Volunteer Group: OLLI Photo Club
Corporate Volunteer Program: Mt. Vernon Center for Dentistry
Fairfax County Government Individual Volunteer: Stephen Richardson
Fairfax County Government Volunteer Program: Fairfax County Public Library Volunteer Program
Family Volunteer: Linda and Stefanie Kline
Lifetime Achievement: Kevin Holland
Rising Star: Stephanie Bridgewater
RSVP: Sheller Brosnan
Senior Volunteer: Alcira Pernot
Volunteer Program: Ecumenical Community Helping Others
Youth Volunteer: Carmela Dangale
Youth Volunteer Group: Stony Brook Jr. Volunteers
In addition, Benchmark Honors will be awarded in four different categories to commend those who have contributed 100, 250, 500, or 1,000 hours of volunteer time to our community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Volunteer Fairfax for its dedication to outstanding community service. I congratulate the recipients of the 2019 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards and thank them and the thousands of other local volunteers for their incredible contributions to our community. Their selfless dedication is worthy of our highest praise and is one of the main reasons that our community is often ranked as one of the best places in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO ADD SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCES TO SCHOOL IDENTIFICATION CARDS
HON. J. LUIS CORREA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, in 2017, there were more than 47,000 suicides nationwide, making it the tenth-leading cause of death.

Tragically, among teenagers and young adults, the suicide rate is particularly alarming, with suicide the second-leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 and 24.

For people experiencing suicidal thoughts or emotional distress, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Crisis Text Line provide free and confidential round-the-clock support. Many colleges and universities also offer mental health resources on campus.

To raise awareness of these available resources, the bill simply requires colleges and universities to provide the contact information for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline; Crisis Text Line; and a campus mental health center, if applicable, on student identification cards. For colleges and universities that do not provide identification cards to their students, schools must ensure that the information is available on their website.

Suicide is a major public health problem. Providing information on existing suicide prevention resources can help students experiencing suicidal thoughts or emotional distress and potentially save lives.

HONORING SUNNY SUNG-IN KIM
HON. JOE WILSON
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Sunny Sung-In Kim, 68, died on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at Fairfax at Fair Oaks in Fairfax, Virginia following a three-year battle with an aggressive meningioma. His final days were spent surrounded by his loving family, especially his five beloved grandchildren who serenaded him with music, song and laughter. Sunny was born on November 16, 1950 in Pusan, Korea during the Korean War. He enlisted in the Republic of Korea Marine Corps, graduated basic training with the 218th Class and served from 1969 to 1972, having achieved the rank of Lance Corporal.

He emigrated to the United States in 1973, became a naturalized citizen and on May 11, 1975, he married the love of his life, Susan Bok-Ja Kim in Long Island, New York. Their wedding was officiated by the Reverend Dr. Young-Kyo Hahn (1902–1982), an historically renowned Korean Christian Scholar and civic leader who was a former Dean of the College and Graduate School at Yonsei University. Dr. Hahn led Sunny and his wife into the Christian faith, the Presbyterian Church and baptized them. Together the couple had two sons. In 1986, Sunny founded and was President of Grass Roots, Inc., a food service and catering business with multiple locations in the Financial District of Boston, Massachusetts. He retired to Haymarket, Virginia to be near his sons and grandchildren after nearly three decades of running the company together with his wife.

Sunny had a lifelong passion of service to his community and served as President of the Korean American Association of New England and the Secretary-General of the Federation of Korean Associations, U.S.A. He was also instrumental in being the driving force for the creation of the Massachusetts Korean War Veterans Memorial at the Charlestown Naval Shipyard. Having never forgotten the 36,574 U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines that paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect and defend freedom during the Korean War when he was born, he dedicated his life to honoring all Korean War veterans and their families. For his contributions to the U.S.-Korea alliance and the Korean American community, Sunny was the recipient of a Presidential Commendation by the President of the Republic of Korea.

An active member of the Korean Presbyterian Church in Greater Boston where he was an ordained Elder, Sunny’s deep and abiding Christian faith was the foundation of his family. He instilled in his sons the virtues of generosity, graciousness and a heart of gratitude. An avid sports enthusiast, he was a devoted fan of the Washington Redskins and the Boston Red Sox. In the final years of his life, he was often brought to tears cheering on his grandchildren while watching them play football, lacrosse and baseball.

Sunny is survived by his wife of 44 years, Susan Bok-Ja Kim, his sons Thomas (Nancy) and James (Susan) and his grandchildren Thomas “TJ” Kim, Rachel Kim, Samuel Kim, William Kim and Henry Kim. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, June 12 at Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, 9902 Braddock Road Fairfax, VA 22032 at 7:00PM. The Burial Service will be held on Thursday, June 13 at Fairfax Memorial Park, 9900 Braddock Road Fairfax, VA 22032 at 10:00AM. Memorials may be directed to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance in Washington, D.C. or to Open Door Presbyterian Church in Herndon, Virginia.

RECOGNIZING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA PASTOR VERNON C. WALTON
HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize First Baptist Church of Vienna and my friend, Pastor Vernon C. Walton, on the occasion of his service as pastor. Installed in 2014 after the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Kenny Smith, Pastor Walton has continued the legacy of spiritual wealth left behind by his predecessor. As someone who spent time with Rev. Dr. Smith, I can attest that having to fill his shoes as pastor is an unenviable task. However, Pastor Walton has not only succeeded in this task, but thrived.

As someone who studied for the Catholic priesthood, I can also speak to the unique benefits and challenges of being called to ministering to a congregation as large as First Baptist Church of Vienna is a significant undertaking and I commend Pastor Walton for handling it with dedication, devotion and with grace.

Pastor Walton’s tenure has also enhanced First Baptist Church of Vienna’s civic engagement. I have attended multiple events in the sanctuary designed to boost the civic engagement and awareness of the congregation. Most recently, I attended a community forum on affordable housing put together by the Fairfax chapter of the NAACP. Pastor Walton graciously allowed its sanctuary to be used as the staging location for the event and Pastor Walton was a featured speaker. The sight of hundreds of people, many of them congregation members, coming together to educate themselves on one of the most pressing issues facing our community was inspiring. I have no doubt that there will be more events like this under Pastor Walton’s leadership.

In times of turmoil and uncertainty, it is critical that members of a community have a unifying force or entity in which they can find strength and reassurance. First Baptist Church of Vienna has provided that spiritual strength for this community for centuries and I am confident that, under the leadership of Pastor
Mr. Robinson was rewarded by French Gen-

Yorktown ended with the British surrendering.

which he played a pivotal role in the over-

regiment. James Robinson fought at the bat-

ognizing his accomplishments and honoring

who fought for American independence, Mr.

pride that we honor the memory of James

Acosta Job Corps Center Day which is cele-

G. Acosta Job Corps Center today, on Fred G.

training the youth of Arizona's 3rd District. For

poverty, strengthening local communities, im-

ter's accomplishments in breaking the cycle of

women to start a career, enroll in advanced

other services to empower young men and

benefited from the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps

Forty years, thousands of young people have

Center serves hundreds of young adults by

Center's comprehensive residential, academic

anniversary of the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps

CELEBRATING FRED G. ACOSTA

JOB CORPS CORPS CENTER DAY IN THE

CITY OF TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise
today to recognize and celebrate the fortieth
anniversary of the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps
Center in Tucson, Arizona. Over these past
fifty years, thousands of young people have
benefited from the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps
Center's comprehensive educational, academic
and career technical training program.

Each year, the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps
Center serves hundreds of young adults by
providing a career in technical education and
a path to a high school diploma. Furthermore,
the center provides social skills training and
other services to empower young men and
women to start a career, enroll in advanced
training, enroll in college, or enter the Armed
Forces. I am specifically grateful for the Cen-
ter's accomplishments in breaking the cycle of
poverty, strengthening local communities, im-
proving the quality of life of thousands, and
for its continued contributions in educating and
training the youth of Arizona's 3rd District. For
these reasons, I move that the United States
House of Representatives celebrate the Fred
G. Acosta Job Corps Center today, on Fred G.
Acosta Job Corps Center Day which is cele-
brated in July 10th.

HONORING THE MEMOR Y OF

JAMES ROBINSON

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is with great
pride that we honor the memory of James
Robinson, who fought heroically in the Amer-
ican Revolutionary. Like many African Americans
who fought for American independence, Mr.
Robinson's contributions went unrecognized
for too long. We will right that injustice by rec-
ognizing his accomplishments and honoring his
memory.

Mr. Robinson was born into slavery in Mary-
land in 1753. After the Revolutionary War
broke out in 1775, he served in a light infantry
regiment. James Robinson fought at the bat-
tles of Brandywine and Yorktown, during which
he played a pivotal role in the over-
taking of the British rampart. The battle of
Yorktown ended with the British surrendering.
Mr. Robinson was rewarded by French Gen-
eral Marquis de Lafayette with a Gold Medal of
Valor.

Despite having been promised his freedom
in exchange for his service, Mr. Robinson re-
mained in slavery. He fought in the war of
1812. He eventually became free and went on
to work as a preacher. In short, James Robin-
son lived an extraordinary life. He passed
away at the age of one hundred fifteen, buried
without recognition for his bravery and remark-
able work.

It is an honor to see James Robinson's con-
tributions receive the recognition they deserve.
We are thankful for his service and give honor
to his memory and legacy.

HONORING DR. WALTER TRIBLEY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today
to recognize Dr. Walter Tribley for his distin-
guished service as the President of Monterey
Peninsula College (MPC). Dr. Tribley served
as President of MPC from 2012 to 2019 and
will assume the position of President of North-
ern Wyoming Community College District this
Fall. Dr. Tribley has had a profound impact on
MPC, its students and our community on the
central coast of California, and I am grateful
for his contributions.

Under Dr. Tribley's leadership as President,
MPC became a model for other colleges and
universities to emulate. His efforts have con-
tributed to a diverse learning environment
where all students have the opportunity to
achieve their education dreams. In each of the
2006–07 through 2009 academic year, Hispanic
and Latino students made up less than 20 percent of MPC's
total student body. Less than decade later,
that number doubled to more accurately rep-
resent the population of the Central Coast.
Furthermore, the number of total young people
between the ages of 18 and 24 enrolling in
higher education at MPC has risen signifi-
cantly during Dr. Tribley's tenure.

Many positive changes to MPC are a result
of Dr. Tribley's ability to articulate a strong vi-
sion and implement tangible and innovative
policies. Examples of these forward-thinking
approaches include the establishment of dual
enrollment programs for local high school stu-
dents and offering free tuition to first year stu-
dents. Dr. Tribley was also instrumental in
MPC's College Incentive Program and acquir-
ing the Title V Developing Hispanic-Surviving
Institutions Grant for a transfer and degree
completion initiative titled "Ready, Set, Transfer."
Both programs aim to expand access to higher
education and increase success rates
among underserved students. Dr. Tribley also
demonstrated his financial management skills
by reducing unnecessary spending and being a
responsible steward of public funds.

Dr. Tribley's service is not limited to MPC.
He serves in a number of advisory roles, in-
cluding his membership on the South Bay Re-
gional Public Safety Training Consortium, the
Monterey County Workforce Investment
Board, the Monterey County Children's Coun-
cil, and the Monterey Peninsula College Foun-
dation. While our community will certainly miss
Dr. Tribley's presence, I am confident that he
will continue his success and purpose in his
future undertakings.

Dr. Walter Tribley embodies the meaning of
a community leader and has undoubtedly
made a lasting impact on community pros-
perity and education on the Central Coast.
Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished
colleagues please join me in thanking Dr.
Tribley for his significant contributions and
wishing him success in his new position as
President of Northern Wyoming Community
College District.

RECOGNIZING JUNE 7TH AS NA-
TIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARE-
NESS DAY

HON. KATIE HILL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, I
rise today to declare June 7th, National Gun
Violence Awareness Day. Today we are re-
mined of the epidemic of senseless gun vio-
ence that plagues our nation. Our inaction has
took too many innocent lives. Every day,
100 Americans are killed by gun violence and
countless others are wounded. We are fortu-
nate to have passionate, forward-thinking,
dedicated organizations like Moms Demand
Action who work tirelessly to enact change
and protect our community. It's time we do our
part.

As a lifelong gun owner, I know that re-
specting the Second Amendment and advo-
cating for gun safety measures are not mutu-
ally exclusive. We can adequately retain the
right to bear arms while keeping our kids and
comunities safe.

Like most law-abiding gun owners, I believe
that high-risk individuals like terrorists, domes-
tic violence abusers, convicted criminals, and
those suffering from mental illness, who are
inclined to hurt themselves or others, should
ever be allowed to purchase weapons.

That is why I cosponsored and voted for
H.R. 8, The Bipartisan Background Checks
Act of 2019, which establishes new back-
ground check requirements for firearm trans-
fers between private parties. On February 27,
The House passed H.R. 8—the first time in 25
years that a piece of gun violence prevention
legislation came to the House floor for a vote.
This is a public safety issue, not a partisan
issue. Not only do we need stricter back-
ground checks, but we also need to provide
funding to the Center for Disease Control and
Prevention to research gun violence as the
public health concern that it is. We have a re-
sponsibility to do everything we can to ad-
dress this problem.

Gun safety is a priority for me because I
have lived and worked with too many constituents
who are afraid for their lives. One constituent
survived the 2017 Las Vegas mass shooting,
only to be killed the following year at the Bor-
derine Bar mass shooting just outside our dis-
trict. I will always fight for the people of the
Antelope, Simi, and Santa Clarita Valleys,
above all, and I am committed to pursuing pol-
icy solutions that address both the outcomes
and root causes of these tragedies.

By wearing orange and commemorating Na-
tional Gun Violence Awareness Day, Ameri-
cans will raise awareness about gun violence
and honor the lives and human potential
of Americans stolen by gun violence. I want to
thank the advocates and leaders all across
America, but especially at home in my district,
Hon. Bennie G. Thompson of Mississippi in the House of Representatives Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a valiant and selfless community servant, Hezekiah Watkins.

In the summer of 1961, Hezekiah Watkins sought out to see the Freedom Riders make history at the Greyhound bus station in Jackson, Mississippi. Though his mother warned him of his potential demise, their home being burned, and other risks of activism; Watkins couldn’t be dissuaded from watching the protesters combat segregated public transportation up close and personal.

At age 13, Watkins’ life changed forever when he was pushed into the bus station, mistaken for an “outside agitator,” and sent to Parchman Farm, the Mississippi State Penitentiary. While incarcerated, Watkins was celled with two inmates convicted of murder, who tormented, molested, and physically abused him. They also stole his food leaving him with only scraps of fat, syrup and a biscuit. He was returned to his mother in Jackson five days later, who anticipated identifying his remains.

Hearing of Watkins’ incarceration, James Bevel, a prominent civil rights leader, visited Watkins’ home in Jackson. While Watkins still had no intentions of joining the movement, Bevel insisted he was needed. After hearing Bevel deliver a powerful sermon at church, Bevel gained the trust of both Watkins and his mother, who believed Bevel was a God-sent man. She allowed Watkins to join the Freedom Riders under the sole condition that Bevel would keep him safe, which he did.

Watkins participated in the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project, also known as Freedom Summer, where he and other activists worked to increase the black voter turnout in Mississippi. They also instituted Freedom Schools which worked to academically empower black students by offering free summer classes.

Today, Watkins can be found at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, not as a part of a display, but as an employee, sharing his story to daily visitors.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of 2019 Volunteer Reston award winners:

- Doug Britt
- Cindy Metcalf
- Don Coram
- Pat & Paul Dunham
- Maryam Ovissi
- Luis Ortiz Lopez
- Kathleen Jones
- Emily Huaroco
- Carol Anne Bradley
- Sandra Deleon
- Syazana Durrani
- Emily Huaroco
- Maryam Ovissi
- Alexandra Rossi

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY of Virginia in the House of Representatives Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of individuals who have selflessly dedicated themselves to the betterment of their community. Each year, the Reston Association recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond with the Volunteer Reston awards. Reston is well known to be a shining example of civic engagement and this event, held during National Volunteer Week, honors those who have made significant impacts on the lives of others and the community.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of 2019 Volunteer Reston award winners:

- Volunteer of the Year
- Doug Britt
- Cindy Metcalf
- Don Coram

- Community Partner of the Year
- Andrew Sigle
- Janet Bradshaw
- Gerald Padmore
- Darlena Ricks
- Carol Anne Bradley
- Sandra Deleon
- Syazana Durrani
- Emily Huaroco
- Maryam Ovissi
- Alexandra Rossi

- Work Group Volunteer of the Year
- Belinda Collins
- Pat & Paul Dunham
Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 542, the “Supporting Research and Development for First Responders Act of 2019.”

H.R. 542 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) within the Department of Homeland Security’s Science and Technology Directorate.

The National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) conducts research and development (R&D) to assist emergency response providers in preparing for, and protecting against, threats of terrorism.

It is critical that we better understand the technologies and research used to further develop and assist emergency response providers when dealing with threats of terrorism. This bill will allow the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory to—

1. Conduct tests, evaluations, and assessments of current and emerging technologies.
2. Also, conduct tests regarding cybersecurity of such technologies that can connect to the internet, for emergency response providers;
3. Conduct research and development on radiological and nuclear response and recovery;
4. Carry out other such activities as the Secretary determines appropriate;
5. Act as a technical advisor to emergency response providers.

When enacted, H.R. 542 will create a better understanding of the technical advisory services that are being used to help emergency response providers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 542 to further evaluate emerging technologies as well as research radiological and nuclear response and recovery for the emergency response providers.

HONORING THE 2019 PLANO TEXAS GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. VAN TAYLOR
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate twenty four young women from high schools across Plano, Texas who were presented with the Gold Award by the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas for their dedication to our community.

The most prestigious accolade to earn, the Gold Award requires each young woman work tirelessly on a community project of their choice for up to eighty hours.

I want to thank each of these Girl Scouts for their exemplary service within Collin County and for demonstrating that age should never deter one from leading within their community. It is with great pleasure I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these young ladies on their success.

2019 PLANO TEXAS GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 BEST OF RESTON AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 28th Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. These awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations, and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place.

I have been proud to represent this community since my days as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The level of civic engagement celebrated by these awards is a testament to the community spirit of Reston. I have often said that civic engagement is a key indicator of a healthy community and tonight’s event proves that Reston continues to be one of the healthiest communities in all of Northern Virginia! That is due in no small part to the actions of those honored here this evening and I extend my congratulations to all of tonight’s honorees. I also wish to thank John Thomas and Kerrie Wilson of Cornerstones and Charlene Wheelers and Mark Ingrow of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for their tireless efforts on behalf of others and in making our community one of the best places in the country in which to live, work and raise a family.

It is my honor to include in the Record the names of the recipients of the 2019 Best of Reston Awards:

Bob Schnapp—Feeding Families—One Green Bag after Another
Mike and Ellen Jennings—Expertise that Makes a Difference—It’s Their Thing
Omicron Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity/OKK Foundation, Inc.—The Colors of Their Service are Purple and Gold
Maggie Parker—Passion that Leads to Lasting Success
Roz Rakoff—An Essential Community Kindness Connector
Kurt Rose—A Sparkling Gem of Community Spirit
Synergy Design & Construction (Mina and Mark Fies)—Constructing Better Lives by Design

The 2019 Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award—Entrusting Our Community’s Future Recipient: Touching Heart (Helen and
Taylor Yi)—Generations Inspiring Gifts of Love from Open Hearts

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2019 Best of Reston honorees for their tremendous contributions. I thank Cornerstones and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for continuing this wonderful tradition, and I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for lending their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COAST GUARD YOUTH STEM PROGRAMS EXPANSION ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce an important bill, the Coast Guard Youth STEM Programs Expansion Act. This bill will allow the Coast Guard expanded authority to partner with the Department of Education and the Department of Defense to improve Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education for America’s elementary and secondary school students and their teachers.

Now more than ever the innovation capacity of the United States—our prosperity and security—depends on an effective and inclusive STEM education ecosystem and workforce. Given the Coast Guard’s mission of coastal defense and maritime law enforcement, daily activity relies significantly on STEM skills. The ability to work with the Department of Education and Department of Defense on youth STEM programs will increase exposure and engagement to the adventures and intriguing opportunities of the Coast Guard’s mission.

Specifically, the Coast Guard Youth STEM Programs Expansion Act will allow the Coast Guard to coordinate with the Department of Education to establish programs to improve STEM knowledge and skills for elementary and secondary school students and faculty. It will allow the Coast Guard to cooperate and coordinate with the Department of Defense, particularly through the very successful DOD STARBASE Program. It will also allow the Coast Guard to expand beyond traditional STEM skills to focus on expertise particularly important to their own mission, including limnology, marine science, and oceanography.

Basic STEM concepts are best learned at an early age—in elementary and secondary school—and are the essential prerequisites for career technical training, advanced college-level and graduate study, and success in workplaces. With the range of federal agencies partnered to coordinate federal STEM initiatives, the Coast Guard too has a vested interest in advancing this important mission.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and its goal of expanding the Coast Guard’s efforts to engage and expose American youth to vital STEM education and workforce skills.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VERA RUBIN SURVEY TELESCOPE DESIGNATION ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am joined by my Science Committee colleague, Representative GONZALEZ COLÓN, in introducing the Vera Rubin Survey Telescope Designation Act.

Dr. Vera Cooper Rubin was a renowned astronomer and a staunch advocate for women in science. She was also a trailblazer. Born in 1928, Dr. Rubin’s interest in astronomy was ignited early. As a young girl, she would rather stay up and watch the stars through her bed-room window than go to sleep.

After graduating from Vassar College in 1948 as the only woman astronomer in her class, Dr. Rubin hoped to pursue her doctoral studies at Princeton. However, the Princeton astrophysics graduate program did not admit women at the time and declined to send her a course catalog.

Dr. Rubin persisted and earned her master’s degree at Cornell and her Ph.D. at George-town University before joining the Carnegie In

stitution’s Department of Terrestrial Magnetism.

As her career progressed, Dr. Rubin continued to face barriers because of her gender. For instance, after becoming the first woman to be officially permitted to observe at the prestigious Palomar Observatory in 1965, she discovered that the building had no women’s restroom. Undeterred, Dr. Rubin created her own women’s restroom by pasting a skirt cut-out over the stick figure of a man on the observatory bathroom.

While Dr. Rubin was breaking down barriers, she was also revolutionizing our understanding of the universe. In 1970, Dr. Rubin and her collaborator Dr. Kent Ford published some of the best evidence of the existence of dark matter. This groundbreaking work changed the conventional view of the universe from one dominated by light-emitting matter to one dominated by dark matter.

Dr. Rubin went on to become the second woman astronomer elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1981. She received the National Medal of Science from President Clinton in 1993, and she received many other honors and awards throughout her career.

Motivated by her own battle to gamer re

spect as a woman in a male-dominated field, Dr. Rubin worked tirelessly to encourage girls interested in astronomy to pursue their dreams. She advocated for more women members of the National Academy of Sciences and for more women on review panels and academic search committees. She also advocated for more opportunities for girls in science. In her address to the University of California, Berkeley class of 1996, Dr. Rubin said “science is competitive, aggressive, demanding. It is also imaginative, inspiring, uplifting. You can do it, too,” urging the students to “devise your own paths”.

Dr. Rubin has a well-deserved place in his
tory. This bill will honor her legacy by designating the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST), jointly funded by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy and set to begin operations in 2023, as the Vera Rubin Survey Telescope. The LSST was de

signed, in part, to probe the nature of dark matter. As a tribute to the woman whose pion

eering work made this pursuit possible, this bill would ensure that it bears her name.

I urge my colleagues to join us and help us move this legislation forward into law.

HONORING ALAN D. MONROE

HON. VÍCENTE GONZALEZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Alan D. Monroe, a leader, a trailblazer, and an intellectual.

Alan D. Monroe grew up in Sherman, Texas. After graduating from Sherman High School in 1965, he attended Austin College where he graduated with Honors earning a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1969. In 1970, he obtained a Master of Arts at New York University. He continued his education at the Uni-

versity of Texas School of Law, graduating in 1975 with his juris doctor. Alan went on to practice law in many courts across Texas, including the United States Court of Appeals for
the Fifth Circuit in 1979 and the Supreme Court of the United States in 1981. Alan D. Monroe is highly respected in the field of real estate law. Among his many prestigious accomplishments, he obtained his Board Certification by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Commercial Real Estate Law and Residential Real Estate Law in 1988. Additionally, he has held memberships in the State Bar of Texas, the Hidalgo County Bar Association, and the American Bar Association.

Alan D. Monroe is a multi-faceted lawyer with years of experience and a wealth of knowledge. Upon graduating from the University of Texas School of Law, Alan D. Monroe served as an Associate with Kelly, Looney & Alexander in 1976. He became a partner of the firm in 1980. Seven years later in 1987, he established his own practice named the Law Office of Alan D. Monroe. On July 1, 2002, Alan D. Monroe became partners with Byron Jay Lewis and Mark S. Peña. They renamed the firm Lewis, Monroe & Peña.

Alan D. Monroe is known for both his successes and his generosity, constantly sharing his knowledge with peers. He taught courses in banking law for the American Bankers Association from 1989 to 1991. He also served as a chairman of the Real Estate Section for the Hidalgo County Bar Association from 2009 to 2011, and he co-authored Creative Solutions to Complex Title Problems, which was presented during the 28th Annual Advanced Real Estate Law Conference in 2006.

Alan D. Monroe is looking forward to devoting his time to his wife, Baceliza, and his children: Rebecca Monroe, Jessica Martinez and her husband Daniel, James Alan Monroe and his wife Mary Beth. He especially cherishes time with his grandchildren, Luke Martinez and Tom Monroe.

Mr. Alan D. Monroe will retire officially on June 30, 2019. To say we are grateful for his contributions would be a grave understatement—he has earned the respect of many throughout his decades of service. His work ethic, dedication and professionalism have made a lasting impact on many, especially those who have had the privilege of working with him.

Madam Speaker, I commend Alan D. Monroe for his work in the real estate industry that has produced great lasting results for the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, and beyond. Alan D. Monroe is known for both his successes and his generosity, constantly sharing his knowledge with peers. He taught courses in banking law for the American Bankers Association from 1989 to 1991. He also served as a chairman of the Real Estate Section for the Hidalgo County Bar Association from 2009 to 2011, and he co-authored Creative Solutions to Complex Title Problems, which was presented during the 28th Annual Advanced Real Estate Law Conference in 2006.

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Madam Speaker, I commend Alan D. Monroe for his work in the real estate industry that has produced great lasting results for the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, and beyond.
HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise in support of H.R. 2609, the “DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2019.” This bill would establish the Acquisition Review Board to—

1. strengthen accountability and uniformity within the Department acquisition review process;
2. review major acquisition programs; and
3. review the use of best practices.

The Acquisition Review Board also determines whether best practices are incorporated in proposed acquisition strategies and if the strategies are aligned with Department strategic initiatives.

Last, the Acquisition Review Board oversees the progression of major acquisition programs, confirming that the proposed acquisition has met key phases of the lifecycle framework, and conducting systematic reviews of the acquisition to ensure the program is progressing in compliance with approved documentation.

I stand in support of fairness and transparency through the Acquisition Review Board.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2609 to establish the Acquisition Review Board as chaired by the Under Secretary for Management.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 41st Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year’s ceremony will present 123 awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories, including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificare of Valor, and the Bronze and Silver Medal of Valor.

Twenty-two members of the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

<table>
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<th>Silver Medal of Valor</th>
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<td>PFC Daniel Boring</td>
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<th>Bronze Medal of Valor</th>
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<tr>
<td>PFC Christopher Sheffer</td>
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<td>PFC Morgan Walker</td>
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<th>Certificate of Valor</th>
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<td>PFC Francisco Rivas-Umanzor</td>
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<td>2nd Lt. Roman Rauhala</td>
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<td>2nd Lt. William Redfem</td>
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<td>Sgt. Kevin Reilly</td>
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<td>MDC Paul Hensel</td>
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<td>Ms. Patricia Alexander</td>
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Lifesaving Certificate

| MDS Jerry Grady       |
| PFC Timothy Finlon    |
| PFC Joseph Nicholson  |
| PFC Luiz Costa        |
| PFC Mark Combs        |
| PFC Elizabeth Tracy   |
| PFC Omar Medina       |
| PFC Connor Delgado    |
| PFC Cecil Richardson  |
| Ret. PFC Melissa Meler|
| Dep. Brendan Yunger   |
| Dep. Andrew Crossan   |
| Dep. Nichell Bailey-Holiday |

HONORING DR. KAREN HAYNES ON HER RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS

HON. MIKE LEVIN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Karen Haynes on the event of her retirement as president of California State University San Marcos.

Dr. Haynes has worked for over 30 years as an academic administrator. During her tenure as president of California State University San Marcos (CSUSM), she was instrumental in the growth and development of the school. She joined CSUSM fourteen years after the school opened its doors, with a student population of merely 7,000. CSUSM is now home to over 17,000 students, Division II athletics, and a satellite campus in Temecula.

Since the beginning of her tenure, Dr. Haynes has worked to ensure that CSUSM serves a diverse student population. Around one third of CSU San Marcos students are outside of the traditional college age range, and the school has the largest number of Native American students per-capita in the CSU system. Like Dr. Haynes herself, almost half of the students are first-generation college students.

CSUSM would not be the school it is today without the hard work and dedication of Dr. Haynes. I thank Dr. Haynes for her fifteen years of service to California State University San Marcos and congratulate her on her retirement.

DR. SCHOO NOVER’S REMARKS ON NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE
OF MAINE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. PINGREE. Madam Speaker, on June 5, 2019, Dr. Rod Schoonover, a Senior Analyst in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the U.S. Department of State, testified before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The hearing sought answers on the very real dangers and national security risks caused by climate change. The Administration, however, continued its pattern of anti-science and climate denial behavior. Though Dr. Schoonover was allowed to give his invaluable testimony, the Administration blocked his testimony from being entered into the record. We must recognize that climate change is a threat to our country’s economic well-being, public health, and national security. I include in the RECORD part of Schoonover’s summary, but urge my colleagues to read the full report here: https://games-cdn.washingtonpost.com/note/notes/prod/default/documents/23db973-209c-44c2-ab0f-1b571575f719/note/7a4a1-8ec4-4e76-a93e-244b236c282.pdf#page=1

Chairman Schiff, Ranking Member Nunes, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for inviting me to speak with you today on the national security implications of climate change.

As a U.S. intelligence officer in the Department of State Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Dr. Schoonover provided scientific analysis. My understanding of this and other issues is deepened by the cadre of talented and dedicated officers in the IC, many with technical expertise, who quietly serve U.S. interests. This Committee is already aware that the IC does not advocate for any particular policy, but it does provide science-informed national security analysis. My understanding of this and other issues is deepened by the cadre of talented and dedicated officers in the IC, many with technical expertise, who quietly serve U.S. interests. This Committee is already aware that the IC does not advocate for any particular set of policies, but it does provide science-informed national security analysis.

FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GLOBAL CLIMATE ARE MOVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS EXPERIENCED IN MODERN HISTORY AND THERE IS UNCERTAINTY ON HOW SOME ASPECTS OF THE CLIMATE WILL EVOLVE. GIVEN THE COMPLEX SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXTS IN WHICH A MULTITUDE OF CHANGES ARE OCCURRING, WE CAN EXPECT NEW AND COMPOUNDED STRESSES ON PEOPLE AND SOCIETIES AROUND THE WORLD, MANY WITH OUTCOMES IMPORTANT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Fundamental characteristics of the global climate are moving outside the bounds experienced in modern history and there is uncertainty on how some aspects of the climate will evolve. Given the complex social and political contexts in which a multitude of changes are occurring, we can expect new and compounded stresses on people and societies around the world, many with outcomes important for national security.

Climate change will have wide-ranging implications for U.S. national security over the next 20 years through global perturbations, increased risk of political instability, heightened tensions between countries for access to natural resources. People will
increasingly decide to move because of deteriorating conditions, both within nations and into countries that are more prosperous. Perhaps most importantly, the rapidity of concurrent and compounded changes to Earth’s systems, from human and natural causes, heightens the risk for unwelcome and possibly severe climate-linked surprises.

FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

The IC’s task with respect to climate change is to inform policymakers of the myriad risks and uncertainties that may lie ahead, rather than trying to predict the future. We have therefore examined a wide range of climate change effects, including those currently believed to have low probability, particularly if the ramifications could be highly impactful. The IC focuses on security considerations outside the United States, so we do not address the direct effects of climate change on the U.S. homeland. We expect, however, that many judgements could nonetheless apply to the United States.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3299–S3328

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1771–1791, and S. Res. 244–245.

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 1589, 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. (S. Rept. No. 116–47)

S. 1790, 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. (S. Rept. No. 116–48)

Measures Passed:

Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act: Senate passed 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.

LEGION Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of 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 the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

McConnell (for Tillis/Sinema) Amendment No. 252, to expand eligibility for membership in The American Legion and to prohibit discrimination with respect to staff positions.

Glioblastoma Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 245, designating July 17, 2019, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”.

Barker Nomination—Cloture: By 89 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 150), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination.

Maze Nomination—Cloture: By 62 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 151), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

Smith Nomination—Cloture: By 77 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 152), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Barber Nomination—Cloture: By 75 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 153), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Boulee Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 154), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 1:45 p.m., on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.
States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, in the order listed.

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:
By 89 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 149), Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Nomination Confirmed:
Senate confirmed the following nomination:
By 89 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 149), Sarah Daggett Morrison, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Business Meeting

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Amy Karpel, of Washington, and Randolph J. Stayin, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the crisis at the southwest border, including S. 1494, to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to protect alien minors and to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end abuse of the asylum system and establish refugee application and processing centers outside the United States, after receiving testimony from Kevin McAleenan, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security.

Patent Eligibility in America

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property concluded a hearing to examine the state of patent eligibility in America, after receiving testimony from Manny Schecter, International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, New York; Laurie C. Self, Qualcomm, Inc., Kimberly Chotkowski, InterDigital, and Corey Salsberg, Novartis, all of Washington, D.C.; Byron R. Holz, Nokia, Snellville, Georgia; Sean Reilly, The Clearing House Payments Company LLC, Gonzalo Merino, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, and Nicolas Dupont, of New York, New York; Laurie Hill, Genentech, Inc., and Sean George, Invitae Corporation, both of San Francisco, California; Peter O’Neill, Cleveland Clinic Innovations, Cleveland, Ohio; David Spetzler, Caris Life Sciences, Irving, Texas; Michael Blankstein, Scientific Games, Las Vegas, Nevada; Robert Deberardine, Johnson and Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and John D. Vandenberg, Klarquist Sparkman, LLP, Sherwood, Oregon.

Business Meeting

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.
THE UNITED STATES’ COUNTERNARCOTICS STRATEGY

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Caucus concluded a hearing to examine the global narcotics epidemic and the United States’ strategy to confront the rising epidemic, after receiving testimony from Michael R. Pompeo, Secretary of State; Rand Beers, former Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, and Under Secretary of Homeland Security for National Protection and Programs Directorate; Roger Noriega, American Enterprise Institute, former Ambassador to the Organization of American States and Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs; and Earl Wayne, The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, former Ambassador to Mexico and Argentina, Deputy Ambassador in Afghanistan, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Europe.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 3190–3217; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 49; and H. Res. 435 and 437 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H.R. 367, making appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations Act expires before the enactment of a new appropriations Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–110, Part 1); and
- H. Res. 436, providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–111).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Veasey to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Jacob Isaac Pack, Beckley United Pentecostal Church, Beckley, WV.

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas: The House agreed to H. Res. 430, authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas, by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 247.

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Rules now printed in the resolution shall be considered as adopted.

H. Res. 431, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) and the resolution (H. Res. 430) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 246, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 245.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, June 10th.

**DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2019:**


Recess: The House recessed at 5:30 p.m. and reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China: Representative Hartzler.

House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards: Representatives Steil, Latta, and Walker.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear
on pages H4409–10, H4410–11, H4422–23, and H4423. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

**Committee Meetings**

**THE STATE OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS**

**Committee on Agriculture:** Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled “The State of U.S. Agricultural Products in International Markets”. Testimony was heard from Ted McKinney, Under Secretary, Trade and Foreign Agriculture, Department of Agriculture; and Gregg Doud, Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**


**THE COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE: RISKS TO THE U.S. ECONOMY AND THE FEDERAL BUDGET**

**Committee on the Budget:** Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Costs of Climate Change: Risks to the U.S. Economy and the Federal Budget”. Testimony was heard from J. Alfredo Gómez, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

**Committee on Education and Labor:** Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1230, the “Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act”; H.R. 1309, the “Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act”; and H.R. 397, the “Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act”. H.R. 1230, H.R. 1309, and H.R. 397 were ordered reported, as amended.

**CRITICAL MISSION: FORMER ADMINISTRATORS ADDRESS THE DIRECTION OF THE EPA**

**Committee on Energy and Commerce:** Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Critical Mission: Former Administrators Address the Direction of the EPA”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**AN EXAMINATION OF STATE EFFORTS TO OVERSEE THE $1.5 TRILLION STUDENT LOAN SERVICING MARKET**

**Committee on Financial Services:** Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “An Examination of State Efforts to Oversee the $1.5 Trillion Student Loan Servicing Market”. Testimony was heard from Joe Sanders, Student Loan Ombudsman and Supervising Attorney, Consumer Fraud Bureau, Illinois Attorney General’s Office; Nicholas Smyth, Assistant Director for Consumer Financial Protection, Senior Deputy Attorney General, Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General; Arwen Thoman, Director, Student Loan Assistance Unit, and Investigations Supervisor, Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office; and public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

**Committee on Foreign Affairs:** Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Crushing Dissent: The Ongoing Crisis in Nicaragua”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**CRUSHING DISSENT: THE ONGOING CRISIS IN NICARAGUA**

**Committee on Homeland Security:** Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability held a hearing entitled “Federal Protective Service: Ensuring the Mission Is Not Lost in Transition”. Testimony was heard from L. Eric Patterson, Director, Federal Protective Service; and Lori Rectanus, Director, Physical Infrastructure Team, Government Accountability Office.
THE NEED TO REAUTHORIZE THE SEPTEMBER 11TH VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled “The Need to Reauthorize the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund”. Testimony was heard from Representatives King of New York and Carolyn B. Maloney of New York; Rupa Bhattacharyya, Special Master, September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

ONLINE PLATFORMS AND MARKET POWER, PART 1: THE FREE AND DIVERSE PRESS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law held a hearing entitled “Online Platforms and Market Power, Part 1: The Free and Diverse Press”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY AMERICAN OFFSHORE WIND WORKFORCE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Building a 21st Century American Offshore Wind Workforce”. Testimony was heard from Representative Keating; and public witnesses.

THE DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

Committee on Rules: Full Committee concluded a hearing on H.R. 2740, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020 [Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Legislative Branch, Defense, State, Foreign Operations, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2020]. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 2740, the “Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Defense, State, Foreign Operations, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2020”. The rule provides no further general debate. The rule provides that no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution, and available pro forma amendments described in section 4 of House Resolution 431. Each amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except pro forma amendments described in section 4 of House Resolution 431, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Each amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report may be offered at any time during the consideration of the bill for amendment, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except amendments described in section 4 of House Resolution 431, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, shall not be subject to amendment except amendments described in section 4 of House Resolution 431, and shall not be subject to demand for division of the question. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Barr, Burgess, Jackson Lee, Carter of Georgia, Rodney Davis of Illinois, Plaskett, Estes, Gallagher, Posey, Rooney of Florida, Roy, Shimkus, Wilson of South Carolina, and Yoho.

DISCOVERY ON THE FRONTIERS OF SPACE: EXPLORING NASA'S SCIENCE MISSION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing entitled “Discovery on the Frontiers of Space: Exploring NASA’s Science Mission”. Testimony was heard from Thomas H. Zurbuchen, Associate Administrator, Science Mission Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and public witnesses.
SBA’S STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM: THE STATES’ PERSPECTIVE
Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship held a hearing entitled “SBA’s State Trade Expansion Program: The States’ Perspective”. Testimony was heard from Jennifer Black, Executive Director, Export Development, Office of International Business Development, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and public witnesses.

EFFICIENCY AND RESILIENCY IN FEDERAL BUILDING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “Efficiency and Resiliency in Federal Building Design and Construction”. Testimony was heard from Kevin Kampschroer, Director, Office of Federal High-Performance Green Buildings, General Services Administration; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING VA’S POLICE FORCE
Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Police Force”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: Michael J. Missal, Inspector General; Kevin T. Hanretta, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness; Renee Oshinski, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N), Veterans Health Administration; and Frederick Jackson, Director, Office of Security and Law Enforcement.

CELEBRATING FATHERS AND FAMILIES: FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD
Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support held a hearing entitled “Celebrating Fathers and Families: Federal Support for Responsible Fatherhood”. Testimony was heard from Nicolette Duffield, Assistant Warden of Programs, Sheridan Correctional Center, Illinois; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, 10 a.m., SD–G50.
Committee on Environment and Public Works: with the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife, to hold a joint hearing to examine Waters of the United States regulations, focusing on their impact on states and the American people, 10 a.m., SD–406.
Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine China’s belt and road initiative, 3 p.m., SD–215.
Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine NATO expansion, focusing on examining the accession of North Macedonia, 10:15 a.m., SD–419.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Jeffrey Byard, of Alabama, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Troy D. Edgar, of California, to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Homeland Security, John McLeod Barger, of California, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and B. Chad Bungard, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.
Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine competitive implications of vertical consolidation in the healthcare industry, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration’s contracting programs, 2:30 p.m., SR–428A.

House
Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, hearing entitled “Increasing Resiliency, Mitigating Risk: Examining the Research and Extension Needs of Producers”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.
Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2500, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.
Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing entitled “Restoring the Value of Work: Evaluating DOL’s Efforts to Undermine Strong Overtime Protections”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.
Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “No More Surprises: Protecting Patients from Surprise Medical Bills”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "What Emergency?: Arms Sales and the Administration's Dubious End-Run around Congress", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.


Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1327, the "Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act"; H.R. 35, the "Emmett Till Antilynching Act"; H.R. 677, the "21st Century President Act"; H.R. 1569, to amend title 28, United States Code, to add Flagstaff and Yuma to the list of locations in which court shall be held in the judicial district for the State of Arizona; H.R. 2368, the "Supporting and Treating Officers In Crisis Act of 2019"; and H.R. 1986, the "Effective Prosecution of Possession of Biological Toxins and Agents Act of 2019", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, markup on a resolution recommending that the House of Representatives find the Attorney General and the Secretary of Commerce in contempt of Congress for their refusal to comply with duly authorized subpoenas relating to the 2020 Census; H.R. 391, the "White House Ethics Transparency Act of 2019"; H.R. 2000, the "Ensuring FEHBP Coverage During Shutdowns Act"; H.R. 2004, the "Ensuring FEDVIP and FLTCIP Coverage During Shutdowns Act"; H.R. 2530, the "Interim Stay Authority To Protect Whistleblowers Act"; H.R. 1668, the "Internet of Things Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2019"; H.R. 2978, the "National Historical Publications and Records Commission Reauthorization Act of 2019"; H.R. 1250, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the "Eva G. Hewitt Post Office"; H.R. 1833, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building"; H.R. 1844, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the "Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building"; H.R. 2451, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, as the "Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office"; H.R. 2325, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Calle Alondra in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as the "65th Infantry Regiment Post Office Building"; H.R. 3144, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the "Jose Ramos Post Office Building"; and H.R. 3152, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Combating Sexual Harassment in Science", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Doctor is Out. Rising Student Loan Debt and the Decline of the Small Medical Practice", 11:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled "Under Pressure: The State of Trucking in America", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled "Implementation of Electronic Health Record Systems at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD)", 10:15 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Pathways to Universal Health Coverage", 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Lessons from the Mueller Report: Counterintelligence Implications of Volume 1", 9 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Joint Meetings

Committee on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine Russia's counterproductive counterterrorism, 10:30 a.m., 2255, Rayburn Building.
Next Meeting of the Senate
10 a.m., Wednesday, June 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

At 1:45 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations of Pamela A. Barker, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Corey Landon Maze, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, Rodney Smith, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Thomas P. Barber, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Jean-Paul Boulee, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. Following which, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of David Stilwell, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Next Meeting of the House of Representatives
10 a.m., Wednesday, June 12

House Chamber


Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

House

Beyer, Donald S., Jr., Va., E739
Bost, Mike, Ill., E741
Collins, Doug, Ga., E749
Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E741, E742, E743, E744, E746, E747, E748, E749
Correa, J. Luis, Calif., E744
DeGette, Diana, Colo., E738
Garamendi, John, Calif., E743
Gonzales, Vicente, Tex., E743, E748
Gosar, Paul, Ariz., E740

Grijalva, Raúl M., Ariz., E745
Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E749
Hilli, Katie, Calif., E749
Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E740, E742, E744, E746, E747, E748, E750
Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E748
Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E748
Kelly, Trent, Miss., E739
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