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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
The good news for Tulare County is that, in 2018, the Army Corps of Engineers fully funded work to raise the dam. I stand here today to state with confidence that, without Mr. Schafer’s leadership, this project might not have been approved.

This is because no matter how contentious water issues can get—and if you are in California, you know that can be quite contentious—Mr. Schafer has always been the consummate professional, always remaining even-keeled, composed. It is only appropriate and fitting that Success Dam be named after Mr. Schafer.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues in this Chamber for coming together and acknowledging the individuals who work hard and make our communities better.

Most importantly, I want to thank Mr. Schafer for his continued leadership and service to our community. This is a much-deserved honor.

REMEMBERING FRANK WILLS AND HONORING HIS MEMORY

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

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hero who has too often been forgotten: Frank Wills is his name, the security guard who discovered the Watergate burglary in progress.

Mr. Wills’ discovery ultimately led to the exposure of crimes and scandalous behavior by several members of the Nixon administration and campaign, including the President himself.

Despite his central role in exposing that Presidential scandal, Mr. Wills only received a 3 percent raise in his weekly salary, and his work at the Watergate actually hurt his later efforts to find a new job.

Unfortunately, Mr. Wills passed away at the age of 52 without receiving the type of official recognition he deserved. This week, we observed the anniversary of the Watergate break-in, and on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, I urge everyone to remember Mr. Wills and honor his memory.

ALZHEIMER’S AND BRAIN AWARENESS 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. Madam Speaker, June is Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month.

Alzheimer’s is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, and it has reached crisis proportions. There is no effective treatment and no means of prevention and no method for slowing the progression of this disease. Sadly, one in three seniors will die of the disease of Alzheimer’s.

Today, on the longest day of the year, the Alzheimer’s Association is raising awareness to outshine the darkness of Alzheimer’s disease. Approximately 50 million people, worldwide, are living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. This not only has a devastating impact on those who are diagnosed with the disease, but also their caregivers and their loved ones.

More than 15 million Americans provide unpaid care to families and friends living with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. Compared with caregivers for people without dementia, twice as many caregivers for people with dementia indicate substantial emotional, financial, and physical stress.

Madam Speaker, the time to act is now. Let’s join the fight. Let’s take the pledge to raise awareness about Alzheimer’s disease and to never stop searching for a cure.

ENERGY WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, our neighbors and low-income households pay three times more as a share of their income on energy bills than those in higher income strata.

The fiscal year 2020 Energy and Water appropriations bill marks an important step to reduce that energy burden for America’s most vulnerable people by increasing investments in the Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program.

This program helps families make their home healthier and safer. It promotes energy efficiency and reduces utility bills, which means more money in the pockets of these families for healthcare, groceries, and other basic expenses.

For each dollar the American people invest in the weatherization program, we see an estimated $1.56 in energy and nonenergy benefits. This additional funding will ensure that even more families are able to experience the benefits of the program.

The Energy and Water bill also recognizes America’s need for clean energy innovation by significantly increasing funding for essential DOE research programs, including the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the State Energy Program and ARPA-E.

The work done by DOE and State energy offices is absolutely critical to accelerate our Nation’s transition to a clean energy economy. This bill recognizes the need for the United States to continue to be the global leader in clean energy innovation, technology development, and deployment.

I thank and express my gratitude to Chairwomen LOWEY and KAPTOR for their leadership on these issues.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ATTORNEY JERRY BRADY

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Peoria County’s Attorney Jerry Brady, who worked so long to rest this world. Jerry Brady was an admired public servant in the Peoria legal community and beloved by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Jerry grew up in Peoria, attending Peoria Institute High School and graduating from Bradley University and Saint Louis University law school. In 1981, he became an assistant state’s attorney in Peoria County and went on to run a successful law practice for nearly 30 years, where he served until his unfortunate passing.

Inside the courtroom, Jerry was known as one of the most principled and hardest working legal minds in all of central Illinois. Outside of the courtroom, he was known as a bonafide, friend, and role model throughout the community.

Jerry was instrumental in numerous fundraising efforts to support the Peoria community, including the recent completion of our veterans memorial in downtown Peoria.

Jerry was a selfless public servant who left a profound impact on our community, and Peoria, Illinois, misses him and will miss him in the future.

As our community mourns his loss, my thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful wife, Sue, and their three children. He will be missed.

CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Pride Month, we are reminded of the great strides towards equality we have taken.

Madam Speaker, 50 years ago, on the streets outside the Stonewall Inn where the modern LGBTQ rights movement began, the journey towards equality, no doubt, looked endless.

Today, we can see the end in sight. And yet, for all of our success, the struggle continues.

We cannot rest; we cannot compromise; we simply cannot allow the demagogues of ignorance, of fear, and of hatred of others, no matter what levels of power they hold, to stop our march forward.

We must redouble our efforts to ensure that life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness applies to each and every American, no matter who they are and no matter whom they love.

DELISTING THE GRAY WOLF

(Mr. STAUBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)
I stand with immigrants today, and I think we all should.

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to encourage the Speaker of the House to give expeditious consideration of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. There is progress on this agreement being made. The country of Mexico, their senate just ratified it. Canada is looking to move very quickly, and it is critically important that we do the same.

Along those lines, 1,000 groups in this country: manufacturing, agriculture, transportation, and processing groups have written us and said: We need to get this deal done now.

In Minnesota, it is not just agriculture. It is machinery. It is manufacturing. It is medicine, and people like my friends at the Farm Bureau, AgriGrowth, poultry, dairy, pork. You name it, everybody wants it done.

If we can get this Mexico-Canada Free Trade Agreement with the United States done, we are going to build momentum for our deals with China, Japan, South Korea, Colombia, and the European Union.

We should be dropping down the barriers, expanding our trade, creating economic growth, creating high-wage jobs, and helping the American people and our consumers.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I stand with immigrants today, and I have written to the President.

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to encourage the Speaker of the House to give expeditious consideration of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. There is progress on this agreement being made. The country of Mexico, their senate just ratified it. Canada is looking to move very quickly, and it is critically important that we do the same.

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for 40 tenant commands, including Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, which the Members of this body know well.

Earlier this year, a fire broke out at NSA Bethesda’s station, which exacerbated already hazardous conditions at the firehouse. It began in the kitchen, but because the fire alarm never went off, the flames spread into other rooms, causing extensive damage and rendering the firehouse basically unfit for occupancy. Fortunately, no one was injured, but there were three pets that had to be rescued, so while it was a nightmare.

For several years prior to the fire, concerns about the safety of the firehouse, which was built in 1942, were raised by the people who live and work there. The complaints ranged from dangerous mold and asbestos, to roof leaks, electrical problems, and structural instability.

Temporary trailers erected next to the firehouse are also at a breaking point with air-conditioning units that only work intermittently, chronic mold, and leaking septic pipes. Yet, the complaints of the firefighters, paramedics, and departmental officials were minimized or ignored. The firefighters have been told repeatedly that there is simply no money available to renovate or to build a new fire station.

In response to the hazardous conditions caused by the fire, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command simply put up some drywall and told the firefighters that the building was now ready to reoccupy.

The firefighters work 48-hour shifts and sometimes longer. They are worried about the carcinogens they are being exposed to, not just when they enter burning buildings, but when they breathe the air inside their own firehouse. This is happening at the fire station on an installation that is home to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the most prominent military hospital in America.

The men and women working there serve our military and our Nation’s wounded warriors. Many of the firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics are themselves former soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and coastguardsmen. One of my constituents said: “I served 4 years in the Army and was deployed overseas. The conditions in the firehouse are, by far, the worst conditions I have seen or lived in.” Another told me that he lived in better conditions when he was serving in Afghanistan.

This is shocking and unacceptable. The conditions at this firehouse are deplorable. The people who work there deserve better. They need funding to build a new, safe, clean, fire station. In a Defense budget of hundreds of billions of dollars, we should be able to have money for essential projects like this one.

I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), my colleague who has been a real leader on this issue and is the chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairwoman, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in support of this excellent amendment. The health and safety of our troops in the surrounding communities is paramount. We need to ensure basic projects, like fire stations, are funded properly. I support training ranges, barracks, hospitals, and schools are. I look forward to working with the gentleman in future budget submissions, and I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Chair, I look forward to working with the gentlewoman to secure funding for projects like the one in my district. I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting Chair. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN). The amendment was agreed to.

# # #

AMENDMENT NO. 196 OFFERED BY MS. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ OF FLORIDA


Page 393, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1,000,000) (reduced by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 197 OFFERED BY MR. MCCARTHY OF CALIFORNIA

Page 400, line 17, after the second dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $39,732,000) (increased by $1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 200 OFFERED BY MR. LYNCH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 392, line after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

Page 396, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 201 OFFERED BY MR. BARR OF KENTUCKY

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $5,000,000).”

Page 393, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 202 OFFERED BY MR. WELCH OF VERMONT

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $5,000,000).”

Page 393, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 203 OFFERED BY MR. ALLEN OF GEORGIA

Page 367, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $73,000,000).”

Page 367, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $37,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 204 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

Page 399, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 205 OFFERED BY MR. RUIZ OF CALIFORNIA

Page 392, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 208 OFFERED BY MR. HILL OF VIRGINIA

Page 397, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 210 OFFERED BY MR. JOHNSON OF LOUISIANA

Page 396, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 211 OFFERED BY MR. JOHNSON OF LOUISIANA

Page 396, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 212 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMIR OF NEW JERSEY

Page 396, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $6,500,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 214 OFFERED BY MR. STEIL OF WISCONSIN

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 215 OFFERED BY MS. BLUNT OF ROCHESTER OF DELAWARE

Page 392, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

Page 392, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 216 OFFERED BY MR. HILL OF ARKANSAS

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1,500,000).”

Page 396, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,500,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 217 OFFERED BY MR. CABRAJAL OF CALIFORNIA

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $5,000,000).”

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $5,000,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 218 OFFERED BY MR. CABRAJAL OF CALIFORNIA

Page 392, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $5,000,000).”

Page 397, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $3,500,000).”

AMENDMENT NO. 219 OFFERED BY MS. PORTER OF CALIFORNIA

Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1,000,000).”

Page 397, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”

Page 397, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by $1,000,000).”
AMENDMENT NO. 223 OFFERED BY MS. PORTER OF CALIFORNIA
Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by $2,000,000)". 
Page 397, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $2,000,000)". 
Page 397, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $2,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 224 OFFERED BY MR. PAPPAS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Page 395, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $10,000,000)" (increased by $10,000,000)". 

AMENDMENT NO. 225 OFFERED BY MR. KIM OF NEW JERSEY
Page 399, line 2, after the dollar amount insert "(reduced by $7,000,000)" (increased by $7,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 227 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA
Page 392, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by $1,700,000)". 
Page 393, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by $1,700,000)". 
Page 396, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $1,700,000)". 

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Wasserman Schultz) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Carter) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. Wasserman Schultz. Madam Chairwoman, the amendments included in the en bloc were made in order to have been agreed to by the ranking member, Judge Carter and I, and I support the amendment and urge its adoption.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Carter of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, I rise in support of the en bloc amendment. Let me thank the chairwoman of my subcommittee, my good friend from Florida, for her efforts to put this bipartisan amendment together. It improves and strengthens the bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. Wasserman Schultz. Madam Chairwoman. I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. Houlahan), a sponsor of one of the amendments included in the en bloc.

Ms. Houlahan. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise today in support of my amendment which would increase the Veterans Health Administration Medical Services account by $1.7 million in order to increase the minimum amount that must be spent on gender-specific care for women at the VA with the appropriate offset.

Women represent the fastest growing cohort in our nation’s military, and in the past 4 years, the number of women veterans using VHA services has increased by 22 percent. Yet, we are not providing the VA with the resources it needs to provide quality care for women.

For example, in my community of Coatesville, the VA does not have a full-time OB-GYN. Women veterans in my community must wait until 1 of the only 2 days a month that an OB-GYN visits the VA or find their way to distant Philadelphia for an appointment.

This lack of available gender-specific care is in no way unique to my community. It is widespread across our country’s VA centers who have served deserve better from us, and this amendment helps ensure that we are specifically addressing the unique healthcare needs of these courageous women.

Mr. Carter of Texas. Madam Chairwoman. I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Mr. McCarthy), the minority leader of the United States House.

Mr. McCarthy. Madam Chairwoman.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Wasserman Schultz) and Ranking Member Carter for their work on this legislation.

Ms. Wasserman Schultz. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the en bloc package 1, which includes my amendment to H.R. 3055 to help address gender disparities in the VA as well.

Mr. Gottheimer. Madam Chairwoman, I thank Chairwoman Wasserman Schultz and Ranking Member Carter for their work on this legislation.

Madam Chair, I rise in support of the en bloc package 1, which includes my amendment to H.R. 3055 to help address critical staffing shortages at the VA.

Madam Chair, we in Congress have no higher obligation than to care for our veterans who had our backs, and that starts with making sure they have the resources they need when they come home.

The number of unfilled positions at the VA has grown steadily, and currently it is nearly at 49,000 across the entire VA system.

Madam Chair, 49,000 vacancies is a huge problem that we must tackle. One constituent in my district, an 89-year-old, has been waiting on the adjudication of his appeal for more than a year. That is absurd. When we called the VA to inquire, we were told: “This is just how long it takes.”

Madam Chair, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies looked closely at this issue and stated that the committee is concerned that the significant number of vacancies will lead to longer waits for veterans going without service.

We must address this problem and address it quickly. Our veterans don’t have time for longer waits for doctors appointments, mental health crises, housing assistance, and so much more.

Our veterans deserve better, and I am proud to offer this amendment.

Mr. Carter of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. Lesko).

Mrs. Lesko. Madam Chair, I am proud to sponsor an amendment that will help women veterans. My amendment would ensure that no less than $3 million under the Veterans Health Administration should be directed toward...
The current system could force women suffering with PTSD caused by military sexual trauma to be admitted into a male-dominant ward, which could further traumatize or revictimize them.

The veteran suicide rate is, sadly, only increasing, and we need to protect our veterans when they are feeling vulnerable. Women veterans should not be humiliated, marginalized, traumatized, or victimized. The point of giving up and believing that suicide is the only way out. We need to protect them.

Mr. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Chair, I rise to thank the chairwoman and ranking member for including the Allen-Hice amendment in this en bloc package.

Congressman HICE and I worked together to introduce this bipartisan amendment to fully fund the President’s budget request for construction of the second project of the cyber infrastructure facility at Fort Gordon.

As we all know, cyber is the present and future of modern warfare. In Georgia 12, the district I have the honor of representing, we are at the forefront of advanced cyber innovation. In the changing world in which we live, U.S. Army Cyber Command is an increasingly significant part of our national security efforts.

U.S. Army Cyber Command is currently transitioning to Ford Gordon, and this transition requires construction of state-of-the-art facilities that can accommodate the rapid change of pace required in cyberspace.

I thank Congressman HICE for joining me in introducing this amendment, and I urge the passage of this en bloc package.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE).

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Chair, I thank my colleague, Mr. ALLEN, for his leadership in this.

The U.S. Army’s Cyber Center of Excellence is critical for cyberspace operations, signal and communications networks, and electronic warfare. The center carries out its important mission by developing mission doctrine, educational programs, personnel, and facilities solutions. It is of the utmost importance that we make sure this tradition of training world-class, highly skilled cyber professionals is kept intact.

Madam Chair, I urge passage of the Allen-Hice amendment to fully fund this project, and I urge all my colleagues to do the same.

I thank my neighbor and my friend for yielding the time, and it is an honor to work with Mr. ALLEN on this important amendment.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER), who has been a passionate advocate for members of the Armed Forces as well as the veterans of this country in his district.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Chair, I thank Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Ranking Member CARTER for their work on this legislation and leadership.

Madam Chair, I rise in support of amendments en bloc No. 6, which includes my amendment to H.R. 3065 to increase our investment in the Veterans Health Administration for the purpose of hiring more mental health professionals.

Madam Chair, we in Congress have no higher obligation than to care for our home State, the rate of suicide in the veterans community is almost double that of the rest of the population. This is shameful.

We have seen an increased incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and depression from our veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan. My office has worked with a number of veterans who are suffering from PTSD to make sure they get access to the care they have earned.

An average of 20 veterans die by suicide every day. In New Jersey, my district, the veteran suicide rate is, sadly, on the rise.

I yield 1 1⁄2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM).

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the two amendments included in this en bloc package.

This is to urge the Air Force to prioritize construction of the Weapons Generation Facility at Barksdale Air Force Base.

The Louisiana congressional delegation and I have continued to push the Air Force for this project because of its strategic importance to our Nation’s security and nuclear strategy. Millions of Federal dollars have been invested in projects to prepare for this facility, and last year, we in Congress authorized funding for a new gate entrance at Barksdale.

The Weapons Generation Facility at Barksdale is a national security imperative. Funding this project cannot wait any longer, and I encourage the Air Force to prioritize funding for this project.

The second amendment I would like to speak on is to prioritize the funding of our Army’s combat development centers. One of these is the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Fort Polk has supported training operations for our Army for decades. The
Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, may I ask how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Chairwoman, I rise 30 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

Mr. BOST. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of this en bloc package.

My amendment highlights the positive work done by public universities and law schools offering pro bono legal services for our Nation’s veterans. As the ranking member of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee, I understand that putting together a proper application for disability benefits can be difficult at times.

In my district, Southern Illinois University Carbondale School of Law offers assistance to veterans when appealing disability claims. The program has helped thousands of these heroes and increased the chances for the veterans receiving positive responses in a timely manner.

I thank the chair and ranking member for including this in the en bloc package, and I urge its support.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the en bloc package which includes my amendment providing an additional $1 million to the medical services account, to be directed towards public-private partnerships to help address veteran suicide prevention; PTSD and TBI treatment; and substance use disorders.

Madam Chair, taking care of our veterans means taking care of both their physical and mental well-being. Tragically, we are losing veterans at a rate of around 20 a day to suicide, many of whom are also dealing with PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, and/or substance use disorder.

While the VA is doing tremendous work to reach out to our veterans, the need is still so great so we must use every tool available to help them. Through this public-private partnership program the VA will work with research universities, teaching hospitals and other community entities to reach more of our veterans so they can get the help and care they need.

I thank the committee for including my amendment in the en bloc and would urge my colleagues to support it and the underlying bill.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.
stripped this provision out was headed by Speaker Boehner, who is now a spokesperson for the cannabis industry, having described that he has evolved on this issue and thinks it is a good idea.

We haven’t evolved, in this Congress, in providing protections for the VA. Even though this amendment has passed repeatedly, all of a sudden, the VA has decided, well, they would be putting their doctors at risk.

It never came up before. If we had known about it, we could work around it. And I think we can and should work to fix this.

It is outrageous. And if you talk to people like the Veterans Cannabis Coalition, or talk to veterans in your own district, they will tell you that their lives have been transformed by access to medical cannabis and they don’t want highly addictive, dangerous opioids.

We need to do right by them. I am going to, reluctantly, withdraw this amendment, this amendment that has passed repeatedly on the floor of the House and is so badly needed.

And I hope that we will be able to work together to fix this little quirk, to make sure that VA doctors can do what doctors everywhere do in States where medical cannabis is legal and be able to work with their patients.

The VA ought to give their patients, our veterans, the same consideration to have them be able to have these conversations with the doctors that know them best.

As I say, Madam Chair, I will reluctantly withdraw it, confident that we can work together to solve it and, ultimately, give our veterans the access that they deserve and need.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time, and I withdraw the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 199 OFFERED BY MR. WALBERG

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 199 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment in support of the VA’s ability to work with their patients.

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Chair, based upon that and, also, an understanding of the chairwoman’s willingness to at least look at how we can find an adequate solution to meet the needs of our servicemembers who have given their all for our great country, I am willing to continue working on that.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time and I am willing to withdraw this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is withdrawn.

preserving veterans’ choices over their prosthetic services.

While I am prepared to withdraw this amendment—we have had discussions about that—I would hope that I can continue to work with the chairwoman as we move towards conference on improving the underlaying report language.

Last year, the VA released a draft proposed rule which would have significantly curtailed veterans’ choices in how they receive their prosthetic or orthotic care.

While we appreciate the Secretary’s efforts to address the concerns of the veterans, I remain concerned that the proposal does not go far enough to protect veterans’ ability to select high-quality, convenient, and efficient services from community-based providers of their choice.

This proposal would have upended more than 60 years of successful partnership between the VA and local prosthetists who contract with the VA and have long-term relationships with their patients. This long-term relationship is critical for the unique, patient-centered care needs of prosthetics services.

I would also like to thank my colleague, Representative RUTHERFORD, for working on this issue with me.

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) to at least assure me that we can continue to work on this issue together.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I appreciate the gentleman from Michigan for bringing attention to this important issue. We can all agree that we want to let veterans choose the best prosthetics provider for his or her needs.

As you know, we included report language expressing concern on this issue, but I do agree that more needs to be done. We want the best care for our veterans, and we need to find a way forward to determine the appropriate next steps.

We should work with the authorizers and the VA to thoughtfully work on this issue to find the best solution for veterans needing artificial limbs.

I commit to working with the gentleman on this issue. We are not quite ready to make a decision on the best approach to this as we move towards conference. I thank the gentleman for his willingness to withdraw the amendment.

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Chair, based upon that and, also, an understanding of the chairwoman’s willingness to at least look at how we can find an adequate solution to meet the needs of our servicemembers who have given their all for our great country, I am willing to continue working on that.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time and I am willing to withdraw this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is withdrawn.
Mr. BOST. Madam Chair, I appreciate the gentlewoman's support of the amendment. I also support the cosponsorship from Congressman DAN LIPINSKI and his support of these efforts as well.

Madam Chair, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

It is now in order to consider amendment No. 208 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

AMENDMENT NO. 219 OFFERED BY MR. CUNNINGHAM

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 219 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of division D (before the short title), insert the following:

Sec. 1. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out a new or additional Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Round.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this bipartisan amendment which makes clear that no funding made available by this bill can be used to carry out another wasteful round of base realignment and closure, or BRAC.

Politics in the Lowcountry still remember the disastrous effects BRAC had on our economy in the past. Our region lost more than 20,000 jobs, according to some estimates, after the 1993 BRAC Commission recommended the closure of the Charleston Naval Shipyard.

My amendment would make sure that the Joint Base Charleston, Parris Island, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, and the Beaufort Naval Hospital do not suffer the same fate.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Chair, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I claim the time to speak on the amendment, although I do not oppose it.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. SCHNEIDER). Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise to point out that DOD has testified that it has excess facilities and needs a way to deal with that excess.

Mr. Chair, the underlying bill does not include any funds to initiate a BRAC round, and I have no objection to the amendment. I appreciate the gentleman calling attention to the economic impact of BRAC rounds, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Chair, in closing, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RATCLIFFE) for joining me in offering this amendment. I also thank Chairman MCGOVERN and my colleagues on the Rules Committee for allowing this important amendment to come to the floor for debate.

I ask that my colleagues vote in favor of this amendment to ensure that our military's limited resources are not wasted on another round of BRAC. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 220 OFFERED BY MR. GOLDEN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 220 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 395, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $5,200,000)".

Page 396, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by $5,000,000)".

Page 397, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $5,200,000)".

Page 397, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $5,200,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise to offer my amendment to H.R. 3655.

This amendment would increase by about $5 million the medical facilities account.

I did want to talk about a specific problem. I think that most rural States and communities understand that when it comes to trying to take care of our veterans, specifically, those who are struggling with mental health issues, and perhaps substance use disorder issues as well, it is an issue of care closer to home and access to care.

When we have a veteran in a State like Maine who is in need of acute mental healthcare services and needs long-term inpatient mental healthcare, it has become known in the veterans community in Maine that that care is only available to veterans, at closest, in Bedford, Massachusetts, or perhaps far away as New York or further in order to get access to those beds. It is the same when they are in need of long-term substance use treatment programs.

I have seen time and time again, working with veterans who are in need of those services, that this is a significant problem. It is a barrier to care. It keeps people from coming in the door at the VA to ask for help.

It is not just an issue in rural areas among our veterans. The problem is mirrored in the greater community.

This is not an instance where veterans can go to the community to get long-term inpatient care because, to begin with, the beds aren't there in rural America. I think this is an instance where we really need the VA to step up to try to make sure that every State has a baseline capability to provide long-term inpatient mental healthcare services and substance use disorder services to veterans as close to their homes and their communities as possible.

Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), and I thank her for working with me on this issue and for all the work that she is doing on the committee.

I also thank the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER) for joining me on this. I know Idaho is in the same boat as Maine on this one.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ). Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, we have recognized that there is a lack of available overnight bed space for mental health patients at VA facilities, and this is a huge issue that the VA is facing. In fact, we did provide an additional $20 million within the medical facilities account, and this is a huge issue that the VA is facing. In fact, we did provide an additional $20 million within the medical facilities account, and this is a huge issue that the VA is facing. In fact, we did provide an additional $20 million within the medical facilities account.
space for veterans requiring overnight mental healthcare. We can never do too much to provide mental healthcare for our veterans.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. I congratulate the gentleman from Maine on his issue.

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I do not oppose it.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Idaho is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Chair, this amendment will invest $6 million into those much-needed beds at long-term care VA facilities. It is offset by a reduction for that same amount from the VA IT systems account budget.

Most of Idaho’s veterans served in Vietnam, and they are between 65 and 74 years old. While people are living longer today, they also need more care. And in this case, there are mental healthcare concerns.

Passage of this amendment helps in that regard, giving more bed space to veterans in need of long-term care. These funds will also provide options to help Idaho’s heroes to remain closer to their communities. Many studies have found that people tend to respond better to treatment when they can be closer to their families.

Please note that this does not add to our growing deficit.

I thank my colleague from Maine, Congressman JARED GOLDEN, for working with me on this bipartisan amendment and for his service to our country in the United States Marine Corps.

Improving care for our veterans should always be an issue that we can agree on. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this amendment.

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

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

I again thank Congressman FULCHER for joining me in this. It is critically important.

I think he made a great point. With care closer to home, it is about relationships, and it is about trust when serving a population like veterans. Also, we need to talk about things like mental health and substance use treatment care programs, that kind of familiarity and trust goes an awfully long way.

I have talked to healthcare professionals who talk about continuity of care as well. Even in this age, with the internet, when trying to coordinate continuity of care from New York to Maine, when a veteran steps outside of that inpatient care, it becomes very difficult. This would all be solved, I think, or at least be much more efficient, if we had the ability to take care of our veterans in our home States, like Maine and Idaho.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN).

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

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 221 OFFERED BY MR. MCAHAMS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 221 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

Mr. MCAHAMS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 390, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by $1) (reduced by $1)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCAHAMS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. MCAHAMS. Mr. Chair, I rise today to speak on my amendment encouraging the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve veteran credit reporting and to implement important financial protections for our veterans.

I thank the bipartisan cosponsors of this amendment, Representative AXNE from Iowa, Representatives GONZALEZ and STIVERS from Ohio, Representative BARR from Kentucky, and Representative ALLRED from Texas.

Congress created the Veterans Choice Program to respond to inexcusable wait time delays for veterans receiving medical care from private facilities. The Choice program allowed veterans to access non-VA medical facilities, providing for faster options in receiving necessary medical care.

While veterans saw increased access to healthcare, their financial health took a hit as the VA and third-party providers failed to process payments in a timely fashion and actually made billing errors, resulting in negative credit reporting for our veterans even though they were often not the responsibility of the veteran.

My amendment encourages the VA to make good on legislation that was enacted last year to ensure that these credit reporting errors are fixed.

This legislation establishes a process in which veterans can dispute negatively reported credit scores due to VA billing mishaps. It also requires credit bureaus to remove information related to a veteran’s fully paid or settled medical debt that has been characterized as delinquent or in collection. This program will ensure our veterans are not financially inhibited because of government error.

The VA was tasked with establishing a database and process to verify whether a medical debt is related to the billing errors and filing mishaps within a year of enactment. This 1-year grace period allowed the VA to establish a program to check medical debts, verify delinquency, and provide protection for our veterans. However, the VA missed that 1-year period at the end of last month.

My amendment is simple. It simply instructs the VA to submit to Congress an annual report outlining the expected timeline and resource requirements for the VA to come into compliance with the law and to establish these important protections for our veterans.

Good credit for our veterans is the difference between qualifying for a home loan or not. It is the difference between investing in their education, being able to buy a car, or qualifying for a small business loan.

This important issue cannot wait. Our Nation’s veterans should not be punished because of government billing errors. They deserve better, which is why I encourage a “yes” on my bipartisan amendment.

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentleman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise to support this amendment. I agree with my colleague from Utah, and I appreciate him drawing attention to this important issue.

Veterans’ credit scores should not be negatively impacted by untimely or improper payments by VA to third-party providers. This is an unconscionable outcome to the irresponsible actions of the VA.

I understand VA is working with the gentleman on this issue, and it is still in the process of setting up a database that will allow consumer reporting agencies to verify whether or not a debt furnished to a consumer reporting agency is actually a veteran’s medical debt, as required by Public Law 115–174, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act. Unfortunately, due to the complexity of setting up this database, it will take longer than the 1-year deadline required by the law.

We must hold the VA accountable for timely payments, and we cannot accept veterans suffering the financial consequences of VA’s improper or untimely payments.

I do commit to working with the gentleman on this issue as we move through the process. We need to make sure that when veterans come to us they are able to seamlessly transition back to civilian life and not have obstacles thrown in their path by the VA’s own mistakes.
Mr. Chair, I appreciate the gentleman offering this amendment to protect our veterans and protect their credit. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. I know the ranking member joins me in that effort.

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Mr. Chair, I encourage Members to support this bipartisan amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS).

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah will be postponed.

☐ 1015 AMENDMENT NO. 226 OFFERED BY MR. CUNNINGHAM

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 226 printed in part B of House Report 116–119. Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of division D (before the short title), add the following:

SEC. 302. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 101(e)(8) of title 10, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. Chair, I now recognize the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment, which would further emphasize our need to ensure our military is prepared for the ever-growing risk of climate change and rising sea levels.

To that end, my amendment would make sure further DOD construction projects meet military resilience standards.

I have said time and time again that climate change is our greatest non-military threat, but climate change also poses a significant threat to our military’s readiness. Nowhere is this clearer than in the Lowcountry, which is home to some of our Nation’s most critical national security assets. Parris Island, one of only two military bases that makes enlisted Marines and the only military base that makes female enlisted Marines, faces frequent flooding and could be flooded for over a third of the year by 2050.

Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, the only place in the world where pilots are trained to fly the F–35B, faces similar flooding risks, which threaten to disrupt training and fielding of these aircraft.

Just this year, Joint Base Charleston was identified by the Air Force as one of the top five bases most susceptible to the risks associated with climate change. I am offering this amendment because it is imperative that these important defense assets are prepared, not only because they are critical to our national security, but also because they are an indispensable part of our economy in the Lowcountry.

Combined, these important national security assets are estimated to account for nearly $13 billion in economic impact and support 78,000 jobs in our district.

Mr. Chair, this is an urgent issue that threatens military installations across this Nation, so I ask that my colleagues join me in support of my amendment and the readiness of our Armed Forces.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The past year has been particularly devastating to military installations in multiple States, including my own. There are bases that experienced hurricanes, tornadoes, and massive coastal and river flooding.

Over time, gradual sea level changes magnify the impacts of storm surge and may eventually result in permanent inundation of facilities and installations.

In my home State of Florida, Tyndall Air Force Base was devastated by Hurricane Michael.

Building resilient DOD facilities that can withstand the impacts of damaging storms and flooding is no longer an option but an essential requirement.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment. I commend the gentleman for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Chair, in closing, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for speaking in favor of my amendment and for all of her hard work in constructing this year’s Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill.

This legislation makes significant investments toward ensuring our men and women in uniform have the facilities they need to keep our Nation safe and improving services at the VA.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in supporting my amendment as well as the underlying bills.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 228 OFFERED BY MR. KIM

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 228 printed in part B of House Report 116–119.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 445, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

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

Mr. Chair, the vice chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, improving road safety at and around our military facilities is an important part of building a strong and resilient military readiness.

Simply put, if our servicemen and -women can’t safely drive, they can’t safely train, and that puts our military at a distinct disadvantage. We have dozens of military facilities across our country, but I want to give you one example of how prioritizing road safety will improve our readiness.

My district, made up of Burlington and Ocean Counties in New Jersey, is home to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The joint base is a key military training facility, but the lack of proper investment in road safety projects has impeded our military’s ability to train.

By building a simple overpass over Route 539, the Army Reserve would have access to more than hundreds of additional training acres. Because one-third of Army reservists live within a short drive of under 4 hours from the joint base, additional training would save us money and give them more time with their families.

Furthermore, this would allow the Army Reserve to conduct much-needed training exercises with night vision equipment used in war zones, training exercises that they simply cannot execute because the roads aren’t safe enough.

This is one example, but it is not the only one.

This is a chance for us to stand with our servicemen and -women, a chance for us to stand for readiness, and a chance for us to stand for safety.

Mr. Chair, I urge support for the men and women across our country who serve and the adoption of this commonsense amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The maintenance of our roads in and around our military installations is a must for the safety of our servicemembers and their families. It is also key for the training and readiness of our troops.
I look forward to working with the gentleman in future budget submissions to make sure that we can address this important issue and protect the safety of our troops.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her words of support about here.

This is something that I find all of us are committed to, in terms of ensuring that our armed services men and women have everything that they need to be able to do their jobs and be able to have the success of their missions.

Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM).

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part B of House Report 116–119 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 206 by Mr. BOST of Illinois.

Amendment No. 220 by Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

Amendment No. 221 by Mr. MACADAMS of Utah.

The CHAIR will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

Amendment No. 226 offered by Mr. BOST

The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 373, noes 51, not voting 14, as follows:

AYES—418

AYES—373

Amendment No. 226 offered by Mr. BOST

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 418, noes 6, not voting 14, as follows:

AYES—418

AYES—418
Mr. RICE of South Carolina changed his vote from "no" to "aye." So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. MCADAMS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business and the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. McAdams) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes pre-vailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—a yeses 420, noes 3, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 398]

AYE—420

- Adams, Paul
- Aderholt,builders
- Akin, Robert
- Allred, Joaquin
- Amodei, Mark
- Armstrong, Rande
- Azne, Brian
- Aumiller, Greg
- Baca, Dr."
The House will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by close of business today.

The House will complete consideration of the appropriations bill, H.R. 3055, which entails Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2020. The House will also consider H.R. 3551, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2020. That will be the tenth appropriations bill that we will consider and is another step toward the House doing its work to avoid a shutdown at the end of the fiscal year.

The House will also consider H.R. 2722, Securing America’s Federal Elections Act. This legislation will protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections.

Lastly, additional legislative items may also be considered, including legislation related to humanitarian assistance at the border and the legislative appropriation bill.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I know the gentleman and I have been having the conversation for over a year about this crisis at the border. I am glad to hear that there is the bipartisan agreement that work is being done on it as we speak. I know it will be done over the weekend, and I am hopeful that we will get there because this humanitarian relief for the children and for adults, for giving the proper treatment to people who are in our country and in our care, is very important, and we are working very hard to get that done. My hope is that it will be done.

Mr. SCALISE. I just can’t urge enough that as these conversations are happening and as this work is going on over the weekend that it is work not just among Democrat appropriators and Democrat leadership but that the
Those 13,000-plus kids who are being without a bill that is signed by the President can say that this is a critical issue that we need to address, and I believe that the gentleman is not accurate.

Mr. SCALISE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

If this becomes a game where only a bipartisan bill is brought to the floor with poison pills that everybody knows the White House or the Republicans or the Democrats are not going to support, then we have seen the Senate take action with a 30–1 vote on a bill that the President can support, if a bill comes out of the House that does have those kinds of poison pills and limits the ability to care for them, we will see new problems in the Senate like the Senate did, Republicans and Democrats, a 30–1 vote out of committee, that kind of approach as opposed to an approach that might include some poison pills that everybody knows then poison the well where it won’t be signed by the President?

I yield to the gentleman, Madam Speaker.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I understand that is for the special, additional services that we need to make sure are available. I don’t think there is a question of HHS employees not getting paid. More importantly, it is an issue as to whether or not the services are going to be available to provide the humanitarian treatment that the gentleman talks about, and I think we are in full agreement.

I will say again that I think the Senate’s action is helpful. It was bipartisan. Very frankly, I think it, hopefully, is going to help us get to some bipartisan agreement here.

Mr. SCALISE. I appreciate that, and obviously, when you see that somebody would send their child—let’s use Guatemala as an example because they are one of the countries where a lot of these young children are coming from. They went through Mexico, Mexico offered them asylum, and they turned that down and, ultimately, came to America.

I appreciate the fact that people look to America as that beacon of freedom. We are the beacon of freedom for a lot of reasons.

One of the reasons is because we are a nation of freedom and laws. We are a nation of laws, and we need to find a way to get back to the rule of law so that we can have an immigration system that works for everybody, not just for the people who come over one way but for the people who follow the rule of law to come here legally.
Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I want to correct myself. The gentleman was correct. I have just been informed because they are funded, the employees, specifically under that account, the gentleman is correct and I was incorrect, and apparently, they would not be paid.

Obviously, the general Labor-Health bill that we passed up until September 30 of this year funds almost all employees. But apparently, because these funds are segregated in this account, my friend is correct that they would not be paid.

In any event, while I am concerned, and maybe some of those folks live in my district, while I am concerned about them being paid, I, frankly, share my friend’s concern, which is a much greater concern, that people who come here under and consistent with U.S. law, seeking asylum from the danger that they face at home, need to be treated in a humanitarian way. So I certainly agree that we want to make sure people get paid.

We shut down the government for 35 days, and 400,000 people did not get paid. Actually, 800,000 did not get paid, and 400,000 people had to work.

I witnessed that, as the gentleman knows, the Republican Senators tried to negotiate with the White House so that the Republican White House and the Republican Senators tried to negotiate a caps deal and could not. So, it had nothing to do with Democratic party position on that particular time.

Now, what we have done, as the gentleman knows, is we have, in effect, adopted a level of spending to which we have marked our bills. That level of spending, I will tell you, on the defense side, that we have reason to agree will be able to many Republican leaders at the top level on the gentleman’s side.

The domestic level of spending was consistent with the raise in defense and domestic, as we have done in prior deals.

The prior, most recent deal, as the gentleman knows, was reached between Speaker Ryan and Senator MURRAY. I would be hopeful that we would reach such a deal.

And, if the gentleman reaches a deal, the President has to be part of that, because you have got to amend the sequester law by statute, and the President has to sign it.

But we are moving ahead. This is our alternative. We are going to be passing 10, 11 of our bills, we hope, next week, and we will send them over to the Senate.

The Senate will, presumably, at some point in time, act upon its bills. If there is a difference, I believe we will have to reconcile the numbers, in conference, in the regular order, and hopefully pass those bills in time so that there will not either be the necessity for a continuing resolution, which really is a recognition of the failure to get the appropriations process done, which has happened often on both sides of the aisle, so it is not a question of just— but, that the Congress has not reached agreement, as it should have.

We are proceeding. We are proceeding in a timely fashion. We are going to send at least 10 or 11 bills to the Senate, and we will send the Homeland Security bill, hopefully, at some point in time, or reach agreement between the two parties, and the two houses, so that I think we have done everything we could possibly do, absent the ability of, frankly, the gentleman’s side to get agreement among itself on what the gentleman thinks the cap number ought to be.

I was hoping, in discussion with Senator McCONNELL, that between the two parties we could reach agreement, but that has not happened. But, hopefully, at some point in time it will happen soon because, ultimately, it has to happen because the sequester is not an option, and the CR ought not to be an option either.

We are doing our work, considering amendments. We are in the regular order. This is the only way we should be doing business, and I am hopeful that it will result in agreement and a signature on appropriation bills by the President, so
we do not shut down the government or have to operate under a CR.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, the political differences between the parties are not mutually exclusive to Republicans. Clearly, we have had ours within our party.

Now that you are in the majority, the Democrats on the Budget Committee could not come to an agreement amongst themselves about how to get a budget, which is why the Democrat majority, the gentleman's Democrat majority, didn't pass a budget. The first time in 9 years that the Budget Committee hasn't produced a budget out of committee.

We produced all 8 years we were in the majority. We had differences, clearly, and some of those were well-written about in the press, but we ultimately came together and passed our budgets, every year of the 8 years, out of committee.

Many of those not only got through the floor but went into law. Sometimes we got those 2-year budget agreements so we didn't need the second year.

This is the time to be working on negotiating our differences. I am glad we are having these conversations on finding our way to a caps deal.

Even the Acting Chief of Staff, Mr. Mulvaney, who was mentioned, would like to get a 2-year deal. I am sure he has some things he would like in a deal that the gentleman wouldn't agree to, but that is going to be negotiated. That is why we have negotiations in June, not in September when it is the midnight hour.

So, I am glad we are having these talks now. Of course we have differences within our parties, the gentleman's party and mine. Ultimately, amongst ourselves, we will have differences, but the ideal objective is that we come together well before the September 30 deadline.

That is why it is important that these discussions are being held now, not in September, so that we can hopefully get that agreement and then write appropriations bills.

I think the gentleman knows, the bills that he is moving through the process this week, next week, are not bills that will be signed into law, not only because, in many cases, the spending levels are well above what we would agree to, but also, the many poison pill amendments that will ultimately get worked out in a conference committee. They won't be in a final product.

But let's at least try to get in agreement on a caps deal. We are in a time frame where, at least, it is responsible to have, to get this earlier, not later, in the fiscal year.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, it is interesting the gentleman says these bills aren't going to become law. That had no restraint on the gentleman's side of the aisle when that side was in charge in the appropriations process the gentleman passed in a totally partisan fashion, I would observe.

We didn't think they would get past the Senate. They didn't get past the Senate. They didn't become law. There was a compromise made.

The gentleman did the same thing. Why? Because the gentleman thought that was, from a policy standpoint, the correct thing to do.

We are doing exactly the same thing. Will we have a conference between the House and the Senate as to levels of spending and other, as the gentleman points out, provisions in the bills? Of course we will.

But the assertion that: Why are you passing bills? They won't pass the Senate. I would hope they pass the Senate. I think they are excellent bills. I think they provide for the national security, both on the defense side and on the domestic side.

Very frankly, we put defense and labor-health together. Why? Because the gentleman had made that a way to proceed.

Why did the gentleman make it a way to proceed? Because those on the other side, for the most part, are hesitant to vote for the levels that we expect are necessary for education and the health of our people.

Having said that, when the gentleman says it won't pass the Senate, the gentleman's bills didn't pass the Senate. The gentleman passed them because he thought they were good policy. We are passing them because we think they are good policy.

And I, frankly, think, but for the fact that I think the gentleman has expressed a policy on his side of, “Don't vote for these bills,” we would have gotten a significant number of Republican votes on a number of these bills. We did get some votes.

But let us hope that we get to a deal on what the spending levels ought to be. And, as I point out, without any Democratic participation, the Republican Senators couldn't pass the bill. Why? Because it is not midnight-hour discussions like we were talking about the supplemental.

Final point: I wanted to just commend the gentleman. We had a very good meeting yesterday, our two leadership teams, with the Canadian Prime Minister.

Mr. Trudeau was here to talk to us about a number of things. Of course, USMCA is the most imminent and most up-front issue. Mexico just passed the agreement.

I know we are having discussions to see if we can find a path forward for the House to move USMCA and get a better deal with our partners, both on the south and north, Canada and Mexico.

They loaned us Lord Stanley's cup. We are going to loan them the NBA trophy for a little while. But, beyond those trade issues, we do, I think, have some common ground on some trade issues that had been needed to be resolved for a long time.

If we are going to continue to have those discussions, Mr. HOYER with the White House, to hopefully get to a point where we can, then, get that agreement in place. But I do appreciate that we had a very productive, bipartisan meeting with the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Trudeau, and we appreciated that he was here on behalf of his Nation.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I agree with the Republican whip that these were productive meetings between Prime Minister Trudeau and members of his cabinet: the finance minister, the ambassador, the foreign minister. He was there. I think they were productive.

I think our side has made it very clear that we want to get to yes. We believe that the USMCA is an improvement over existing NAFTA, and it also accommodates our domestic and labor-health provisions. That was, from a policy standpoint, the correct thing to do.

We are indeed hoping that this is part of the process. And, again, I say the reason that it is good that we are having these talks now is because, as we have our differences—the gentleman within his own party, the gentleman with us, us with the Senate, maybe with the White House—we have time to work that out now, and we don't wait until mid-September, late September, to try to get that kind of agreement.

We, we will continue to have these discussions. I am glad we are having these discussions at this early point so that it is not midnight-hour discussions like we were talking about on the supplemental.

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Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.
the new agreement which apply to workers, their safety, their standard of living, and to the environment, as well as some concerns about pharmaceuticals and biologics.

But we want to get to yes. Our friends in labor want to get to yes. We believe this is an improvement.

I am hopeful we can get enforcement provisions. I know that Speaker Pelosi has made it very clear what we need to get to a yes, and I am hopeful we get there because, personally, I think it will be in the best interest of the country because it is an improvement over the existing NAFTA.

That doesn’t mean it is perfect. None of these agreements are perfect. But it was a productive discussion and, hopefully, it will lead to solutions.

Mr. SCALISE. I am equally hopeful we can get that resolved, and I appreciate the gentleman’s work on that.

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

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019, TO MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Garcia of Texas). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

ANGELIC HEALTH HOSPICE CARE

(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. Angelic Health Hospice Care recently cut the ribbon for their new headquarters in Atlantic County, New Jersey.

Their staff provides palliative, hospice, and transitional care services and wound management to patients in south Jersey. Although they have only been operating for a short time, Angelic Health already employs over 200 employees, and they provide great care to over 100 seniors.

What makes Angelic Health special is that they go above and beyond for their patients. They don’t make their patients come to their facilities. They go to them, whenever they can, to wherever they can that their patients call home.

They don’t only give care for their patients; they also provide professional support to the families. And they just don’t treat physical ailments. Angelic Health gives the patients social, spiritual, and emotional support as well.

I want to thank the staff and the volunteers of Angelic Health who have made our community a loving place for our seniors and for their families. We are lucky to have them. They have truly impacted lives in south Jersey.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF JOHN HETLAND AND KOU HER

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

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, this week, my southeast Wisconsin community lost two heroes: Racine Police Officer John Hetland and Milwaukee Police Officer Kou Her.

Officer Hetland, a 24-year veteran of the Racine Police Department, was shot and killed while off duty, trying to stop an armed robbery.

Officer Her, a 2-year veteran of the Milwaukee Police Department, was killed on his way home from a shift as a speeding car crashed into him.

These men are heroes. They will always be remembered for their service.

This is a solemn reminder of the sacrifices members of our law enforcement make every day to protect our communities.

My prayers are with the families and friends of the officers and the entire law enforcement community grieving for these heroes.

URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, while I would love to rise in celebration of the first day of summer, the cold, hard fact is that, as temperatures soar, so does violence.

During a graduation party last weekend in my district in southwest Philadelphia, a gunman opened fire, claiming one life and injuring five other people.

Last weekend, 23 separate shootings claimed 32 victims and caused five deaths in just 2 days in Philadelphia—23 shootings and five deaths in one weekend.

What is infuriating is that there are proven, commonsense measures that will reduce gun violence in our cities, and the number one strategy is background checks.

115 days have passed since the House sent two bills, commonsense gun safety bills to the Senate. They would have strengthened our background checks. And what has the Senate done? Nothing.

During those 115 days, 11,400 people have died from gun violence in the United States.

Senator McConnell likes to joke about his legislative graveyard, but countless families are actually burying their loved ones while he does nothing.

The American people deserve better. Our children deserve better.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RICHMOND, INDIANA, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Richmond Municipal Building in Richmond, Indiana.

This week, Richmond has the honor of hosting the Indiana Conference of Mayors, where over 70 hometown leaders from across the State will come together to share ideas on how to better serve Hoosiers in their communities.

The city has so much to be proud of, and this occasion will give them an opportunity to showcase their hard work. From upgrades to Veterans Park to connectivity projects throughout the Depot District, Richmond is an all-American city with a small town charm.

I want to congratulate the president of the Indiana Conference of Mayors, Mayor Dave Snow of Richmond, for his hard work on behalf of all Hoosiers.

LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of June as LGBTQ Pride Month.

As we celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQ community, we also know that the fight for full equality under the law is far from over.

I call on Majority Leader Mr. McConnel to respect the clear majority of Americans who believe that equality must become the law of the land by taking up the Equality Act in the Senate.

We also must do more to ensure that we have the data necessary to enforce key provisions in the Equality Act. That is why I introduced the LGBTQ Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act, which would help facilitate fair lending to LGBTQ-owned businesses and study the issues affecting them by gathering data from financial institutions about their lending practices toward these businesses.

If we are serious about our country’s commitment to civil rights, protecting minorities, and economic opportunity—and, for that matter, about growing our economy—LGBTQ-owned businesses must have access to equal capital.

TAKE CARE OF THOSE WHO SERVE

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)
Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to advocate for the brave men and women who defend our country.

Recently, I visited Normandy, France, for the 75th anniversary of D-day. While overseas, I met numerous men and women who were critical in the defeat of fascism during World War II, and they all gave me a very simple and direct message: Go home and take care of those who have served our Nation proudly.

The conversations that I had with the heroes from Normandy have inspired me this week to cosponsor numerous legislative events. These will positively affect our veterans.

Congress needs to pass the Agricultural Apprenticeship Act, to allow veterans to receive the training that they need to enhance their employment opportunities.

We need to pass the Get Veterans a Doctor Now Act, which allows the VA to hire top talent so that our veterans can get the best quality of healthcare.

And we need to pass the Veterans Right to Expediency Act, so that the veterans who have sustained injuries in the field of battle cannot be boxed out of filing disability claims.

Madam Speaker, it is time that we take up these measures. Our veterans have given everything for us.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM TULLY BROWN

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

Mr. O’HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay respects to a hero and a warrior. William Tully Brown, one of the last surviving Navajo code talkers, passed away earlier this month at the age of 96.

The code talkers were a group of brave soldiers who used their native tongue to create unbreakable codes in the battlefield and to transmit messages during World War II. They participated in every major Marine operation in the Pacific Theater, saving hundreds of thousands of lives.

I was saddened to hear of the passing of another decorated hero from this important group.

William was born in Black Mountain, Arizona, in 1922, and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1944. During his service, he received many military honors, including the American Campaign Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

We must never forget William Tully Brown and all code talkers for their service to our country and our veterans’ service to their country.

HONORING DOROTHY “MOM” BROWN

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

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Dorothy “Mom” Brown for her dedication to the Phi Kappa Psi house at DePauw University. Few individuals have had an impact on Phi Kappa Psi as great as Dorothy, and we thank her for her selflessness.

Prior to her time with Phi Kappa Psi, Dorothy graduated from Indiana University, receiving a bachelor’s degree in education and a master of science in administration and supervision, and then began a teaching career in Gary, Indiana.

After serving as a principal in Warren Township Schools in Indianapolis in the 1980s, Dorothy returned to her home in Greencastle in 1986 to teach in the Education Department at DePauw University.

In 1993, Dorothy took a new role as housemother of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. She quickly became an anchor for the fraternity and made it a memorable experience for generations of young men over the next 26 years.

She was honored in 2009 for her contributions to the city of Greencastle, as the DePauw Cultural Resource Center was renamed in her honor.

Whether during her time as an elementary school teacher or fraternity housemother, she exemplified leadership and compassion, and I am proud to call her a fellow Hoosier.

On behalf of the Fourth District of Indiana, I thank her for her dedication to her community, and I wish her the very best in retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL BOYER

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

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Carl Boyer. The lives of every single person in my hometown of Santa Clarita, California, are better thanks to the work and tireless efforts of one of our city’s founding fathers, Mr. Carl Boyer.

After moving to what is now California’s 25th District in the late 1960s, Carl worked to establish the city of Santa Clarita in an effort to help our community receive the resources it needed. His leadership continued from there as he served on the first-ever Santa Clarita City Council and, eventually, two terms as mayor.

Carl put his city—our city—at the center of every decision he made. From his first day on the council to his last day as mayor, he worked to protect our beautiful open space, and he left office having created one of the best park departments in the United States.

While serving Santa Clarita, he was also a public school teacher and a foster parent to young children who came to the United States for lifesaving medical treatment.

Carl Boyer had a heart of gold, and will be missed by all. On behalf of the vibrant and wonderful community that he helped create, I extend my deepest gratitude for the legacy of service, engagement, and kindness that he leaves behind.

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HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge a vote on my bill, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act, an all-American, value-based, comprehensive public health approach to help CBP address the basic humanitarian needs of children and families under their custody and responsibility.

When I visited our southern border, I saw overworked agents and the meltdown of a system that is understaffed, under-equipped, under-resourced, under-trained, and under-skilled to meet the humanitarian needs of children and families.

That is why my bill identifies humanitarian standards on water, sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, and shelter missing from the administration’s emergency supplemental budget request.

My bill requires a clearly defined medical screening for all individuals in CBP custody, and identifies priority groups, like children and seniors, who should receive their screenings within 3 hours of being detained by CBP.

It identifies how many calories a pregnant woman or a child should be given each day, for example, and it requires that CBP provide toothbrushes and diapers, the chance to bathe at least once a day, and meets everyone’s basic daily need to drink enough water.

Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow representatives to support these straightforward reforms to prevent the deaths of children, and ensure our treatment of women, children, and families seeking asylum is consistent with the basic principles of human dignity.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, as a nurse and cofounder of the Black Maternal Health Caucus, I am fully committed to advancing policies that reduce maternal health disparities.

Black women are nearly four times more likely than White women and more than twice as likely as women of other races to die from preventable pregnancy-related complications.

This is a national crisis.

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demonstrated an ability to set goals, make decisions, and communicate effectively. I look forward to seeing how these two amazing young women will continue to contribute to our Seventh District communities in the future.

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Alvin Francis Jones, a lifelong New Mexican judge, lawyer, and community leader.

Born in New Mexico in 1944, Alvin earned a bachelor’s degree from New Mexico Tech and a juris doctor from the University of New Mexico.

He began his career in private practice and was later appointed to New Mexico’s First Judicial District in Roswell, where he served for 19 years, many as chief judge.

During his time on the bench, he founded the local chapters of CASA to help vulnerable children navigate the State legal system, and Character Counts, teaching children the value of good character.

After retiring from the bench in 2004, Alvin joined a private practice, where he specialized in water law.

For me, he was a personal example of character. He had a dogged work ethic, and he also dedicated time and resources to mentor New Mexicans.

A pillar of the community who was loved by his family and friends alike, Alvin leaves behind a legacy of selfless service to New Mexico.

We are grateful and will miss him dearly.

MEDICAID CLIFF

Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, the Marianas Islands and four other U.S. insular areas face a Medicaid “cliff.” Funding included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act expires this year.

Two-thirds of our annual Medicaid funding disappears, gone, putting health care just for Medicaid recipients, but for everyone who uses our hospital or other providers, because they depend as well on Medicaid revenues to stay in business or open.

I held a hearing last month on this Medicaid cliff. Chair Esylko held a hearing yesterday, for which I am grateful.

This attention is good. We need Congress to focus on this impending healthcare crisis for Americans living in the insular areas.

Certainly, more money is needed. Treat the insular areas like the States.

But the goal is not just money. What we want is medical care for those who need it in the insular areas to be every bit as good as medical care anywhere in America.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NORTH KOREA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116–44)

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

To the Congress of the United States:

By the President of the United States of America in Convention, at the City of Washington, this twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America two hundred and forty-three.

We are grateful and will miss him dearly.

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Two-thirds of our annual Medicaid funding disappears, gone, putting health care just for Medicaid recipients, but for everyone who uses our hospital or other providers, because they depend as well on Medicaid revenues to stay in business or open.

I held a hearing last month on this Medicaid cliff. Chair Esylko held a hearing yesterday, for which I am grateful.

This attention is good. We need Congress to focus on this impending healthcare crisis for Americans living in the insular areas.

Certainly, more money is needed. Treat the insular areas like the States.

But the goal is not just money. What we want is medical care for those who need it in the insular areas to be every bit as good as medical care anywhere in America.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NORTH KOREA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116–44)

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

To the Congress of the United States:

By the President of the United States of America in Convention, at the City of Washington, this twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America two hundred and forty-three.

We are grateful and will miss him dearly.

MEDICAID CLIFF

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nobody is paying any attention to what they are saying. They are making themselves look bad. They make us look good by what they say."

There were times I would say, “But are you paying attention to what they are saying?”

You could see on C-SPAN sometimes when the sound was off, it would be scrolling, and I would say, “Look what they are saying. They are blaming us for all kinds of things. We need to respond. This isn’t accurate.”

And I would say, “Look, you know, don’t worry about it. It doesn’t make any difference.”

And over the course of 2 years, I saw that a group that called themselves the 30 Somethings—everyone that was probably in their sixties or seventies, but otherwise in their thirties—that they did affect national opinion. I mean, you could see over that many nights, they made a difference.

After that, I endeavored to try to address our critical issues when I had the chance, if other Members of my party were not taking those opportunities.

So on fly-out days, when so many are rushing and have to get to the airport by a plane, they don’t have time to come down here and address some of our critical issues, then I volunteer. I will stay an extra hour or two before catching a plane back to Texas in order to address some of these important things. And it is a great opportunity.

I used to do more than one Special Order a week many times, but my Democrat friend, and I mean that sincerely, JOHN GARAMENDI, had referred to a new Democrat rule that was put in place this year that no one could take more than one Special Order during the week, my friend, JOHN, referred to that as the Louie Gohmert rule.

The good thing about that was that it enabled me not to just continue as I had been year after year encouraging other Republicans to take a Special Order and address some of these important national issues, then I was able this year to tell them, “Look, I can only do one a week, so you guys have got to start signing up for Special Orders and taking the time, addressing areas that you know well that we need to communicate about.”

So I have been very pleased with how many of my colleagues have signed up for Special Orders and addressed critical issues, helped educate on the matters before us, because you don’t always get straight and accurate news even by some of the so-called fact-checkers.

Often fact-checkers, as they call themselves, need fact-checking, because many times they are not accurate either.

☐ 1215

So this is a great opportunity that we have in a legislative body to address issues so that information does get out to the public, unless they are reading the remarks in some article that has had the facts and statements twisted and edited to change the meaning. Otherwise, they can judge for themselves exactly what has been said and what is accurate and what isn’t.

I heard our Majority Leader HOYER and our Minority Whip SCALISE and their dialogue back and forth bringing up the critical issue of our border and the humanitarian crisis going on there. In their discussion, they did not get into what is causing—well, I guess they refer to it. People are trying to get away from terrible circumstances.

Well, those circumstances in different places in the world have gone on for centuries. We have never had the kind of presence in some sense that we have seen in recent months.

So, things haven’t gotten worse in the world. Why the huge surge at our border this year? And the border patrolmen with whom I communicate, the people who see, deal with, those coming in illegally, coming through places that are not legal ports of entry, the border patrolmen get information from immigrants exactly why they are coming.

Sometimes immigrants are given pieces of paper—the immigrants coming in illegally—with addresses, names, and these are either approved or given by the drug cartels. Nobody comes into the United States across our southern border without permission of the drug cartels.

The drug cartels are not interested in preventing humanitarian crises. Drug cartels are interested in helping create humanitarian crises. And since I have been there all hours of the night, which used to be the prime time for people coming across illegally—now they are just coming all the time—I got to see this so many times firsthand.

I have seen situations with those people that had their little piece of paper. It was supposed to be the address that they gave the Border Patrol and, later, ICE: Yes, this is the address where I have somebody waiting for me, somebody who knows me, a family member.

Often that information was provided by the drug cartels: This is where you will go.

This actually fit together to help answer mysteries of who is telling them where to go.

But the immigrants would be asked by Border Patrol, and it wasn’t on the list of questions they are required to ask: How much did you pay the gang or the drug cartels that are responsible for bringing you in? Because sometimes the drug cartels have gang members who will act as coyotes and bring people in illegally. And the answer is, normally, $5,000, $7,000, $8,000.

And then this-up: Where did you get that kind of money? You don’t have that kind of money. Well, we have got $1,000 or $1,500 here, and then people in the U.S. send us some money.

Well, what about the rest of it?

And the disturbing comment was, normally: They are going to let me work that off when I get where I am going.

Well, these are drug cartels, and obviously the work they were going to be doing would be either drug trafficking or sex trafficking, both doing severe damage to our country. Yet we have not been able to reach passage of a bill, bipartisan or otherwise, that would actually help totally secure our border so we can control who comes in and ensure that they are not people who are wanting to do damage to the country.

Now, some just want to come in the country, and they don’t realize, by coming in, they will do damage, that they have not been educated on how you keep, how you retain a representative form of government and how with the liberties and freedoms come great responsibilities.

The responsibilities portion has also been neglected in so many schools. It is last in the past without getting into responsibilities.

But I will continue to bring up Ben Franklin’s answer to the woman after the Constitutional Convention: Sir, what have you given us? A republic, madam, if you can keep it.

Eric Metaxas has a book on this that I read recently. It is very difficult to keep a self-governing system going. Historically, any attempt at some type of self-government has not lasted normally more than 200 years. We are beyond that.

The Constitution was ratified and first elected a Congress, President, and Vice President under the Constitution of 1787 that finished being ratified in 1789. So we are 230 years beyond that founding document being ratified. So we are beyond the number of years that a self-government has been able to last in the past normally.

The fact is there haven’t been normal self-governments, and that is why, in Ben Franklin’s speech at the Constitutional Convention, although kids are today in congress. He said, who are all—deists, if Franklin is even mentioned at all—a deist believing there is maybe some force, some thing, some whatever out there that created things, and if such force or person or being or deity existed and still exists, it never interferes with nature or the things that were set in motion originally. That is, in essence, a shorthand rendition of a deist.

But Franklin himself, we know what he said, because he wrote it down when people asked for a copy. He said: I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth. God governs in the affairs of man.

This means he wasn’t a deist.

But he says: If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it possible an empire could rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writing, that unless the Lord builds this House, they labor in vain to build it.

He said: I firmly believe this. I also firmly believe without His concurring

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aid, we shall succeed in our political building no better than the builders of Babel. We will be confounded by our partial local interests, and we, ourselves, shall become a bower down through the ages.

Because Franklin knew. He studied history, not just science and other things, but he knew from history this is not something that had been effectively done the way they were wanting to do it.

Sure, the Romans had had a Senate. The Greeks had made an effort at democracy that worked for a short time—not well, but worked for a short time.

The British, from whom we separated, they had a Parliament, but they also had a king. This was going to be a new thing. And the “Novus ordo seclorum” that is under the pyramid on the two-sided Great Seal that was adopted over 200 years ago, “Novus ordo seclorum,” Latin, meaning, “new order of things,” “new order of the ages.”

Some have tried to say: A-ha, new world order.

But if you look at the Founders’ own remarks, they make it clear that they knew they really got this self-government thing right. But if they could do it right—and as Franklin said, it wasn’t going to happen right without the Lord’s concurring aid.

But if they could get it right, this would be a new order of things. This would be what people around the world, for the rest of history, would probably try to emulate, if not outright imitate.

But if they didn’t get it right, since they had the opportunity and failed, as Franklin said, they would become a bower down through the ages. They would be ridiculed. They had the chance to do self-government right, and they blew it.

But even though they got this thing incredibly right in the founding document and the agreed upon 10 Amendments, the Bill of Rights, obviously it has taken a couple hundred years to get the Constitution to apply and mean what it says. It took a Civil War. It took a civil rights movement. But here we are today, and we have not continued to educate people on what Franklin knew would require education in order to keep the Republic.

Oh, sure, we have got more schools now than ever, but because of the heavy-handedness of the Federal Government Department of Education, even though that education is something that is not an enumerated power in the Constitution and, therefore, under the Tenth Amendment was reserved for right only of the States and the local government, the Federal Government got involved and, as a result, not many students are being taught the complete history that they should know and they need to know in order to take this little experiment in self-government.

So when people come in and they have not been educated at all on what it takes to keep a self-governing system, they are just told in their own language about all of the free things they can get, they are not told about the important responsibilities that come with those free things and opportunities, that keeps up for so long, and the only idea that draws people from around the world.

Then, as some West Africans told me, when America gets weak, we suffer. And we are seeing that around the world.

Iranians are suffering tremendously under a heavy-handed, even criminal, terrorist regime in Iran that came into place because we had a President who didn’t understand radical Islam, did not understand that when he turned his back on the Shah, who was not a great guy—he apparently didn’t treat his people as well as they should have been—nonetheless, things certainly got worse.

When the Ayatollah was welcomed into power by President Carter as a man of peace, well, the world soon found that Iran, now that radical Islamists who wanted a new caliphate for the world to subjugate Christians and every other religious group under their mean-spirited, actually, dictatorship and religious dictatorship, the people of Iran suffered. The world has suffered from the failure during the Carter administration to understand the dangers that were lurking there. Well, those dangers are no longer lurking there, they are being spread around the world.

I was amazed to hear people on television say, well, they couldn’t really say if Iran had caused the death of any Americans. Certainly they have.

Not long after the Ayatollah Khomeini took over in Iran, our Embassy was attacked and over 50 individuals were taken hostage. But they have continued to support terrorism, unabated, over all these years since 1979.

They are responsible for the deaths and the explosions at the Marine barracks in Beirut in 1983. And the message that was sent by the Democratic majority in the House and Senate was to force the complete withdrawal of troops in the area.

So that was a great encouragement to the Ayatollah and to the radical Islamists that want to destroy self-government. They think that they need a dictator who is really a religious bigot in control of things to dictate to people what they can or can’t do, and that is such a foreign concept after 230 years here under our Constitution.

But anybody who studies history, who is up on his history, knows there is a lot better chance that a dictatorship will eventually prevail, whether it is a religious extremist like you have ruling in Iran or it is just a dictator like you have had in North Korea for a long time.

So having been in the Soviet Union for a summer as an exchange student between my sophomore and junior year of college, I saw the way people suffered. I saw the way the government spied on its people; I saw the mean-spirited things the government did to people that weren’t being manipulated the way they wanted them to be; I saw suppression of free thought and free expression. It literally thanking God that we didn’t have that kind of suppressive government.

But in the intervening years, we have seen a government get so powerful that it can spy on its people, and we saw with what was released by WikiLeaks, the FISA application, the underlying affidavit, and the order that—holy cow, the FISA judge just basically ignored the Fourth Amendment, the protections against unwarranted searches and seizures.

The application, my interpretation, was basically it said: We just need all of the information Verizon has on every customer they have and an underlying affidavit saying, basically, we just need the information Verizon has on every customer.

And then the judge—even though a Federal, Senate-confirmed judge, it is a secret court—he just signs off on it: Oh, you want every bit of information Verizon has on every single customer? Sure, yeah. Why don’t you provide that? Here, here is an order to provide it.

That scared me because it actually confirmed what some of us had feared back when the Patriot Act was being reauthorized in my first term: Wait a minute. This is giving the Federal Government power that could go too far. There is language that is too loosely written that could allow the government to spy on people without proper authority.

We have got to revisit those issues.

And that has been further brought to a head with what we are learning about the abuses of the FISA court when one administration wanted to spy on a campaign and then spy on—and, hopefully, eliminate—the selection of a majority in the electorate for our President and Vice President.

Unfortunately, in the beginning, the second highest vote getter became the Vice President, and that became apparent as a failure and a bad idea under the Presidency of John Adams, when Jefferson, his dear friend, became Vice President with the second highest number of votes. By the end of the fourth year, as McCullough points out in his book on John Adams, Jefferson even hired a notorious newspaperman to set up some opposition to help him defeat him, which he did, which probably explains why Adams is the only President who didn’t stick
around for the inauguration of his successor. But that got changed to a constitutional amendment, and so we have the electoral process.

If you do away with the electoral college, then it would mean most every State that is not a heavily populated State will not have a candidate running for President, because it would be a waste. They will want to spend their time in the heavy population centers and mainly disregard what some people refer to as flyover States, which many of us are very real guts and the heart of the country.

So it is an important thing to have, but people are not getting education on these things these days, and why things were created in the way in which they were, what succeeded, what failed.

When I do tours around the Capitol, sometimes they go a lot longer than I think they should, but I am ready to stop any time the people are, but they still have questions. We find so many people didn't get the education. I hear so often: I never really liked history in school.

Well, that doesn't tell me anything about them. It tells me a lot about their history teachers, that they had history classes who didn't understand the importance of history, so they had true/false, multiple choice, or fill-in-the-box questions rather than emphasizing that the real importance in history is the stories, what went right, what went wrong.

Yes, it helps to have them in chronological order, but the more important aspect is what worked and what didn't. And that is not what so many American students are getting anymore.

And certainly those who are rushing into America illegally, they certainly haven't gotten that. They know America is supposed to be a better place, but they don't know why. They don't know that they are jeopardizing that country's heart by continuing as an attractive place for people to want to go, the most attractive place for immigrants to want to come in the entire world.

So we have got more education to do. And I am hoping that our colleagues here in this body will begin to understand that, when we take up legislation that will ultimately legalize illegal activity—like coming into the country illegally or giving benefits for coming in illegally—it becomes a lure for more and more people to come illegally, to which means it is going to make more money for the drug cartels. It is going to have more young women raped.

We are told that is occurring. About one in four girls coming to the United States through Mexico will end up being sexually assaulted, little boys at a lesser rate. I think I read 17 percent, something like that—just human tragedy.

It happens when well-meaning individuals in Washington want to help those less fortunate by bringing them to our country, not understanding that there is a tremendous amount of human suffering that goes on, in addition to undermining the very foundation of what was the freest country in the world.

So everybody is now indicating that America is not the freest country in the world. We continue to add laws taking away the majority of our freedoms away. But I heard the majority leader saying that we haven't had comprehensive immigration reform.

Well, in my time in Congress, what I have come to understand is, when you hear that term “comprehensive immigration reform,” it normally means we want a bill that is so big and so massive that people who will vote on it won't have a chance to read it all and will be able to stick things in there that a majority would never agree to if they knew they were there. That is what I have come to see “comprehensive” meaning when it comes to legislation.

We are better off if we take subjects up individually, let people have a chance to read and know what is there, let them have a chance to analyze the language. Is this something likely to be struck down? If we don’t have that opportunity, we pass legislation that is not what we want as a majority. And when we do do it, I am a Republican. We are in the minority. But I am talking about a majority of this body.

So we have these ongoing offers, which is what it is every time we pass a piece of legislation even if it doesn't become law. That word is used by the drug cartels to encourage more people to pay to them, to bring them in. That means they are going to have more employees—really, more like indentured servants—in the drug trade, in the human trafficking, sex trafficking, and people suffer as a result of well-intentioned but poorly thought-out legislation. We have got to do a better job on that.

Unfortunately, in the last term of Congress when Republicans had a majority in the House and the Senate, had a Republican President, we had leadership in both Houses that was not interested in securing our border or we could have passed a bill to do that. We could have passed a bill and gotten it into law.

But there are monied interests out there that contribute heavily and encourage people not to secure the border. As I have said before from this lectern, if you hear somebody who is elected in Mexico say, “We don't want the border secure; we don’t want a wall anywhere on our border with the United States: Then you know that is someone who is getting money from the drug cartels. You can take that to the bank.

But you also heard well-intentioned but uneducated or misinformed individuals talk about what is happening on our border and even refer to the efforts of those who have come in illegally as concentration camps. If that were so, it would be the first time in human history that people have flocked by the hundreds of thousands to voluntarily go into concentration camps, because that has never happened in the history of the world.

The Jews, during the 1930s and 1940s did not go flocking by their own choice into concentration camps that resulted in over 6 million deaths. They were forced into those.

The people who are coming voluntarily and illegally across our border, they are putting themselves at risk of sexual exploitation but also even for their very lives, because we constantly get reports about people dying trying to get in or getting in illegally and then being left by coyotes out somewhere to die.

We constantly, if you pay attention, get reports of our Border Patrol saving the lives—ICE agents—saving the lives of people who have come in illegally but have been abandoned by the drug cartels’ coyotes.

So it is also interesting when you think about the facilities on our borders. □ 1245

The concentration camps of World War II did not have Germany appropriating billions of dollars or their equivalent for them to have a more comfortable existence. That didn’t happen.

That is why, clearly, they are not concentration camps, as people continue to flock there by the hundreds of thousands knowing what they are getting into. But as the concentration camps are, that we are passing laws that will eventually allow them to be legalized if they come illegally, we are going to have the numbers that we are seeing at this time.

In the past, we have been told that they feel like they are catching most of the people coming across. But if my colleagues spend a lot of time on the border as I have, the Border Patrol will say that what scares them is that they don’t know what they don’t know about the people coming in.

They do know that every time a big group comes across our border illegally and makes themselves available to be picked up and detained, that the drug cartels know. We have to put all of our people on duty trying to in-process these folks, and that is when the drug cartels know they can bring in big shipments of drugs, bring in people who otherwise may be a threat to our country.

We continue to hear from Federal officials about people coming. We just had a report in the last couple of weeks about the ISIS member who admitted that they are continuing to get radical Islamists who want to destroy our country into our country through our southern border by paying the drug cartels to bring them in with other people. That is all going on.

We encourage this article yesterday from The Washington Times, Stephen Dinan, that says, “The Border Patrol has documented more than 100,000 immigrants who they know managed to
illegal to sneak past them and get into the interior of the country, the agency’s Chief told Congress on Thursday, saying it’s the most in 5 years.”

Just for reference here, we do have balloons that can be floated up that have infrared or thermal technology, night vision. We have people on the border with night vision, thermal technology, so they can see the outline of individuals who get in, even when they are not caught.

But going back to the article: “Known as ‘got aways,’ the migrants are ones who agents detect but know they didn’t manage to stop from crossing the border.”

I need to insert here that our Border Patrol for a number of administrations has not been allowed to prevent people from coming into our country. We need to fix the law so they can prevent people from coming into the country using reasonable means.

I know when the Texas Department of Public Safety has its boats out on the Rio Grande where people are crossing, they don’t cross because Texas DPS people to cross into Texas illegally if they can stop them.

The Border Patrol, on the other hand, has their hands tied. They have to allow them to come in illegally and then try to in-process them.

The article goes on. It says: “This high level of ‘got aways’ is a direct result of agents being reassigned away from the front line to provide humanitarian support to the unprecedented numbers of individuals and families in custody.” Chief Carla Provost told the House Homeland Security Committee.

“The panel was meeting to hear how President Trump’s orders to send National Guard and Active Duty troops to the border is playing out.” Chief Provost said they’ve been a major boost, suggesting the got-away numbers might have been worse without the troops there to fill gaps left when her agents got pulled away to do babysitting duties at the facilities and unaccompanied children.”

I have gotten pictures from our border of our actual Border Patrol pushing baby carriages, literally babysitting because these folks have been lured in by what we are doing here, what we are talking about here.

Chief Provost goes on to say, “That support as my agents are being pulled away to deal with the humanitarian crisis is key to us having situational awareness.”

The article says, further down, it says: “A Senate panel on Wednesday approved a $4.6 billion request for funding to tackle the humanitarian crisis at the border, but only after including a condition that none of the money be used for a border wall.”

As I understand our majority leader’s discussion today, they are talking about emergency funding to deal with the humanitarian crisis, but actually, the way it is being talked about it will not end up being the humanitarian crisis because it will encourage more people who we are spending a new $4.5 or $4.6 billion on, to provide food and comfortable shelter for people who come in illegally.

That language is being drafted to ensure not only that it not be spent on the wall, but that it is not going to be spent at all on preventing people from coming in illegally. It is just going to be spent on the more and more volumes of people coming in illegally, which will, in this cyclical, worthless effort, encourage more to come in. We will have to appropriate billions and billions more for a bigger humanitarian crisis, and that will encourage more.”

At some point, we have to take seriously, and I know there are a lot of people who don’t like Biblical references—not very many, but some—but the fact is that it is the most quoted book in the history of our country. It was the most quoted book during the Constitutional Convention, and it continues to be the most quoted book in Congress.

If my colleagues look back in the Old Testament references, in Psalms, Proverbs, and other places, the best that we can hope and pray for is justice where the rich are treated like everybody else. They don’t get any special consideration. And the poor are treated like everybody else and not given any special consideration. Everyone is treated fairly and equally and under the law.

Yet, what we are seeing in this effort is that we are going to treat people who are trying to come into this country legally, we are going to penalize them. We are going to make them take 7 to 10 years, as some have, that we have tried to help family members with before.

But if they will just come illegally, we are going to try to keep them specially. We are going to try to keep them from the drug cartels that want them to be to work as their employees or indentured servants. We are going to treat them specially. We are going to give them all kinds of things that people who are trying to lawfully come in don’t get approval to come legally are not getting and will not get because they are trying to do things the legal way, while others are flooding the zone illegally.

That is not a good scenario for a country to continue to keep a self-governing system. Of course, we have billionaires that have donated large amounts of money to try to push us into being a socialist system. Of course, Marx didn’t foresee the growth of the middle class the way we have had it here in the United States.

I continue to think that is the real strength of our country, the huge middle class. It shrunk during the Obama administration when, for the first time in our history, 95 percent of the new income one year went to the top 1 percent income earners. The middle class shrank. The poorest got poorer; the rich got richer; and the middle class shrank.

That could end up leading to a communist revolution once we get to having that small ruling class and then the much larger poor class. Unfortunately, for the billionaires that contribute to help take us to a socialist system, they haven’t been educated in history adequately to understand that if we go to a socialist system, normally, the billionaires’ money is taken. They are put in prison or killed, and they don’t end up being part of the elite ruling class as they had been so hands off of.

We do have a crisis on our southern border, but it needs to be while we deal in a humane way with people who are here, that we also secure our border because otherwise, we are not a nation. If we don’t have a border that is enforceable, we are not a nation. We are just a transient area. And if there is wealth in the area, it will not continue on for many more decades.

We had a hearing this week, changing gears, on the issue of reparations. It has been amazing how misinformed people have been on slavery, who supported it, who was against it; on civil rights, who supported it, who was against it. It has really been amazing.

There is an article here from Jeffrey Lord in The American Spectator from June 21.

It says: “So amidst the chaos of that congressional hearing on reparations for slavery, former NFL star Burgess Owens got straightforward to the point, saying this, as reported by BizPac Review:
'I used to be a Democrat until I did my history and found out the misery that that party brought to my race,' Owens said.

"He added, 'I do believe in restitution. Let's point to the party that was part of the Jim Crow days. I remember one. Yone, Mr. Jim Crow, was there. Now his party pay restitution. How about a Democratic Party pay for all the misery brought to my race.'" 

The article by Mr. Lord says: "Bingo. Yet somehow, some mysterious way, the hard facts of history are blithely ignored by members and sycophants of the Democrats, the latter without doubt the party of race."

"Republican Congressman LOUIE GOHMERT of Texas had the audacity to quote from a 2006 article of mine that originally appeared in this space and was reprinted in The Wall Street Journal. Among other things in that article I noted these hard facts about what was missing from the website of the Democratic National Committee and tried to portray itself as the champion of civil rights by leaving out the hard facts of the party’s horrendous actual history on race."

"Madam Speaker, these are the things he correctly notes that I read into the Record at our hearing."

"This is from the Democrats’ ‘Our History’ section of their website."

"He said: ‘There is no reference to the number of Democratic Party platforms supporting slavery."

"There were six from 1840 to 1860."

"There is no reference to the number of Democratic Presidents who owned slaves."

"There were seven from 1800 to 1861."

"There is no reference to the number of Democratic Party platforms that either supported segregation outright or were silent on the subject."

"There were 20, from 1868 through 1948."

"There is no reference to ‘Jim Crow’ as in ‘Jim Crow laws,’ nor is there reference to the role Democrats played in creating them. These were the post-Civil War laws passed enthusiastically by Democrats in that pesky 52-year part of the DNC’s missing years. These laws segregated public schools, public transportation, restaurants, restrooms, and in general, everything from water coolers to beaches."

"The reason Rosa Parks became famous is that she sat in the white’s only front section of a bus, the whites only designation the direct result of Democrats."

"There is no reference to the formation of the Ku Klux Klan, which, according to Columbia University historian Eric Foner, became ‘a military force serving the interests of the Democratic Party’ after it was there referenced to University of North Carolina historian Allen Trellese’s description of the Klan as the ‘terrorist arm of the Democratic Party.’"

"There is no reference to the fact that Democrats opposed the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution. The 13th banned slavery.’"

"Madam Speaker, on further down: ‘There is no reference to the fact that Democrats opposed the Civil Rights Act of 1866. It was passed by the Republican Congress over the veto of President Andrew Johnson, who had been a Democrat before joining Lincoln’s ticket in 1864.’"

"‘There is no reference to the Democrat’s opposition to the Civil Rights Act of 1875.’"

"Anyway, Madam Speaker, it goes on and on here. But it was amazing to me and this article points out: ‘Tellingly, when Congressman GOHMERT was finished reciting these hard, cold, and quite accurate facts of history, someone in the audience yelled out, ‘You lie.’ An unwitting admission of absolute historical ignorance or maybe just plain denial. And over at the website Splinter writer Samantha Grasso assailed Gohmert as the ‘dumbest Republican in the room’ for daring to cite the Democrats’ appalling historical record."

"So anyway, Madam Speaker, it is an interesting time. Education is important, but it has got to be accurate education."

"One other thing I would like to quickly reference is the need for criminal justice reform within our military. There are some very, very serious problems with military justice that are very good."

"In the grand jury process in the civilian sector, constitutionally the defendant, potential defendant, is not allowed to be there, nor to have his attorney there or her attorney. Attorneys are not allowed to be there for a potential defendant when that potential defendant is actually testifying before the grand jury."

"Whereas, in the military system of justice, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, there is what is called an Article 32 investigation which is sort of the equivalent, except a potential accused, as we call them in the military, is allowed to be there and have an attorney there to see what is being said against him and to give a chance to present evidence to the Article 32 investigating officer."

"But one of the problems—and it is a very, very serious problem—is that the commander, normally a commanding general or admiral. He is the convening authority. He puts his signature on there saying: ‘I want this individual charged and tried in a court-martial for this offense. That is after reviewing the results of the Article 32 investigation."

"But where it becomes rather unfair is that to get a jury—I saw this during my 4 years at Fort Benning—the commanding general has each unit—we have companies that are companies. Platoons would offer suggestions of hard-nosed guys that would convict anybody who was sent if they were on the jury, and they were referred up to the company commander. The company commander would choose those that he thought were the very best out of those nominated, and he would refer them up to the battalion commander. The battalion commander would winnow them to the very toughest who would follow what the commander would want them to do and send those up to brigade. The brigade would take them and review them and decide to get it down to a number that they would send up, and usually it would get to the commanding general of installation, and he would pick maybe up to 15 people who would sit, sometimes for 6 months, on every court-martial during that time."

"They knew why they were there. They knew why the commanding general put them on the jury. They were sent there to convict the guys that the general sent to be tried."

"There were a number of acquittals, but I recall telling you every time there was an acquittal in a court-martial, you never saw that jury panel again. They may have been new, but if they acquitted somebody, found them not guilty, the general immediately disbanded this as a jury panel."

"Democrats, the latter without doubt the party of race, ignored by members and sycophants of this space and was reprinted in The Wall Street Journal. Among other things in that article I noted these hard facts about what was missing from the website of the Democratic National Committee and tried to portray itself as the champion of civil rights by leaving out the hard facts of the party’s horrendous actual history on race."

"Madam Speaker, these are the things he correctly notes that I read into the Record at our hearing."

"This is from the Democrats’ ‘Our History’ section of their website."

"He said: ‘There is no reference to the number of Democratic Party platforms supporting slavery."

"There were six from 1840 to 1860."

"There is no reference to the number of Democratic Presidents who owned slaves."

"There were seven from 1800 to 1861."

"There is no reference to the number of Democratic Party platforms that either supported segregation outright or were silent on the subject."

"There were 20, from 1868 through 1948."

"There is no reference to ‘Jim Crow’ as in ‘Jim Crow laws,’ nor is there reference to the role Democrats played in creating them. These were the post-Civil War laws passed enthusiastically by Democrats in that pesky 52-year part of the DNC’s missing years. These laws segregated public schools, public transportation, restaurants, restrooms, and in general, everything from water coolers to beaches."

"The reason Rosa Parks became famous is that she sat in the ‘whites only’ front section of a bus, the ‘whites only’ designation the direct result of Democrats."

"There is no reference to the formation of the Ku Klux Klan, which, according to Columbia University historian Eric Foner, became ‘a military force serving the interests of the Democratic Party’ after it was there referenced to University of North Carolina historian Allen Trellese’s description of the Klan as the ‘terrorist arm of the Democratic Party.’"
the Iraq war, Desert Storm, Kuwait, and Afghanistan, we had over 200.

This is something that needs to be looked at. We should not have our military members risking conviction simply by trying to defend themselves and those around them. So I am hoping that we can come together in a bipartisan way and make some changes, some corrections, and some improvements to military justice so that our heroes don’t get killed trying to avoid being seen as criminals by people who don’t understand what they are going through.

So, in any event, I am hopeful that we will do something next week to help fund border security, but it sounds like from what we have heard on the floor all we are going to do is help attract more people to come in illegally because we are going to send $4 billion or so down to the border.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of a family medical emergency.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

REVISION TO THE AGREGATES, ALLOCATIONS, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020


MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (CBA) and H. Res. 293 (116th Congress), I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record a revision to the aggregates and allocations set forth in the Statement of Aggregates, Allocations, and Other Budgetary Levels for Fiscal Year 2020 published in the Congressional Record on May 3, 2019, as adjusted. This revision is for allowable adjustments for amounts for program integrity initiatives, pursuant to H. Res. 293. These amounts are contained in the text of H.R. 3511, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020, as reported by the Committee on Appropriations.

Accordingly, I am revising aggregate spending levels for fiscal year 2020 and the allocation for the House Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2020. For purposes of enacting titles III and IV of the CBA and other budgetary enforcement provisions, the revised aggregates and allocation are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to the Statement published in the Congressional Record on May 3, 2019, as adjusted.

Questions may be directed to Jennifer Wheelock or Raquel Spencer of the Budget Committee staff.

JOHN YARMUTH.

TABLE 1.—REVISION TO ON-BUDGET AGGREGATES—Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revises for the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020 (H.R. 3511)</th>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>2,740,533</td>
<td>34,847,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020–2029</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
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TABLE 2.—REVISION OF ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revised Allocation:</th>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3,798,577</td>
<td>2,716,399</td>
<td>34,847,015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move that the House now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o’clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 24, 2019, at noon 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:

1362. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Electronic Filing of Notices for Apprenticeship and Training Plans and Statements for Pension Plans for Certain Select Employees (RIN: 1210-AB62) received June 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2651 and 2651a (110 Stat. 869); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

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

H.J. Res. 60. Joint Resolution requesting the Secretaries 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.

June 21, 2019
18, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

1372. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Compensatory Time Off for Religious Observances and Other Miscellaneous Changes (RIN: 3206-AL56) received May 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 106-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

1373. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a notification of a vacancy, a nomination, and an appointment, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 101-510, Sec. 1206(b)(1) (as added by Public Law 106-398, Sec. 112(a)); (114 Stat. 1644A-316); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

1375. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Manistique, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0015; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-9] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1376. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Monroe, GA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0036; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGS-5] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1377. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Gravette, AR [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0040; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASO-3] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1378. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airways V-8, V-9, V-214, and V-456 in the Vicinity of Grantsville, MD [Docket No.: FAA-2018-1073; Airspace Docket No.: 18-AEA-17] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1379. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-1004; Product Identifier 2018-NM-106-AD; Amendment 39-19462; AD 2019-00-11 (RIN: 2120-AA96)] received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1380. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Espace Airplane [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0034; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASO-5] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1381. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; International Aero Engines Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0405; Product Identifier 2019-NM-0008-AD; Amendment 39-19647; AD 2019-11-01] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1382. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0024; Product Identifier 2018-NM-138-AD; Amendment 39-19646; AD 2019-10-01] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1383. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric, Turbomachinery [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0002; Product Identifier 2018-NM-172-AD; Amendment 39-19647; AD 2019-11-07] (RIN: 2120-AA96) received June 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1384. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2019 Section 43 Inflation Adjustment Rule — Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Furanyl Fentanyl, 4-Fuorofluorohexyl Fentanyl, Acryl Fentanyl, Tetrahydrofuranyl Fentanyl, and Ofentanil in Schedule I [Docket No.: DEA-490] received June 18, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means, the Budget, and Financial Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. LOWEY. Committee on Appropriations — Further Revision of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020 (Rept. 116-124). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 3396. A bill to provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, to extend and expand demonstration projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HARDDR of California (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COX of California, and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 3397. A bill to amend the Nutria Elimination and Control Act of 2003 to include California in the program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.
ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AMASH (for himself, Mr. Moon-ey of West Virginia, Mr. Meadows, Mr. Massie, Mr. Loudermilk, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Khatuna, Mr. Davidson of Ohio, Mr. McClintock, Mr. McKin-ley, Mr. Norman, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Tonko, Ms. Norton, and Mr. Huffman):

H.R. 3402. A bill to amend chapter 2 of title 1, United States Code, to establish the style for amending laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMASH (for himself, Mr. Moon-ey of West Virginia, Mr. Meadows, Mr. Massie, Mr. Loudermilk, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Khatuna, Mr. Davidson of Ohio, Mr. McClintock, Mr. McKin-ley, Mr. Norman, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Tonko, Ms. Norton, and Mr. Huffman):

H.R. 3403. A bill to require all bills, resolutions, and other documents of Congress to be created, transmitted, and published in search engine friendly formats for indexing and searching purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Mr. Beyer, Mr. Connolly, Ms. Norton, Mr. Neguse, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, Mr. Cuilliene, and Mr. Peterson):

H.R. 3404. A bill to amend the National Firearms Act to require that local chief law enforcement officers be notified of, and provided a 90-day period to deny, firearm transfers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Dr. GIJALVA (for himself and Mr. Lowenthal):

H.R. 3405. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to revise the Final List of Critical Minerals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. NEAL (for himself and Mr. BRADY):

H.R. 3406. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve measurements under the skilled nursing facility value-based purchasing program under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself and Mr. McHenry):

H.R. 3407. A bill to strengthen the competi-tiveness of the United States, to modernize and reauthorize the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself and Mr. Olson):

H.R. 3408. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require prescription drug plan sponsors to include real-time benefit information as part of such sponsor’s electronic prescription program under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DeFAZIO (for himself, Mr. Graves of Missouri, Mr. Peters of New York, and Mr. Gills):

H.R. 3409. A bill to authorize appropria-tions for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 3410. A bill to amend the renewable fuel program under the Clean Air Act to account for small refinery exemptions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 3411. A bill to amend the renewable fuel program under the Clean Air Act to account for small refinery exemptions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. Walker, Mr. Loudermilk, Mr. Waltz, Mr. Collins of Georgia, and Mr. Upton):

H.R. 3412. A bill to protect the administra-tion of Federal programs from security threats; to the Committee on House Administra-tion, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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.

H.R. 3413. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for certain acquisition authorities for the Under Sec- retary of Management of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. NEAL (for himself, Mrs. Brooks of Indiana, Ms. Kuster of New Hampshire, and Ms. Stefanik):

H.R. 3414. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the dis- tribution of additional residency positions to help combat the opioid crisis; to the Com-mittee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. Arrington):

H.R. 3415. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require prescription drug plan sponsors to include real-time benefit information as part of such sponsor’s electronic prescription program under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCOTT of California (for herself and Mr. Perdue of Nebraska):

H.R. 3416. A bill to provide for health eq- uity and access for returning troops and service members, to provide for ambulatory surgical payment transparency under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEAL (for himself and Mr. BRADY):

H.R. 3417. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient improvements and rural and quality im-provements under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Mr. DeFAZIO, Ms. Schakowsky, Ms. DeBENE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. Peters, Mr. Vargas, Ms. Napolitano, Mr. Grijalva, Mrs. Lawrence, Ms. Brownley of California, Mr. Swalwell of California, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kilmer, Mr. Titus, Ms. Sánchez, and Ms. Lee of Georgia):

H.R. 3418. A bill to amend the Higher Edu-cation Act of 1965 to restate the authority of the Secretary of Education to make Fed- eral Direct Stafford Loans to graduate and professional students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 3419. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members and electors of Federal courts from serving in Congress at any time after leaving office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DeSUAUER:

H.R. 3420. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve safety and security for service weapons used by Federal law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 3421. A bill to provide for a 3-year ex-tension of funding outreach and assistance for low-income programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. GALLAGHER):


By Mr. Himes (for himself, Mr. Court-ney, Mr. Tonko, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Car-pwright, Mr. Peters, Ms. Eshoo, Mr. Bum-mauer, Mr. Meeks, Mrs. Matsui, Mr. Yarmuth, Mr. Michael F. Doyle of Pennsylvania, Ms. Hill of California, and Mr. McGovern):

H.R. 3423. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of Green Bonds and to establish the United States Green Bank, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. Himes of Louisiana, Mr. Palazzo, Mr. Hice of Georgia, Mr. Abraham, and Mr. Rouzer):
H.R. 3424. A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reduce unnecessary permitting delays by clarifying associated procedures to increase economic development and support coastal restoration programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. HULEN)

H.R. 3425. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish rules for payment for graduate medical education (GME) costs for hospitals that establish a new medical residency training program after hosting resident rotators for short durations; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 3426. A bill to amend United States Code, to condition airport improvement program grants on certain assurances from airport operators and operators regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution for airport improvement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ROONEY of Florida (for himself, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MCLINTOCK, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. GOSSELIN, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. ROY):

H.R. 3427. A bill to repeal the renewable fuel program of the Environmental Protection Agency; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SARLAN, Mrs. HABIBU, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H.R. 3428. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to give small business contracting credit for certain small businesses located in United States territories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself and Mr. HUZENGIA):

H. Res. 456. A resolution emphasizing the importance of grassroots investor protection and the investor education missions of State and Federal securities regulators, calling on the Securities and Exchange Commission to collaborate with State securities regulators in the protection of investors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

77. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Resolution No. 91, designating May 1, 2019, as the fifth annual Gas Industry Day at the State Capitol; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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 for the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, to "provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States."

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 3399.

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. LOWEY:

H.R. 3401.

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 Mrs. LOWNED:

H.R. 3402.

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. AMASH:

H.R. 3403.

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. WEXTON:

H.R. 3404.

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. GRJIALVA:

H.R. 3405.

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. SEWELL of Alabama:

H.R. 3416.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. NEAL:

H.R. 3417.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is in the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States. By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 3419.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DeSAULNIER:

H.R. 3420.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GOMEZ:

H.R. 3421.

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. Himes:

H.R. 3423.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, as this legislation provides for the general welfare of the United States.

By Mr. Johnson of Louisiana:

H.R. 3424.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 3425.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. King of Iowa:

H.R. 3426.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 3, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. Rooney of Florida:

H.R. 3427.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. Velázquez:

H.R. 3428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. DeGette and Ms. Soto

H.R. 1374.

Mr. Cisneros, Mr. Sensenbrenner, Mr. Estes, and Mr. DesJarlais.

H.R. 1396.

Mr. Visclosky, Mrs. Lesko, Ms. Torres Small of New Mexico, Mr. Flores, Mr. Gooden, Mr. Thornberry, Ms. Finkenauer, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Keating, Ms. Chirsky, Mr. Gomez, Mr. Gottheimer, Ms. DeGette, Ms. Scanlon, Ms. Slotkin, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Dean, Ms. Neal, and Ms. Schneider.

H.R. 1424.

Mr. Brady.

H.R. 1441.

Mr. Cresshaw.

H.R. 1519.

Mr. Lujan.

H.R. 1524.

Mr. Trahan.

H.R. 1597.

Mr. Thompson of Mississippi and Mr. Katko.

H.R. 1603.

Mr. DeGette.

H.R. 1652.

Mr. McGovern, Mr. Rouzer, Mr. Kim, and Ms. Castor of Florida.

H.R. 1665.

Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. Foster.

H.R. 1702.

Mr. Cresshaw.

H.R. 1708.

Mr. Trone, Mr. Heck, and Ms. Dean.

H.R. 1717.

Mr. McGovern and Mr. Cohen.

H.R. 1757.

Mr. Clawson, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Clyburn, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Lawson of Florida, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. Green of Texas, Ms. Wilson of Florida, Mr. Carson of Indiana, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Moore, Mr. Johnson of Texas, Ms. Fudge, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, Ms. Clarke of New York, and Mr. Payne.

H.R. 1762.

Mr. Gallego.

H.R. 1769.

Mr. McNerney, Mr. Espaillat, Mr. Bowser, Mr. Fudge, Ms. Kelly of Ohio, Ms. Clarke of New York, Mr. Payne, Ms. Eshoo, Mr. Takano, Mr. Sarbanes, Ms. Trahan, Mr. Carter, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Hightower, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Crenshaw, Mr. Gabbard, Mr. Meek, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. McHenry, Mr. Kelly of Ohio, Mr. Fudge, Mr. DeGette, Mr. Brooks, and Mr. Thompson of Mississippi.

H.R. 1786.

Mr. Diaz-Balart and Mr. Soto.

H.R. 1785.

Mr. Rouzer.

H.R. 1786.

Mr. Diaz-Balart and Mr. Soto.

H.R. 1785.

Mr. Rouzer.

H.R. 1792.

Mr. Perry.

H.R. 1803.

Mr. Kim, Mr. Como, Mr. Soto, Mr. King, Mr. Himes, Mr. Rogers of Alabama, Mr. Núñez, Mr. Fleischmann, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mrs. Bordallo, Mr. DeGette, Mr. Schrier, Mr. Casar, Mr. Garamendi, Mr. Welch, Ms. Stefanik, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. McHenry, Mr. Kelly of Ohio, Ms. Clarke of New York, and Mr. Thompson of Mississippi.
CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MRS. LOWEY

H.R. 3401, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmark, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2019 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDES RAT EXCHANGE

HON. NANCY PELOSI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress House and Senate and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other’s political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany from Friday, November 1 to Sunday, November 10, 2019. During this exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States from Saturday, September 14 to Sunday, September 22, 2019. They will attend similar meetings in Washington.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the policies and politics of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year’s delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

Please note that the U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the meetings and programs for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Participants are selected by a bipartisan committee.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year’s program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC–4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2019.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN COASTER ENTHUSIASTS

HON. J. LUIS CORREA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Coaster Enthusiasts (ACE), a non-profit organization founded in 1978, that represents the interests of the most ardent amusement ride enthusiasts. With more than 5,500 members from over 16 countries, ACE amasses a collective historical perspective making ACE the world’s largest club of its kind.

It all started when four coaster lovers met at a coaster-riding marathon in Virginia in 1977. Today, ACE is an international volunteer run organization that offers an online newspaper, a quarterly magazine, and a National Roller Coaster Museum and Archive.

ACE’s goal is to promote the conservation, appreciation, and enjoyment of roller coasters and their place in history as architectural and engineering landmarks. ACE celebrates wooden roller coasters as an integral part of the fabric that is Americana.

ACE has successfully saved and refurbished endangered coasters, including Lea the Dips, the world’s oldest roller coaster located at Lakemont Park in Altoona, Pennsylvania and the 1925 Giant Dipper in San Diego. Since 1985, the club has either directly or indirectly helped to save more than a dozen classic coasters and presents awards in recognition of significant roller coasters.

ACE holds many events including tours throughout the world to celebrate extreme coasters of all kinds and an annual Coaster Convention.

At this year’s Coaster Convention Gala at the Knot’s Berry Farm Resort Hotel on June 20th, the ACE “Landmark Coasters” Award will honor Montezooma’s Revenge, the first flywheel-launched roller coaster in the world. Introduced May 21, 1978, Montezooma’s Revenge is the last roller coaster of its kind still in operation in the United States.

Please join me in honoring the accomplishments of the American Coaster Enthusiasts, who certainly live up to their motto: “You join ACE, for the roller coasters; you stay for the friendships.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, in a long vote series Thursday evening, I unintentionally voted nay for Mr. CUNNINGHAM’S amendment No. 167. Had I been able to correct my vote, I would have voted aye.

RECOGNIZING KYLA JOHNSTON OF COLUMBIA FALLS AND KARLEE ALBERTSON OF BILLINGS

HON. GREG GIANFORTE
OF MONTANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kyla Johnston of Columbia Falls and Karlee Albertson of Billings for their entrepreneurial spirit that has contributed to their communities. Kyla conducts a children’s reading program, donates books, and encourages kids to read. Karlee paints nails for charity and has raised more than $20,000 for Christmas gift-giving programs.

Kyla is a recent graduate of Columbia Falls High School. As part of a monthly community dinner program that brings together area families, Kyla reads to the children and brings them books to read at home. She is raising funds to purchase new books and to expand the program. Kyla’s strong sense of volunteerism also leads her to shovel snow for seniors and plant flowers at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. Karlee recently completed sixth grade at Castle Rock Elementary in Billings. She began her “Nails for a Cause” program as a first-grade student. By painting nails at school and community events and through donations, Karlee has raised more than $20,000 for charity. Every year, she shops for Christmas presents and wraps them with the help of other volunteers. Her efforts have reached over 250 less fortunate people in her community.

For their work in their communities, Kyla and Karlee were recently recognized as Montana’s top youth volunteers by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Prudential Financial, Inc.

Madam Speaker, for their entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to serving their communities, I recognize Kyla Johnston and Karlee Albertson for their spirit of Montana.

IRAN AND 2001 AUMF REPEAL

HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, this week, the U.S. inched closer to a dangerous military confrontation with Iran.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
From President Trump’s decision to unilaterally withdraw from the Iran deal to alienating our key allies and imposing crushing sanctions on Iran, it’s clear that Trump Administration has no interest in pursuing principled, diplomatic engagement to resolve our differences.

In addition, Secretary of State Pompeo once again floated his idea of using the 2001 AUMF as the legal basis for the use of force against Iran—allowing the Administration to circumvent Congress.

This is a stark reminder of the dangers of leaving the overly-broad 2001 AUMF on the books.

That’s why I was proud that the House passed a federal spending package this week that included my language to sunset the 2001 AUMF after 8 months.

This sent a clear message to the Administration that the 2001 AUMF cannot be used as the legal authority to go to war and that it MUST come to Congress to seek authority for the use of force against Iran—as required by the Constitution.

Congress must work to repeal the 2001 AUMF and ensure that the U.S. doesn’t barrel into another disastrous war in the Middle East.

RECOGNIZING DR. GUY “ZAK” ZAKREVSKY
HON. ERIC SWALWELL
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Guy “Zak” Zakrevsky on the occasion of his retirement after 34 years of service to education in the East Bay, the last six of which he devoted to the Hayward Unified School District (HUSD).

Zak joined HUSD in 2013 as the Director of the Hayward Center for Education and Careers at the Hayward Adult School (HAS). He took on this role with one goal in mind: ensuring students have the education, literacy, and job skills training required to reach their full potential.

In pursuit of this goal, Zak set out to implement and bolster innovative and impactful programs that would work to improve student achievement. Under his stewardship, programs such as Career Technical and Vocational Education and Youth Re-engagement for At-Risk Youth have flourished and provided students with invaluable exposure and workplace experience.

Zak understands that, if given the right resources, each student has the potential to excel. It is why he, alongside his team and in partnership with other community organizations, helped create the Raising Leaders in Hayward Workshops. These workshops leveraged access within the City of Hayward’s Human Resources Department and set out to inspire students with experiences from a cross-section of industries while placed in paid internships and developing the skills needed to succeed in their desired careers.

Zak always strived to make HAS a hub for our community. He worked closely with outside organizations, such as the Alameda County Deputy Sheriff’s Activities League for disadvantaged communities, to provide new soccer fields, boxing coaches and tournaments, the construction of a new gymnasium, and a dance studio open to everyone.

It was through these collaborative efforts that a new Makerspace became available for anyone interested in fostering their creative energy or entrepreneurial spirit. In 2017 the Makerspace graciously hosted my office’s successful Congressional App Challenge at which students could operate 3D printers and plasma cutters during breaks from writing lines of code. Zak knew that it took bringing everyone together to make a positive impact in the lives of our students.

I want to thank Dr. Guy Zakrevsky for the contributions he has made to the 15th Congressional District and his dedication to all our students in the East Bay. His work will have a lasting and profound impact on the shape of our community, and I wish him a long and relaxing retirement.

HON. JAMES R. BAIRD
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dorothy “Mom” Brown for her dedication to the Phi Kappa Psi house at DePauw University. Few individuals have had an impact on Phi Kappa Psi as great as Dorothy, and we thank her for her selflessness.

Prior to her time with Phi Kappa Psi, Dorothy graduated from Indiana University, receiving her Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Science in Administration and Supervision, and began a teaching career in Gary, Indiana. After serving as principal in Warren Township Schools in Indianapolis in the 1980’s, Dorothy returned to her home in Green castle in 1986 to teach in the education department at DePauw University.

In 1993, Dorothy took on a new role as Housemother of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. She quickly became an “anchor” of Phi Kappa Psi and made it a memorable experience for generations of young men over the next 26 years.

She was honored in 2009 for her contributions to DePauw by the city of Green castle as the DePauw Cultural Resource center was renamed in her honor. Whether during her time as an elementary school teacher or fraternity Housemother, she exemplified leadership and compassion. I am proud to call her a fellow Hoosier.

On behalf of the 4th District of Indiana, I thank her for her dedication to her community, and I wish her the very best in retirement.

HONORING DOROTHY “MOM” BROWN FOR HER DEDICATION TO THE PHI KAPPA PSI HOUSE

HON. VICKY HARTZLER
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

In appreciation of the service to our Nation. Mr. Nelson will soon transition from his current assignment as a Department of the Army Civilian and Congressional Operations Analyst with the Department of the Army in the House of Representatives to serve as the Congressional Travel Manager for the Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison at the Pentagon.

A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Mike is a former Navy Legislative Liaison and served 24 honorable years in the United States Navy. He enlisted in the Navy and reported to Recruiting Command San Diego, California in February 1993 and served on a myriad of sea and shore duty assignments until his retirement in February 2017.

In July 2017, Mike was selected to serve as a Department of the Army Civilian and Congressional Operations Analyst in the Army House Liaison Office. In his role as an Analyst, Mike served as the primary liaison between Members of the 115th and 116th Congresses, their Staff, Legislative Committees, and the U.S. Army. Mike also provided factual, coordinated, and timely replies to Congressional Inquiries. Additionally, Mr. Nelson planned, scheduled and coordinated Secretary of the Army events and accompanied Congressional and Staff Delegations on worldwide fact-finding and investigative missions and built the relationships needed to increase the trust and confidence the U.S. Congress has in the U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of a fellow Arkansan, Michael Anthony Nelson, as he proceeds to the next chapter in his remarkable career. I wish him the very best.

IN HONOR OF PAT BOWLEN
HON. DIANA DeGETTE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, June 19, 2019, I was unable to vote on roll call no. 364. If I had been present, I would have voted YEA.

IN HONOR OF PAT BOWLEN
HON. DIANA DeGETTE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. Speaker, along with Congressman Ed Perlmutter, Congressman Doug Lamborn, Congressman Scott Tipton, Congressman Ken Buck, Congressman Jason Crow, and Congressman Joe Neguse, to honor the life of Pat Bowlen, a beloved husband, father and long-time owner of the Denver Broncos.

Pat is a household name for anyone who watches football. For over three decades, Pat made the city of Denver and the state of Colorado proud by demanding excellence in his team. “I want to be No. 1 in everything” Pat was famously known for saying. And, having brought home three Superbowl championships for Colorado, it’s a motto he certainly lived by. 
During his tenure, the Broncos amassed over 300 wins, one of the highest marks for any one NFL team owner during the same amount of time. But his legacy stretches far beyond the field.

Pat and his family often gave back to the community they loved. Pat was especially passionate about supporting the Boys and Girls Club of America—and since 2003, his generosity helped improve the lives of more than 15,000 teens living in the Denver metro area and around the state.

Madam Speaker, Pat Bowlen lived a remarkable life and he will be missed. From “The Drive” to “Tebow-mania” to the Peyton Manning comeback story, Pat’s impact on the Broncos will likely go unrivaled by anyone else. In 1998, when the Broncos won their first ever Superbowl, Pat turned to host the Lombardi trophy and declared, “This one’s for John.”

It was a simple phrase, but his tribute to the quarterback perfectly captured Pat’s devotion to his team, and how he consistently lifted up his community.

So today, as members of Colorado’s Congressional delegation, we wish to declare that “this one’s for Pat.”

We join with millions of Broncos fans around the country to thank him for the pride he brought to the team, the city of Denver, and our state.

We offer our deepest condolences to the Bowlen family for their loss, and we hope that they find comfort in knowing how many Coloradans are so appreciative for Pat and his life’s work.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BELLA HIRIOYEN

HON. TED LIEU
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, Bella Hirigoyen was an immigrant who lived the American dream. Born in Israel to two Holocaust survivors, her family was sponsored by U.S. Steel. Her father, George Weibel, was a part of the design and build teams at Hughes Aircraft Company for the Surveyor spacecraft which hung in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum for decades. Bella arrived in America at the age of five, learned English, and became very successful in school. She graduated from Fairlawn High School in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Bella and her husband, Richard, worked hard to be able to afford a home in the City of Torrance where they lived together for thirty-three of their almost forty years together. She carved out a career in medical management. Her love and respect for patients endeared them to her, and her colleagues and maintained friendships with her long after their work relationships ended.

Bella was a true example of love and devotion. There was nothing more important to her family. She loved visiting the Central California Coast with the love of her life, Richard, with whom she could visit wineries and watch the California sunset. She was devoted to helping her children with their pursuits whether acting as a campaign manager for her son, Jeremy Gerson, or assisting her daughter, Stacey Stewart, start her own business. Bella was always attending sporting and school events for her grandchildren Lucas, Aurora, William and Blake. She even held positions on two different PTA executive boards at the same time. Bella could not spend enough time with family. She was devoted to her sister, Irene Weibel, would host regular family BBQs so their 94-year-old mother, Martha Weibel, could attend.

Bella passed on June 2, 2019, as she lived, surrounded by her family.

RECOGNIZING REMARKS OF RABBI DR. ISRAEL ZOBERMAN

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement submitted by Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman, founder and spiritual leader of the new Temple Lev Tikvah (Heart of Hope), a Reform Jewish congregation in Virginia Beach.

My heart indeed overflows with hope, gratitude and love. Through proudly announce the blessed birth of the youngest synagogue in Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads. It is housed in a unique ecumenical Christian setting, the only such in the world, making it now an even more exceptional interfaith center. Church Of The Holy Apostles, established in Virginia Beach in 1977, is both an Episcopal and Catholic congregation. Their loving embrace of my new Reform Jewish Temple is ample and inspiring testimony to their genuine ecumenical spirit reaching beyond their own common and diverse Christian traditions. With this golden opportunity we are making and impacting history. Our one God is surely smiling upon us.

They graciously invite their Jewish brethren to tend to our four-thousand-year-old nourishing roots that have blessed the human family instrumentally in birthing the two other great monotheistic world religions of Christianity and Islam. Bishop James Mccann of the Diocese of Southern Virginia and Bishop Barry Knestout of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Richmond are to be commended for their broad ecumenical vision, spiritual fortitude and shining faith in action. Together we reaffirm a holy bond in face of a complex and trying history. We are committed to overcome troubling past shadows. Having already made major strides forward, we should maintain and build upon those breakthrough accomplishments of monumental change.

We are mutually enabled to cultivate a precious interfaith linkage, appreciating each other’s differences and particularities while celebrating our often overlooked but no less important commonalities, as we collectively admit to our shortcomings, ignorance and biases. This awesome journey of mutual discovery while interlacing under one roof, challenges us all to bring out the best God planted within us. It gains added critical significance against the unsettling backdrop of the global resurgence of con- suming dark anti-Semitism with its recent deadly and shocking manifestation in American synagogues, along with horrific terrorist attacks on Christians, Muslims, Sikhs and others of faith and others elsewhere.

I am acutely mindful of my personal sacred responsibility to ever be a builder of Shalom’s essential bridges of healing, hope and harmony. After all, I am a family member of the Holocaust’s surviving remnant of European Jewry.

Let us count our blessings even as we commit to turning blemishes into blessings and keep from turning blemishes into blemishes. We shall together yet repair our blemished planet into a better home for all of God’s children. The Divine delights in diversity, God’s divinity and human dignity are one and inseparable.

CELEBRATING MUHAMMAD SIDDEEQ’S BIRTHDAY

HON. ANDRE CARSON
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize Imam Muhammad Siddeeq on his 83rd birthday.

Imam Siddeeq has long been a dedicated advocate for social justice, engaging Muslim communities in Indianapolis and across our country in grassroots activism and policy objectives to bring about positive change. Whether serving as the director of the University of Islam, the largest Islamic school in America, or a teacher in our local schools and universities, he has remained a driven and principled individual who is deeply passionate about preparing future leaders.

Imam Siddeeq is a man who speaks his mind and is unafraid to spark difficult but necessary conversations about issues affecting our communities. I have been blessed to call him a friend and mentor for many years, as have many others throughout his life.

Imam Siddeeq is an educator, activist, published author, and spiritual leader. He is also a proud family man, with an equally resolute wife, Sister Fareedah Siddeeq. Together, they have been blessed with fifteen children and many grandchildren.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Imam Muhammad Siddeeq a happy birthday. His work has informed and inspired countless individuals in our community, and he leaves a legacy of service to be followed for all Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF GLORIA EDWARDS FOR HER EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mother Gloria Edwards for her dedicated work in service of the community of Washtenaw County, Michigan. Her leadership and devotion to faith and community is worthy of commendation.

Mother Gloria Edwards is the President and Founder of The Pastor’s Wives of Washtenaw County. She began her religious education in 1972 at New Hope Baptist Church and graduated with a certificate in Christian Training and Biblical Counseling from the William Tyndale Bible College. In 2009, she started the Ecumenical Prayer Hour ministry in coordination with several local churches in Washtenaw
County. Her efforts have brought together a strong, diverse community connected through faith. Since its first meeting on September 12, 2009, the Ecumenical Prayer Hour, now called the Community Hour of Prayer Group, has dramatically expanded to include over 20 churches representing numerous denominations.

Mother Gloria Edwards has had a significant impact on Washtenaw County through her leadership and support of community outreach organizations. Noted for her loving and nurturing personality, she teaches and counsels women in her congregation and the greater Washtenaw community. We thank Mother Gloria Edwards for her exemplary service to Washtenaw County and continued leadership. Her work stands as a role model of generosity and compassion and demonstrates a tremendous love for her community and her faith.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mother Gloria Edwards for her exceptional work. She has effectively served the residents of Washtenaw County by providing guidance and counsel through faith.

HONORING THE WORK OF WILLIAM HENRY SIMONS, III, AND THE WILLIAM HENRY SIMONS, III, SCHOLARSHIP FUND

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the work of William Henry Simons, III, and the William Henry Simons, III, Scholarship Fund.

On Saturday, June 22, 2019, the Washington Teachers Union (WTU), which represents educators in the District of Columbia’s public schools, will rename its scholarship fund the William Henry Simons, III, Scholarship Fund in honor of one of D.C.’s most important leaders, William Henry Simons, III, who passed away in 2016. This scholarship has been making contributions to the District of Columbia since 1974. The Scholarship Fund is dedicated to encouraging D.C.’s best and brightest students to pursue careers in education and support the next generation of D.C. teachers. I am particularly pleased and honored to offer this resolution not only because of Simons’ much deserved merit as a teacher and a union leader but also because he was my history teacher when I attended Banneker High School here in the District.

In 1972, WTU, under the leadership of Simons, called a strike of D.C. Public School teachers to protest pay and working conditions. The strike violated D.C. law prohibiting strikes by public employees, and a fine of $50,000 was imposed on the union. Simons asked the court to use the union’s money to benefit D.C. public school students. The request went to the D.C. Superior Court, which in 1974, granted Simons his request. That was the beginning of the WTU Scholarship Fund Program. Since 1974, the Fund has awarded scholarships totaling more than $1,000,000 to over 100 D.C. public school students. Simons was born in D.C. in 1924 and attended segregated D.C. public schools. In 1943, he interrupted his studies at Miner Teachers College to volunteer for World War II. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, as a sergeant major in the 262nd Quartermasters Battalion, Simons was one of the heroes who stormed Normandy and helped bring about the end of Nazi oppression. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Croix de Guerre for his courage. After the war, Simons completed his education and began an 18-year career as a social studies teacher at Banneker Junior High in D.C.

Simons was elected president of WTU in 1964 and served for a total of 25 years. During his tenure, Simons was a champion of D.C. home rule and fought against plans that would have de facto re-segregated D.C. schools. He was also a pioneer in fighting for educational equity and the right of every D.C. public school student to receive the educational opportunities they needed to succeed, regardless of their race, ethnicity, immigration status or economic circumstances.

He was an observer at the first democratic elections in South Africa, a college lecturer, writer and consultant, and in 1995, he was appointed Executive Director of FLACRA, Finger Lakes Area Counseling and Recovery Agency and congratulated him on his retirement.

In addition to his thirty-three years as the Executive Director of FLACRA, Marty had previously worked for fifteen years in chemical dependency agency management. His extensive experience in aiding those struggling with substance abuse has made him a leader on the issue in the community and statewide. Matty serves on the Boards of the New York Association of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Providers, Common Ground Health, and the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System. He has also served in leadership roles in the Finger Lakes Housing Consortium, the Region II Consortium of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, and Recovery Net.

As Matty moves forward with the next chapter of his life, we applaud his tireless efforts to help those struggling with substance abuse in our communities and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate Marty Teller and his extraordinary career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATT GAETZ
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, in the afternoon of June 20, 2019, I voted in favor of Rep. GOLDEN of Maine’s Part B Amendment No. 70 to H.R. 3055, stating that none of the funds in the underlying bill may be used for NOAA to utilize a North Atlantic right whale Risk Reduction Decision Support Tool (Roll Call No. 372).

I intended to vote against this amendment.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF MARTIN TELLER AT THE FINGER LAKES AREA COUNSELING AND RECOVERY AGENCY

HON. TOM REED
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Martin Teller to the Finger Lakes Area Counseling and Recovery Agency and congratulate him on his retirement.

For the last thirty-three years, Marty Teller has served as the Executive Director of Finger Lakes Area Counseling and Recovery Agency (FLACRA). His dedicated service and wealth of experience has ensured the highest of quality service, that FLACRA is known for, to people struggling with substance abuse. FLACRA offers a unique Continuum of Care for their clients, providing services such as addictions crisis counseling, outpatient services, community residences, supportive living, housing, and care management.

In addition to his thirty-three years as the Executive Director of FLACRA, Marty had previously worked for fifteen years in chemical dependency agency management. His extensive experience in aiding those struggling with substance abuse has made him a leader on the issue in the community and statewide. Matty serves on the Boards of the New York Association of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Providers, Common Ground Health, and the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System. He has also served in leadership roles in the Finger Lakes Housing Consortium, the Region II Consortium of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, and Recovery Net.

As Matty moves forward with the next chapter of his life, we applaud his tireless efforts to help those struggling with substance abuse in our communities and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate Marty Teller and his extraordinary career.
PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE STAUBER
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I voted AYE on Roll Call number 378 when I intended to vote NO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BABIN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of long-time Deer Park resident, Sue Fenley Meyers, who passed away on April 10, 2019 in Colorado.

Sue Fenley Meyers was born on May 10, 1938 in Lufkin, Texas. She had six brothers and six sisters, two children, three grandchildren, and 21 nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved dearly. Sue studied drama at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette and went on to act in, direct, write, promote, and produce over 200 theatrical events in her lifetime.

The city officials in Deer Park, Texas have long recognized the community’s love of theatrical arts. On May 4, 1981, the City hired Sue as the full-time Artistic Managing Director of “The Art Park Players.” Under her leadership the program experienced rapid growth and in December 1986 the City opened its current theater facility. Sue’s legacy is synonymous with the history of The Art Park Players. Several of her students have gone on to become professional writers, directors, actors, dancers, singers and influential artists to this day.

The thing she loved the most in the world were children. Sue established the Mead-Holm Scholarship in 1990, which was awarded annually to outstanding Junior Art Park Players students, and the first annual Sue Fenley Meyers Scholarships (six in total) were presented last month in her memory. Sue’s 22-plus years within our community reflect a lifetime of achievement through her love for children, passion, vision and the importance of arts and arts education in Deer Park.

She retired from the City of Deer Park in 2004 and moved to Colorado, where she is survived by her beloved son Jay Meyers and wife Margaret, daughter Kelley Meyers-Southern and husband Brent, grandchildren Susannah Roberts, Mitchell Meyers, and Johnny Meyers, and her four sisters and three brothers. Madam Speaker, my condolences remain with the family, theatre family, and friends of Sue Fenley Meyers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes. Had I been present for roll call vote number 376, Pence of Indiana Part B Amendment No. 105, I would have voted Yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICEnte GONZALEZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, on roll call No. 388 I was inadvertently recorded as voting Aye. I do not support the harmful budget cuts proposed in this amendment or in the President’s budget request, and my vote should be recorded as No.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SUE FENLEY MEYERS

HON. BRIAN BABIN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sue Fenley Meyers, who passed away on January of this year at the age of ninety. After being passed over for a job in 1969 at the University of Maryland, Dr. Sandler realized that she must act on the discrimination she experienced. During this time in history, academic departments refused to hire women in non-entry level positions and many graduate programs denied admission to women, but Sandler refused to take no for an answer. She researched the strategies of black civil rights activists and applied them to women’s rights in academia.

After discovering a presidential executive order barring federal contractors from discriminating based on race, color, religion, and national origin, Sandler contacted the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance, where she planned the first complaint against universities and colleges on discrimination.

Sandler helped the Women’s Equity Action League start a national campaign to file complaints against widespread sex discrimination at universities. She formed alliances with Members of Congress, including Representative Martha Griffiths of my home state of Michigan, who gave the first speech in Congress about discrimination against women in education.

Sandler went on to become a Congressional staffer, leading the hearings on women’s education and employment which led to Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. After the passage of Title IX Sandler continued her fight for gender equity, delivering thousands of speeches and providing consultation for schools who sought to integrate women.

As we celebrate the 47th anniversary of Title IX, we must celebrate Doctor Bernice “Bunny” Sandler for all the hard work she put into making it possible.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding my vote on Roll Call No. 369. I unintentionally recorded my vote as NO, rather than YEA. My intention was to vote YEA on Roll Call No. 369.

COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAPPINESS HOUSE

HON. TOM REED
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Happiness House in Geneva, New York. Fifty years ago, a collection of parents of children with Cerebral Palsy united to found Happiness House in Geneva, NY. Using funds raised by the New York State Elks Club and the Women’s Club of Geneva, Happiness House opened their first childcare program, serving five children with disabilities. From these humble beginnings, Happiness House has grown throughout the years to provide a comprehensive array of programs and services to more than 1,150 children, adults and their families in Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties.

We care about ensuring people have a fair chance to reach their full potential and Happiness House gives folks this exact opportunity. The vision of Happiness House is that every community be ready to welcome and utilize the talents and abilities of all individuals. Every day they work to make that vision a reality by providing the highest quality, innovative and cost-effective services to children and adults with and without disabilities. Happiness House cooperates with families and partners throughout the Finger Lakes community to achieve this goal.

Fifty years of serving the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Happiness House on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Happiness House.

INSTRUCTING THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION TO PRIORITIZE FUNDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS FOR RURAL, UNDERSERVED AND FEMALE VETERANS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, my amendment instructs the Veterans Health
Administration to prioritize funding for the modernization of medical transportation programs for rural, underserved and female Veterans.

According to the American Hospital Association, 3.6 million people in the U.S. do not obtain medical care due to transportation barriers. And another report tells us that missed healthcare appointments cost the U.S. health system $150 billion each year.

The underlying committee report includes a pilot program to address transportation barriers for rural Veterans.

In light of this and the Veterans Transportation Program, the VA can play a critical role in collaborating with other federal agencies to reduce duplication and modernize medical transportation programs across public programs.

As we work to address rising health care costs, our federal agencies collaborate to modernize and expand public medical transportation programs.

CONDEMNING FEBRUARY 14 TERRORIST ATTACKS AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE PLIGHT OF THE KASHMIRI PANDITS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, I want to draw attention to the ongoing problem of terrorism in Kashmir and the often-overlooked plight of the Kashmiri Hindu Pandits.

On February 14, 2019, a terrorist attack in Kashmir killed 40 Indian Central Reserve Police Force personnel. This attack was perpetrated by an operative of Jaish-e-Mohammed, a U.S. and UN-designated terrorist group. Then, on June 13, 2019, 5 Indian Central Reserve Police Force personnel were killed in another terrorist attack in Kashmir perpetrated by Al Umar Mujahideen, a different terrorist organization. These attacks are hardly unusual—over the years, thousands of civilians and security personnel have been killed in terrorist attacks in Kashmir.

The United States has been attacked by terrorist groups similar to the ones in Kashmir. It is therefore imperative that we stand with India in this time of need.

The Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir has historically had a culture of religious tolerance and pluralism, where Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Christians practiced their faith freely in an atmosphere of mutual respect and peace. The violence the region has witnessed in recent decades has eroded this tradition. One group that has suffered as a result is the Kashmiri Pandits, who have lived in Kashmir for centuries. By some estimates, 300,000 Pandits once lived in Kashmir. Today, by some estimates, only 3,000–5,000 remain. This is a tragedy that is too often ignored. Sadly, the violence in Kashmir is likely to continue until different sects restore the tradition of religious tolerance and pluralism.

To conclude, I ask my colleagues to cosponsor H. Res. 408, which Congressman PERRY, Congressman KRISHNAMOORTHI, and I introduced in May 2019. Besides condemning the February terrorist attacks, this resolution acknowledges that the House of Representatives supports the rights of religious and other minorities around the world, including the Kashmiri Pandits.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 3 p.m., on Monday, June 24, 2019.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 31 public bills, H.R. 3398–3428; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 456 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:


Agreed to:

- Raskin amendment (No. 195 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that increases and decreases funding by $1,000,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps in order to support construction projects on military facilities and facilities that serve the military community where health and safety are at risk;

- Lesko (No. 196) that increases and decreases the Veterans Health Administration account by $3,000,000 to be directed towards female only inpatient clinics; McCarthy (No. 197) that increases and decreases funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) Construction, Major Projects account by $39.732 million to support the timely completion of construction of VA facilities authorized by Public Law 111–82; Lynch (No. 200) that increases funding for Medical Services by $1 million, with the intention of it being directed to Public-Private Partnerships to reduce veteran suicides; will be offset by a reduction to the General Administration Account; Barr (No. 201) that transfers $5,000,000 from the VHA’s Medical Community of Care Account to the VHA’s Medical Services account for the explicit use for the VA’s Adaptive Sports Grant (ASG) Program equine assisted therapy, given the promising results reported using equine assisted therapy for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder; Welch (No. 202) that increases and decreases funding for the VA medical services account by $1 million for the purpose of encouraging the VA to collaborate with states on their efforts to conduct educational outreach and help veterans enroll in the burn pits registry; Allen (No. 203) that increases and decreases Military Construction, Army by $37,000,000 to fulfill the President’s budget request for construction of the Cyber Instructional Facility at Fort Gordon; Connolly (No. 204) that increases and decreases VAOIG funding by $1,000,000 to encourage the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General to devote sufficient resources to oversight of the Washington DC VA Medical Center; Bost (No. 205) that increases and decreases by $1,000,000 to emphasize the positive pro-bono legal services done by public university law schools to help veterans and their dependents in underserved areas; Sewell (AL) (No. 207) that adds and subtracts funding from the Medical Community Care account to instruct the Veterans Health Administration to prioritize funding for the modernization of medical transportation programs for Veterans, particularly those who are rural, underserved or female; Ruiz (No. 209) that increases
and decreases funding to VA Medical Services account by $1,000,000 to conduct educational outreach to veterans to enroll in the burn pits registry, additional research using the registry, and other activities concerning the maintenance of the registry; Johnson (LA) (No. 210) that increases and decreases funds by $1 to show Congressional intent for the Army to prioritize modernization funding for its Combat Development Centers (CDC) in order to properly prepare and equip the Army for training scenarios; Johnson (LA) (No. 211) that increases and decreases funds by $1 to show Congressional intent to ensure the Air Force continues to follow its revised plan for construction and upgrades to the Weapons Generation Facility enterprise and its critical function to the national security interests of the United States; Gottheimer (No. 212) that increases and decreases funding for the General Administration Fund at the VA by $1 million to address staffing shortages across the board at the VA; Gottheimer (No. 213) that increases funding by $5 million for the Veterans Health Administration to hire more mental health professionals, the most-needed occupation according to the VA’s Inspector General; Steil (No. 214) that increases and decreases by $1,000,000 to express the Congressional intent that the VA suicide prevention and treatment programs should be adequately funded; Blunt Rochester (No. 215) that increases and decreases by $1,000,000 the Veterans Health Administration medical services account for the purpose of expressing concern over uncompensated care for veterans under a certain service-connected disability rating at State veterans nursing homes; Hill (AR) (No. 216) that transfers $1.5 million from the General Administration account to programs within the Medical Services account, including homeless assistance programs and suicide prevention outreach; Carbajal (No. 217) that increases and decreases funding by $5,000,000 to direct the Secretary to change the phone system to have local Community Based Outpatient Center answer calls rather than having all calls routed to the major VA Medical Centers in an effort to reduce wait times for veterans on the phone and to provide more timely health services; Carbajal (No. 218) that provides $5 million for the Veterans Transportation Program to assist veterans in attending to all their medical appointments in a timely manner; Porter (No. 222) that increases funding by $1,000,000 for the Veterans Crisis Line; Porter (No. 223) that increases funding by $2,000,000 for VA homeless assistance programs to combat Veteran homelessness; Pappas (No. 224) that increases and decreases by $10 million to specify improvements to the environment of care for women veterans in VA facilities should be made; Kim (No. 225) that increases and decreases the Air Force account by $7,000,000 to address road safety issues at military bases; and Houlahan (No. 227) that increases the Veterans Health Administration Medical Services’ account by $1.7 million in order to increase the minimum amount that must spent on gender-specific care for women at the VA with an appropriate offset; Pages H5012–15

Cunningham amendment (No. 219 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that prevents any military construction funding from being used towards a new Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round; Page H5017

Cunningham amendment (No. 226 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that prohibits funds to future defense projects that do not conform with military resilience standards; Page H5019

Kim amendment (No. 228 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that increases and decreases the Army Reserve account by $7,000,000 to address road safety issues at military bases; Pages H5019–20

Bost amendment (No. 206 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that prohibits the use of funds in contravention of the Executive Order titled “Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects” (by a recorded vote of 373 ayes to 51 noes, Roll No. 396); Pages H5016–17, H5020

Golden amendment (No. 220 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that increases funds for the VA Medical Facilities account by $5 million (by a recorded vote of 418 ayes to 6 noes, Roll No. 397); and Pages H5017–18, H5020–21

McAdams amendment (No. 221 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that increases and decreases by $1 with the intent to instructs the Department of Veterans Affairs submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an implementation plan, including expected timeline and resource requirements, for the Department of Veterans Affairs to complete the requirements of Section 302 of Public Law 115–174 (by a recorded vote of 420 ayes to 3 noes, Roll No. 398). Pages H5018–19, H5021–22

Withdrawn: Blumenauer amendment (No. 198 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited the Department of Veterans Affairs from interfering with a veteran’s participation in a state medical cannabis program, denying a veteran who participates in a state medical cannabis program, denying a veteran who participates in a state medical cannabis program from being denied VA services, and interfering with the ability of VA health care providers to recommend participation in state medical cannabis programs; and Pages H5015–16

Walberg amendment (No. 199 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–119) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited the
use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce proposed rules limiting veterans’ ability to access care from a prosthetist of their choice.

H. Res. 445, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3055) and relating to consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) was agreed to Wednesday, June 19th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, June 24th for Morning Hour debate.

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to North Korea is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–44).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5020, H5020–21, and H5021–22. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2722, the “SAFE Act”. H.R. 2722 was ordered reported, as amended.

THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY IN THE 21ST CENTURY: IDEAS FOR PROMOTING ETHICS, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY


Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 3351, the “Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020”; and H.R. 2722, the “Securing America’s Federal Elections Act”, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Monday, June 24

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act, post-cloture.

At 5:30 p.m., all post-cloture time will expire and Senate will vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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