

engineering services for their clients while protecting the public welfare and safeguarding the ethical standards of consulting engineers in private practice. We strive to cooperate with public bodies and other organizations in matters of common interest. In addition, ACEC North Dakota acts as a resource among our members to provide cooperative services and support the advancement of the science and practice of engineering.

We believe that infrastructure is the backbone of the United States economy. A modern and efficient transportation system is critical for protecting public health and safety, promoting commerce, and providing mobility. It enables manufacturers to get their products to market, farmers to get their goods to stores, and workers to get to jobs.

Unfortunately, our nation's infrastructure remains severely deficient and underfunded. According to the U.S. DOT, improving the condition and performance of highways and bridges requires \$142 billion annually from all levels of government; we currently invest approximately \$105 billion. North Dakota faces a \$2.5 billion shortfall from 2018 to 2023.

BISMARCK MANDAN
CHAMBER | EDC

Hon. Senator KEVIN CRAMER,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CRAMER: Please accept this letter as an expression of my personal support for the reauthorization of the FAST Act.

In my role as President of the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC, I actively advocate for probusiness policies on behalf of the organization's more than 1,200 members. Recently, those efforts have focused on infrastructure funding.

At the local level, voters in the City of Bismarck recently passed a half-cent sales tax increase dedicated to arterial roadway construction. And at the state level, legislators are currently debating a bill dubbed "Operation Prairie Dog" designed to provide even more infrastructure funding to townships, cities and counties around North Dakota.

However, there is concern among all of the aforementioned political subdivisions regarding the uncertainty of federal funding after the FAST Act's expiration in 2020. That's because while we can attempt to fund projects to the best of our ability at the local and state level, the federal match for some projects can mean the difference between them happening or not.

The certainty provided by an entirely funded and planned federal highway bill means more projects in Bismarck-Mandan can proceed. As a result, we provide badly needed infrastructure improvements for our residents and continued opportunity for our businesses.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone at (701) 223-5660 or email at britter@bmcedc.com.

Sincerely,

BRIAN RITTER.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was unavoidably absent on Tuesday, July 30, 2019, for rollcall votes 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, and 251 due to a commitment in Williamsburg, VA, related to the events surrounding the 400th commemorative session of the Virginia General Assembly.

Had I been present I would have voted nay on confirmation for Sean D. Jordan, of Texas, to be U.S. District

Judge for the Eastern District of Texas—rollcall vote 241, PN205; nay on motion to invoke cloture: Mark T. Pittman to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas—rollcall vote 242, PN207; nay on motion to invoke cloture: Jeffery Vincent Brown, of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Texas—rollcall vote 243, PN510; nay on motion to invoke cloture: Brantley Starr, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas—rollcall vote 244, PN512; yea on motion to invoke cloture: Stephanie L. Haines, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania—rollcall vote 245, PN453; yea on motion to invoke cloture: Ada E. Brown to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas—rollcall vote 246, PN524; yea on motion to invoke cloture: Steven D. Grimberg, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia—rollcall vote 247, PN566; nay on motion to invoke cloture on Jason K. Pulliam, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas—rollcall vote 248, PN454; yea on motion to invoke cloture on Martha Maria Pacold, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois—rollcall vote 249, PN780; yea on motion to invoke cloture on Steven C. Seeger, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois—rollcall vote 250, PN782; and nay on motion to invoke cloture on William Shaw Stickman IV, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania—rollcall vote 251, PN727.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. KAINÉ. Mr. President, on July 30, 2019, I was absent for the following rollcall votes due to a commitment in Williamsburg, VA, for an event surrounding the 400th commemorative session of the Virginia General Assembly.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on confirmation: Sean D. Jordan, of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas—rollcall vote 241, PN205; "nay" on motion to invoke cloture: Mark T. Pittman to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas—rollcall vote 242, PN207; "nay" on motion to invoke cloture: Jeffery Vincent Brown, of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Texas—rollcall vote 243, PN510; "nay" on motion to invoke cloture: Brantley Starr, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas—rollcall vote 244, PN512; "yea" on motion to invoke cloture: Stephanie L. Haines, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania—rollcall vote 245, PN453; "yea" on motion to invoke cloture: Ada E. Brown to be U.S. District Judge for the North-

ern District of Texas—rollcall vote 246, PN524; "yea" on motion to invoke cloture: Steven D. Grimberg, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia—rollcall vote 247, PN566; "nay" on motion to invoke cloture on Jason K. Pulliam, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas—rollcall vote 248, PN454; "yea" on motion to invoke cloture on Martha Maria Pacold, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois—rollcall vote 249, PN780; "yea" on motion to invoke cloture on Steven C. Seeger, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois—rollcall vote 250, PN782; and "nay" on motion to invoke cloture on William Shaw Stickman IV, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania—rollcall vote 251, PN727.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for July 2019. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts the Senate agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, BBA18. This information is necessary for the Senate Budget Committee to determine whether budgetary points of order lie against pending legislation. The Republican staff of the Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, prepared this report pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA.

This is my sixth scorekeeping report this year. My last filing can be found in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for June 26, 2019. The information included in this report is current through July 26, 2019.

Since my last filing, Congress has cleared four pieces of legislation with significant budgetary effects. The first, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the Southern Border Act, 2019, P.L. 116-26, provided nearly \$4.6 billion in emergency funding to address needs at the Nation's southern border. The second measure with significant budgetary effects, P.L. 116-29, provided for a 2-week extension of the Medicaid community health services demonstration program. The third, the Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2019, P.L. 116-33, revises loan seasoning requirements related to a refinanced Veterans Affairs housing loan. The fourth, the Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act, P.L. 116-34, appropriates such sums as necessary for the Victims Compensation Fund to pay claims to eligible victims through fiscal year 2029 and fully compensate claimants who have received reduced awards in the past because of declining balances in the fund.